

NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

TITLE 81 - JAIL STANDARDS BOARD

CHAPTER 2 - STANDARDS FOR JAIL FACILITIES - PERSONNEL

001 Training. It is the policy of the State of Nebraska that the facility administrators and facility employees conform to minimum standards of training, staffing, and demeanor as established herein.

002 Training Coordinator. The facility shall have an organized training program that is planned and coordinated by a designated employee. Training shall be based on, and consistent with the facility's written policies and procedures and these Standards.

003 All newly appointed facility administrators and facility employees who work in an excess of two hundred (200) hours annually and are responsible for the security or supervision of inmates shall meet the following training requirements:

003.01 Facility Orientation Training. All new employees shall be provided orientation training on the facility's policies and procedures, organization, structure, programs and services, and task orientation to their particular job assignments, shift duties and equipment used. Orientation training shall be successfully completed within 3 months of employment. Orientation training shall include training in the following areas that are appropriate for the employee's job assignments:

003.01A Inmate supervision, inmate security, inmate management, and inmate rules, regulations and enforcement procedures;

003.01B Emergency procedures including fire evacuation;

003.01C Inmate admission, orientation, classification, and release procedures;

003.01D Inmate mail, telephone, visiting, exercise, recreation, and library services;

003.01E Food service, inmate hygiene and laundry, facility sanitation and maintenance;

003.01F Inmate work release, educational release, religious services and counseling programs;

003.01G Inmate medical and mental health services;

003.02 Initial Training. Satisfactory completion of a minimum of eighty (80) hours of initial training provided by the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center or an equivalent curriculum approved by the Board, is required. Such training shall cover, at a minimum, the following areas:

003.02A Correctional legal issues, inmate rights, officer rights and liability;

003.02B Interpersonal communications, human relations, crisis intervention, inmate supervision and inmate discipline;

003.02C Medical and mental health screening, medical problems, suicide prevention, psychological and behavioral aspects of incarceration, substance abuse and abnormal behavior;

003.02D Use of force and self defense;

003.02E Responding to jail escapes, fires, fights, riots and hostage situations;

003.02F Report writing;

003.02G Jail security and inmate classification.

003.03 The facility administrator and facility employees shall be considered to have satisfactorily completed the initial training if all academic and attendance requirements established by the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center or the certified training provider have been met and a certificate has been issued to the trainee.

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003.04 After the effective date of these Standards, newly appointed facility administrators and facility employees shall receive the initial training as soon as possible, and it must be completed within the first year of employment.

003.05 The initial training requirements for the facility administrator and facility employees may be waived by the Board upon proof of comparable training. In order to evaluate the waiver request, the facility administrator will make the following information available to the Board upon request:

003.05A Course title, outline, and objectives;

003.05B Time(s) and date(s) of course;

003.05C Name of instructor(s) and qualifications

003.05D Examinations/student evaluation procedure;

003.05E Class roster and attendance records;

003.05F Copies of certificates issued, if any.

003.06 Any facility administrator or employee who has not been employed in a corrections or detention setting for more than two years shall have their prior initial training completion honored, but they must complete a refresher course approved by the Board. Any facility administrator or employee who has not been employed in a corrections or detention setting for more than ten years shall complete the initial training requirements anew.

003.07 After the first year of employment, a minimum of eighteen (18) hours of relevant yearly in-service training is required for facility administrators and facility employees of all jail facilities.

003.08 The yearly in-service training shall not be waived. College courses, university courses, seminars, correspondence courses, or other training programs may fulfill the in-service training requirement if they are of a nature that will increase the employee's value to his/her facility.

003.09 All facility employees shall successfully complete basic Red Cross First-Aid training or its equivalent and training in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation techniques during the first 12 months of employment. Certification or training in these areas shall be kept current.

003.10 All facility employees authorized to use firearms shall receive training and be qualified in their use on at least an annual basis.

003.11 All facility employees authorized to use chemical agents, other weapons, or mechanical restraints shall receive training in their handling and use.

003.12 All facility employees shall receive training in the performance of the facility's written emergency plans and in the use of emergency equipment on at least an annual basis.

003.13 The facility shall maintain a complete and current record of all training received for each facility employee. Copies of any certificates issued shall also be maintained.

004 Staffing

004.01 After the effective date of these Standards, applicants for positions with responsibility for the security or supervision of inmates must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for employment:

004.01A Citizen of the United States;

004.01B At least nineteen (19) years of age or older;

004.01C Be free of any convictions of crimes punishable by imprisonment in a state or federal penitentiary for a term of one (1) year or more from which a pardon has not been received. At the time of employment, new employees shall be fingerprinted and their fingerprint cards shall be promptly submitted to the Nebraska State Patrol for a criminal history search; and

004.01D Have graduated from high school or possess a certificate which certifies an educational development of at least a high school graduation level.

004.02 All jail facilities shall maintain around-the-clock supervision of inmates by trained facility employees.

004.02A Female employees shall provide around-the-clock supervision of all female inmates housed in a jail facility.

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004.02B The facility administrator shall insure that inmates are viewed personally by facility employees often enough to maintain their safekeeping, but in no event less than one time per hour and document it.

004.02C Where audio or visual electronic surveillance is used, it should be located primarily in hallways, elevators, corridors, or at entrance and exit points of the security perimeter. Electronic surveillance shall not substitute for periodic personal observations by facility employees, as required in paragraph 004.02B.

004.02D Where electronic surveillance does not provide adequate continuous coverage, facility employees shall be stationed adjacent to the inmate housing areas to respond promptly to emergencies.

005 Demeanor. All facility employees shall maintain a professional demeanor in their contacts with inmates and the public.

005.01 Facility employees shall not use their official positions to secure privileges for themselves and shall not engage in behavior which conflicts with the interests of the jail facility.

005.02 Conversations and counseling with inmates as well as maintaining order and security shall be carried out in a positive and constructive manner.

005.03 Except as authorized by the facility administrator, no facility employee shall knowingly:

005.03A Deliver, aid, enable, or permit the delivery of any message, correspondence, literature, contraband, or anything else not necessary or proper to the discharge of their duties to or from any inmate.

005.03B Give or extend to any inmate any favors, including privileges of diet or clothing not common to all.

005.04 Every facility employee within the scope of their duties, shall exercise utmost vigilance to detect any violation, infraction, or evasion of these Standards.

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