



OKLAHOMA STATE COURTS NETWORK

Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192 - Title - Inspection of Detention Facilities - Complaint - Exceptions and Limitations - Inspectors

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

- A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Oklahoma Jail Standards Act”. The State Commissioner of Health shall promulgate rules to implement the provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act.
- B. Except as provided in this section, all detention facilities and lockup facilities shall operate in compliance with the provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act.
- C. The State Department of Health shall inspect at least once each year all detention facilities to ensure compliance with the standards set forth in the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act. Inspections shall be limited to the specific requirements set forth in the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto.
- D. In the event such inspection shall reveal to the Department the commission of a crime or crimes incidental to the operations of a detention facility, it shall be the duty of the Department to initiate a complaint with the appropriate district attorney and to cooperate in the prosecution of the alleged offender in the event an information is filed pursuant to such complaint.
- E. The provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act shall be subject to the following exceptions and limitations:
1. Any county, city, or town may operate a holding facility for the incarceration of persons under arrest who are to be charged with a crime, which holding facility shall not be required to meet the standards established in the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act, as long as no person is held therein for a period longer than twelve (12) hours and as long as an employee of the county, city, or town is available to render aid to or to release any person so confined in the event aid or release is required because of a health or life-endangering emergency;
 2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or rule, any county or municipality that operates a detention facility which houses forty or fewer prisoners at all times which:
 - a. provides twenty-four-hour supervision of prisoner activity that is conducted either by direct observation or electronically by video surveillance, and
 - b. provides an intercommunication system that terminates in a location that is staffed twenty-four (24) hours a day and is capable of providing an emergency response,shall not be required to have more than one detention officer on-site to provide for the security, custody, and supervision of prisoners. Staff shall be available to perform sensitive functions and procedures as necessary to accommodate inmate gender as required by law;
 3. Any county or municipality that operates a detention facility which houses more than forty and less than seventy-five prisoners at all times which:
 - a. provides twenty-four-hour supervision of prisoner activity that is conducted either by direct observation or electronically by video surveillance, and

b. provides an intercommunication system that terminates in a location that is staffed twenty-four (24) hours a day and is capable of providing an emergency response,

shall be required to have more than one detention officer or one detention officer and at least one other basic CLEET-certified person on the same premises as the detention facility to provide for the security, custody, and supervision of prisoners. Staff shall be available to perform sensitive functions and procedures as necessary to accommodate inmate gender as required by law;

4. A county, municipality, or public trust that operates a detention facility may request a waiver, including a waiver for a temporary emergency resulting from a natural or man-made disaster, from provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act or rules promulgated pursuant thereto upon a showing that application of such provision would impose undue hardship upon the county, municipality, or public trust, or upon the inmates held at such facility. All requests shall be filed with the Department and shall include justification demonstrating the undue hardship. The waiver application shall also include a plan for the housing and care of detention facility inmates for the duration of the waiver and identification of all specific provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act requested to be waived. The Department may grant the waiver request in whole or in part and may, as a condition of granting the waiver, require the county, municipality, or public trust to submit a plan and timetable for compliance with the standards. The Commissioner shall promulgate rules to implement the waiver process established by this paragraph; and

5. Any detention facility that is constructed or substantially remodeled shall be required to be in compliance with the requirements and standards in effect at the time of such construction or remodeling. Plans for the construction of a new detention facility or the substantial remodeling of an existing detention facility shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval.

F. The Department shall employ inspectors and other personnel as necessary and specifically authorized by the Legislature in order to carry out the provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act and may rent or purchase premises or equipment in order to assist inspectors in the performance of their functions.

