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Inmate Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities	ACA Standards: 4-4274, 4-4275, 4-4276, 4-4277, 4-4279, 4-4280, 4-4281M, 4-4429, 4-ACRS-6A-01, 4-ACRS-6A-02, 4-ACRS-6A-03, 4-ACRS-6A-04, 4-ACRS-6A-05, 4-ACRS-6B-01, 4-ACRS-6B-02		
Joe M. Allbaugh, Director Oklahoma Department of Corrections	Signature on File		

Inmate Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities

Rights are equally available to all inmates. Inmate responsibilities are equally applicable and enforced. No inmate under the jurisdiction of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) will be subject to discrimination based on race, religion, nationality, gender, political belief or disability. (4-4429, 4-ACRS-6B-01, 4-ACRS-6B-02)

I. Inmate Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities

Facility heads will ensure inmates are aware of the following rights, privileges and responsibilities while under the jurisdiction of ODOC.

A. Listing of Inmate Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities

1. The right of access to the courts through unrestricted and confidential correspondence. (4-4274)

The responsibility to present honestly to the court any petitions, questions, or problems and to refrain from abusing the resources available to achieve such access.

2. The right to confidential interviews and correspondence with an attorney. (4-4275, 4-ACRS-6A-01)

The responsibility to not abuse the confidential contacts made available.

3. The privilege to participate in the use of law library reference materials and the right to receive legal assistance from other inmates at the facility to which the inmate is currently assigned. (4-4276, 4-ACRS-6A-02)

The responsibility to safeguard law library reference materials, digital legal materials and electronic equipment utilized for legal reference.

4. The privilege to file administrative grievances as outlined in [OP-090124](#) entitled "Inmate/Offender Grievance Process" and to receive assistance in doing so from other inmates at the facility to which the

inmate is currently assigned.

The responsibility to present honestly to administrative staff any complaints, problems or grievances and to file grievances within the guidelines specified in [OP-090124](#) entitled "Inmate/Offender Grievance Process" and the responsibility not to abuse the grievance process.

5. The right to a healthful place in which to live, which includes clean and orderly surroundings, nutritious meals, proper bedding and clothing, adequate opportunities to shower, proper ventilation for warmth and fresh air; access to recreational opportunities and outdoor exercises when weather permits; and personal hygiene articles. (4-ACRS-6A-04)

The responsibility to eat properly, to follow dietary restrictions imposed by health care providers, to follow the laundry and shower schedule, and to maintain neat and clean living quarters.

6. The right to access to medical, mental health and dental care.

The responsibility to seek medical, mental health and dental care in an honest manner only when necessary and to follow health directives recommended or prescribed by health care providers; the responsibility not to cause intentional illness or injury to self or others.

7. The right to correspond with public officials, officials of the confining authority, and members of the Pardon and Parole Board, in keeping with agency procedures. (4-4279)

The responsibility to be truthful.

8. The right to practice a religion within the limitations of the law, resources available and security procedures in effect.

The responsibility to not abuse the religious practices available.

9. The privilege to be treated respectfully, impartially, and fairly by all persons, which includes being called by name rather than prison number.

The responsibility to treat other inmates and staff with respect.

10. The right to be informed of the appropriate rules, procedures, and schedules governing the operations of the facility.

The responsibility to know and abide by the rules and procedures.

11. The right to due process hearings for alleged rule violations before punishment is imposed which results in the revocation of earned credits.

The responsibility to cooperate fully in investigations and abide by the rules.

12. The right to equal access to various programs and work assignments as available, in keeping with their eligibility, interests, needs, and abilities. (4-4277)

The responsibility to take advantage of activities which may enhance their ability to live a successful and law abiding life in the community.

13. The opportunity and privilege to be involved in decisions concerning classification status.

The responsibility to be present for classification actions when directed by and posted by the case manager/unit manager.

14. The right to protection from personal abuse, corporal punishment, personal injury, unhygienic conditions, property damage, and harassment. (4-4281M, 4-ACRS-6A-03, 4-ACRS-6A-05)

The responsibility to abide by agency and facility rules and regulations, to refrain from creating unhygienic conditions and from damaging property or harassing staff or other inmates.

15. The privilege to have the opportunity to earn credits in accordance with statute.

The responsibility to abide by agency and facility rules and regulations and to enroll in and complete needed programs.

16. The privilege for a foreign national to have reasonable access to the diplomatic representative of their country of citizenship. (4-4280)

The responsibility to not abuse this contact and to be honest in all discussions.

B. Special Privileges and Responsibilities

1. Each unit manager, with the approval of the facility head and the division manager, may establish privileges and responsibilities for their unit. However, these will not conflict with the rights, privileges and responsibilities set forth in Section I. item A. of this procedure. Specific unit privileges and responsibilities will be posted on the unit bulletin board.
2. Each inmate will be informed of specific unit privileges and responsibilities upon reception into the unit.

II. References

Policy Statement No. P-030100 entitled "Provisions of Services/Offender Rights and Responsibilities"

OP-090124 entitled "Inmate/Offender Grievance Process"

12 O.S. Section 2003.1

III. Action

The division manager is responsible for compliance with this procedure.

The General Counsel is responsible for the annual review and revisions.

Any exceptions to this procedure require prior written approval from the director.

This procedure is effective as indicated.

Replaced: Operations Memorandum No. OP-030123 entitled "Offender Rights, Privileges and Responsibilities" dated October 23, 2014

Distribution: Policy and Operations Manual
Agency Website
Inmate Bulletin Boards