

State of Iowa Department of Corrections Policy and Procedures

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Chapter 5: Offender Programs

Sub Chapter: Recreation & Activities

Related DOC Policies: NA

Administrative Code Reference: NA

Subject: Recreation Programs

PREA Standards: NA

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Authority:

1. PURPOSE

To utilize constructive recreational activities to improve the physical conditioning and mental outlook of the incarcerated individuals, a variety of activities shall be programmed as resources may allow in the Iowa Department of Corrections (IDOC).

2. POLICY

It is the policy of the IDOC to provide recreational programs and activities to all confined incarcerated individuals, under conditions of security and supervision that ensure, to the greatest extent possible, the safety and welfare of the public, employees, and incarcerated individuals.

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3. DEFINITIIONS - See IDOC Policy AD-GA-16 for Definitions.

4. PROCEDURES

A. Recreation Programming

Each institution shall have written policy and procedure outlining its recreation programming to include, but not limited to:

1. Physical recreation - indoor and outdoor;
2. Cultural activities;
3. Leisure time activities.

B. Direction of Recreational Programming

1. Each institution shall appoint qualified staff responsible for the direction of recreational programming.
2. Staff are encouraged to utilize incarcerated individuals as program assistants and to involve community resources when feasible.
3. Institutions shall not provide or make for sale any type of substance that would or could enhance body or muscle building other than recreational and weight-lifting equipment.

C. Personnel and Financial Requirements

Each institution shall assess the personnel and financial requirements needed for the recreational programming and shall evaluate and assess incarcerated individual needs and interests on a continuing basis.

D. Equipment

1. Suitable equipment shall be provided for incarcerated individuals for their recreational activities and maintained in good condition.
2. Incarcerated individuals may be held accountable for abuse, unauthorized use, or damage to equipment. This may result in discontinued use of equipment for all incarcerated individuals.

E. Incarcerated Individual Television Lease Program

Facilities may establish an Incarcerated Individual Television Lease Program. Established programs shall be developed in accordance with **OP-RA-03 Attachment A, *Incarcerated Individual Television Lease Program Manual***.

F. Approval of Video Recordings and Television Programs

1. Videos shall not be shown in an institution that have a greater rating than PG-13. Unrated religious videos may be shown and content reviewed on a case by case basis by Warden or designee.
2. Television programs with MA rating may be shown, intense sexual content and graphic violence shall be blocked. News, Religious, home shopping and sports are exempt from the TV ratings system and are approved.
3. Institutions shall establish procedures for video review and approval.
4. Videos shown must be in compliance with video licensing agreement.

G. Trained and Approved Volunteers

1. Trained and approved volunteers from the local community may be used in the recreation program, and community sports teams may come into the institution for organized activities. Community sports teams may be admitted for institutional activities with an abbreviated

orientation, provided that family members of incarcerated individuals are not participating.

2. Volunteer recreation programs shall be scheduled and shall be under supervision.
3. The institutions shall conduct a routine background check on all regular volunteers.
4. Each volunteer shall be provided with a standard orientation to the institution and shall sign an acknowledgment of understanding regarding the rules of the institution, particularly those addressing relationships with incarcerated individuals.
5. Visitors, relatives, and friends of incarcerated individuals shall not be permitted to serve as volunteers.

H. Monitoring and Supervision

Recreation activities initiated by incarcerated individuals shall be monitored and supervised by staff.

Replaces Policy IN-V-96.

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