Historical Data

Laws 1977, HB 1397, c. 137, § 1, eff. October 1, 1977; Amended by Laws 1978, HB 1478, c. 244, § 38, eff. July 1, 1978; Amended by Laws 1983, HB 1321, c. 116, § 1, operative July 1, 1983; Amended by Laws 1985, HB 1064, c. 62, § 1, eff. November 1, 1985; Amended by Laws 1986, SB 492, c. 77, § 1, emerg. eff. April 2, 1986; Amended by Laws 1994, HB 2782, c. 367, § 8, emerg. eff. June 9, 1994; Amended by Laws 1994, SB 627, c. 368, § 2, emerg. eff. June 9, 1994 (repealed by Laws 1995, HB 1012, c. 1, § 40, emerg. eff. March 2, 1995); Amended by Laws 1995, HB 1012, c. 1, § 32, emerg. eff. March 2, 1995; Amended by Laws 2004, HB 2139, c. 154, § 1, eff. November 1, 2004 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2005, SB 725, c. 180, § 1, emerg. eff. July 1, 2005 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2007, SB 437, c. 51, § 2, eff. November 1, 2007 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2014, SB 1737, c. 322, § 1, eff. November 1, 2014 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2018, HB 1461, c. 71, § 1, eff. November 1, 2018 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2023, SB 247, c. 35, § 2, eff. November 1, 2023 (superseded document available); Amended by Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 1, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025 (superseded document available).



OKLAHOMA STATE COURTS NETWORK

Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.1 - Definitions

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.1 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

As used in the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act:

1. "Available" means that the subject individual is either on site or on the premises;
2. "Barrack-style" means a single designated space within a detention facility for the purpose of housing three or more inmates;
3. "Bodily search" means any invasive examination by hand of an inmate or clothing of an inmate. Bodily searches shall not include pat-downs;
4. "Central control" means the central point within the facility where security activities are monitored and controlled;
5. "Contraband" means anything not authorized to be in the possession of an inmate;
6. "Dayroom" means a space for activities that is situated immediately adjacent to the sleeping area of inmates and is separated from the sleeping area by a wall;
7. "Department" means the State Department of Health;
8. "Detention facility" means a facility that may hold a person for an indefinite period of time including, but not limited to, a city or county jail;
9. "Detention officer" means a person whose training, education, or experience specifically qualifies him or her to perform the duties indicated in the job description and the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act or a person who holds a certification accorded pursuant to the provisions of Section 3311 of Title 70 of the Oklahoma Statutes. The individual performing the duties shall be trained in appropriate laws, codes, standards, policies, and procedures;
10. "Direct supervision" means the detention officer is in direct contact with inmates and is in a position to constantly monitor behaviors and interact with inmates;
11. "Emergency care" means medical or surgical care necessary to treat the sudden onset of a potentially life-threatening or limb-threatening condition;
12. "Facility administrator" means a sheriff, police chief, city manager, private contractor, or a designee thereof, charged with maintaining and operating a lockup facility or detention facility;
13. "Fixed sleeping surface" refers to a stationary or installed bed or slab designed to support a mattress or some other comparable padding on which an inmate can lie down off of the floor;
14. "Grievance" means a circumstance or action considered unjust;
15. "Holding facility" means a facility that shall hold persons under arrest who are charged with a crime for a period of no longer than twelve (12) hours;

