



NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

Secretary
Alisha Tafoya Lucero

CD-100500 Inmate Recreation	Issued: 3/20/95 Effective: 3/20/95	Reviewed: 6/28/22 Revised: 3/16/15
Alisha Tafoya Lucero, Cabinet Secretary		<i>Original Signed and Kept on File</i>

AUTHORITY:

NMSA 1978, Section 33-1-6, as amended.

REFERENCE:

- A. ACA Standard 2-CO-5C-01, *Standards for the Administration of Correctional Agencies*, 2nd Edition.
- B. ACA Expected Practices 5-ACI-2E-01, 5-ACI-2E-02, 5-ACI-6C-15, 5-ACI-7C-01 through 5-ACI-7C-06, *Performance Based Standards and Expected Practices for Adult Institutions*, 5th Edition.

PURPOSE:

To establish guidelines for comprehensive recreational programs for inmates including athletic and leisure time activities; and to ensure that all inmates have the opportunity to spend their leisure time in a positive and productive manner.

APPLICABILITY:

All employees and inmates and especially to staff directly appointed to or involved in the operation of any leisure time activities.

FORMS:

None

ATTACHMENTS:

None

DEFINITIONS:

None

POLICY:

- A. The New Mexico Corrections Department shall provide a comprehensive recreational program that includes leisure-time activities and outdoor exercise appropriate to their needs and to sound security. [2-CO-5C-01] [5-ACI-7C-01]

- B. All facilities and equipment shall be suitable for the planned leisure activities are available in proportion to the inmate population and are maintained in good condition. **[5-ACI-7C-04]**
- C. The education and experience of the recreation program supervisor are taken into consideration by the appointing authority in determining appointment to the position. These include education, correctional experience, training in recreation and/or leisure activities and the ability to supervise the program. In institutions with more than 100 inmates, the position is full-time. **[5-ACI-7C-02]**
- D. Each institution may select, train and utilize inmates as recreation program assistants and will provide activities that are initiated by inmates under staff supervision. **[5-ACI-7C-03] [5-ACI-7C-06]**
- E. Both outdoor and covered/enclosed exercise areas for general population inmates shall be provided in sufficient number to ensure that each inmate is offered at least one hour of access daily. Use of outdoor areas is preferred, but covered/enclosed areas must be available for use in inclement weather. Covered/enclosed areas can be designed for multiple uses, including physical therapy requirements, as long as the design and furnishings do not interfere with scheduled exercise activities. **[5-ACI-2E-01] [5-ACI-6C-15]**

The minimum space to be provided for exercise areas are as follows:

- Outdoor exercise areas in facilities where 100 or more inmates utilize one recreation area-15 square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates expected to use the space at one time, but not less than 1,500 square feet of unencumbered space.
 - Outdoor exercise areas in facilities where less than 100 inmates have unlimited access to an individual recreation area-15 square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates expected to use the space at one time, but not less than 750 square feet of unencumbered space.
 - Covered/enclosed exercise areas in facilities where 100 or more inmate utilize one recreation area-15 square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates expected to use the space at one time, with a minimum ceiling height of eighteen (18) feet, but not less than 1,000 square feet of unencumbered space.
 - Covered/enclosed exercise areas in facilities where less than 100 inmates utilize one recreation area-15 square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates expected to use the space at one time, with a minimum ceiling height of eighteen (18) feet, but not less than 500 square feet of unencumbered space.
- F. Restrictive Housing Units shall have both outdoor and covered/enclosed exercise areas. The minimum space requirements for outdoor and covered/enclosed exercise areas for Restrictive Housing Units are as follows: **[5-ACI-2E-02]**
- Group yard modules-15 square feet per inmate expected to use the space at one time, but not less than 500 square feet of unencumbered space.
 - Individual yard modules-180 square feet of unencumbered space.

In cases where cover is not provided to mitigate the inclement weather, appropriate weather-related equipment and attire should be made available to the inmates who desire to take advantage of their authorized exercise time.

- G. Free weights shall not be permitted at any correctional facility without approval of the Secretary.

- H. As appropriate for each custody level, facilities may provide interaction with the community through recreational activities. **[5-ACI-7C-05]**

- I. Vitamins and other health supplements that have been approved by the Adult Prisons Division in conjunction with the Health Authority may be provided through the facility recreation department by an approved vendor. All proceeds shall be deposited into the facility recreational fund.

NO PROCEDURE FOLLOWS