16. "Hot meal" means a measure of food served and eaten at one sitting, prepared and served at a palatable temperature range of one hundred ten degrees Fahrenheit (110° F) to one hundred twenty degrees Fahrenheit (120° F);
17. "Inmate" means any individual, whether in pretrial, sentenced, or unsentenced status, who is confined in a detention facility;
18. "Juvenile" means a person who is subject solely to the jurisdiction of a juvenile court or who is subject to the provisions of Section 2-5-205 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes;
19. "Last locked/secure door" means the last secure barrier between staff and an inmate;
20. "Life-endangering situation" includes, but is not limited to, a suicide attempt or obvious serious injury or illness, which in the evaluation of the staff requires an immediate response;
21. "Life-threatening" means a situation in which life-saving measures are taken;
22. "Living area" means those areas of a detention facility utilized for the day-to-day housing and activities of inmates. These areas do not include reception and release areas and special-use cells such as sobering, safety, and holding or staging cells normally located in receiving areas;
23. "Lockup facility" means a facility that may hold a person no longer than ten (10) days. Such a facility may be operated by a municipality for the temporary detention of persons awaiting arraignment. Persons who require detention for a period longer than ten (10) days shall be transferred to a detention facility;
24. "Nonsecure areas" means those areas where a youth or juvenile is in the custody of law enforcement and may not be able to leave or depart from the presence of law enforcement, yet the youth or juvenile is not detained in a facility which limits movement;
25. "On site" means a detention officer is physically present within the detention facility;
26. "On the premises" means a detention officer is physically present within the structure incorporating the detention facility, or within a building or structure sharing the same realty or located on realty that is contiguous to the realty upon which the structure incorporating the detention facility is located, provided that such remote building or structure is not located farther than five hundred (500) feet from the detention facility;
27. "Pat-down" means a noninvasive search of an inmate by hand performed by lightly skimming the exterior surface of the clothing covering the legs and torso;
28. "Physician or other licensed medical personnel" means a psychiatrist, medical doctor, osteopathic physician, physician assistant, Registered Nurse (RN), Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), emergency medical technician at the paramedic level, or Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS);
29. "Sensitive functions and procedures" means any bodily search or the visual supervision of any activity requiring an inmate to partially or fully disrobe;
30. "Safety check" means direct, visual observation performed at random intervals within time frames prescribed in the regulations pursuant to this act to provide for the health and welfare of inmates;
31. "Sight contact" means clear visibility within close proximity;
32. "Sound contact" means direct oral communication;
33. "Substantial remodeling" means remodeling for which the cost to repair is at least fifty percent (50%) of the cost to replace the facility;
34. "Sustained contact" means sight or sound contact that is not brief and inadvertent;
35. "Temporary sleeping surface" means any appropriate item used in overcrowding situations on which an inmate can lie down and be kept off of the floor on an interim basis;

36. "Waiver" is a long-term deviation from a standard in extenuating circumstances which are not likely to be overcome in a reasonable period of time; and

37. "Variance" is a temporary deviation from a standard in extenuating circumstances which can be overcome in a reasonable period of time.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 2, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.



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Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.2 - Policies

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.2 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Policies developed based on requirements in this act shall identify the following:

1. The rule or law addressed by the policy;
2. The staff position or personnel responsible for implementation and oversight of the policy;
3. The actions to be taken or procedures to be followed by facility personnel;
4. The staff position or personnel responsible for reviewing the policy;
5. A schedule for reviewing the policy that identifies the frequency at which the policy will be reviewed; and
6. A signature page to capture the signature and date that the responsible official adopted the policy and the dates that review of the policy were completed.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 3, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.



OKLAHOMA STATE COURTS NETWORK

Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.3 - Standards - Floor Space - Special-purpose Cells - Housing and Activity Areas - Evacuation

Exits - Dormitory-Style - Temporary

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.3 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

A. The standards for detention facilities shall provide for:

1. Uniform admission and release procedures;
2. Uniform, safe, and sensible security measures;
3. Proper, fit, and sanitary conditions;
4. Inmates to be fed a wholesome and adequate diet;
5. Inmates to have adequate clothing and a usable bed.

Such detention facilities shall have showers with hot and cold running water, toilets, and water basins provided in the ratio of not less than one to every twenty prisoners. Counties may build barrack-style jails, with single or double cells, to meet the security needs of the county for minimum security prisoners. These jails shall meet all the minimum requirements set forth in this section or any other provision of law. Counties may also build tent jails, which shall be temporary in nature, to meet the security needs of the county for minimum security prisoners. The temporary tent jails shall not be required to meet the minimum requirements set forth in this section or any other provision of law. The State Commissioner of Health shall promulgate minimum standards for temporary tent jails, which standards shall be designed to specifically address and take into consideration the temporary status of the inmate housing needs of the county;

6. Inmates to be properly advised of rules of the detention facility in which they are detained;
7. Staff members to receive training in order to assist them in performing their assigned tasks, such training to be provided through a program approved by the State Department of Health;
8. All employees, including the detention facility administrator and all supervisors, whose primary responsibilities include supervision of inmates to receive at least twenty-four (24) hours of training during the first year of their employment that covers at least the following:
 - a. security procedures,
 - b. supervision of inmates,
 - c. report writing and documentation,
 - d. inmate rules and regulations,
 - e. grievance and disciplinary procedures,
 - f. rights and responsibilities of inmates,
 - g. emergency procedures, and

h. first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation;

9. All employees who work in direct contact with inmates to receive after the first year of employment at least four (4) hours of review of material as required by the State Department of Health and at maximum eight (8) hours of detention officer training per year to include renewal training as required for first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation skills after the first year of employment;

10. A documentation log to be maintained by the administrator to record the courses completed by each employee for his or her initial and annual training and include test results;

11. Proper steps to be taken to ensure the safety and segregation of women, the infirm, and minors;

12. Adequate medical care, provided such medical care shall be limited to illnesses or injuries incurred during the time beginning with the arrest and throughout the time of incarceration. This shall not prevent an inmate from applying for assistance and receiving assistance, provided the inmate meets or exceeds established requirements;

13. No person to be confined without twenty-four-hour supervision; and

14. At least one designated exit in the facility that will permit prompt evacuation of inmates and staff in an emergency.

B. All cells and living areas shall have at least forty (40) square feet of floor space for the initial inmate and at least twenty (20) square feet of floor space for each additional inmate occupying the same cell. Inmates may be provided temporary sleeping surfaces during times of overcrowding.

C. The facility shall have at least one special-purpose cell to provide for the temporary detention of inmates under the influence of alcohol or dangerous substances or for persons who are uncontrollably violent or self-destructive. These cells shall be designed to prevent injury to the inmate.

D. The housing and activity areas shall provide at least the following:

1. Lighting of at least twenty (20) foot-candles;

2. A shower with non-skid floors; and

3. Sufficient floor drains to ensure a sanitary facility.

E. There shall be designated and marked emergency evacuation exits that comply with the requirements of the State Fire Marshal and that permit prompt evacuation of inmates and staff in an emergency.

F. A county may provide a dormitory-style detention facility to accommodate up to medium-security level inmates. It shall be equipped with washbasins, toilets, and showers with hot and cold running water at a ratio of at least one washbasin, one toilet, and one shower to every twenty inmates. A dormitory-style detention facility shall meet all requirements for a detention facility.

G. A county may provide a temporary tent detention facility subject to the approval of the Department.

H. Inmates may be provided temporary sleeping surfaces during times of overcrowding. A fire-safe cot and industry products such as those referred to as "boats" are examples of suitable temporary sleeping surfaces that ensure the mattress does not have direct contact with the floor. These items do not meet the requirement to provide a fixed sleeping surface for each inmate.

Historical Data



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Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.4 - Policies - Operations Manual - Rules - Requirements

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.4 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

A. The facility administrator shall develop and implement written policies pertaining to the daily management and operation of the detention facility including, but not limited to, an operations manual sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the standards set forth in the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto.

B. The facility administrator shall develop and implement written policies for the operation of a lockup facility which shall include requirements that:

1. Arrest and commitment papers shall be verified;
2. An inmate shall be searched during admission;
3. Property of the inmate shall be inventoried and shall be stored in a secure location;
4. Medical reception information shall be recorded in the file of the inmate and shall include, but not be limited to, the following information:
 - a. current illnesses and health problems,
 - b. behavioral observation, including state of consciousness and mental status, and history of alcohol or drug abuse and treatment,
 - c. body deformities and trauma markings such as bruises, lesions, jaundice, and ease of body movement,
 - d. condition of skin and visible body orifices, including infestations,
 - e. medications taken and any special health requirements,
 - f. whether the inmate may be in need of mental health or substance abuse services including, but not limited to, whether the inmate is at risk for or has attempted suicide, and
 - g. disposition or referral of the inmate to qualified medical personnel on an emergency basis as provided in Section 4.1 of Title 57 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
5. A first aid kit shall be available at locations designated by the facility administrator;
6. Two completed, documented, local or collect telephone calls shall be allowed at the time of booking or after a reasonable length of time, as determined by the administrator or designee. The administrator or designee shall document the refusal of an inmate to make a telephone call. In facilities where inmates have unlimited access to operational telephones, the refusal of an inmate to make telephone calls is not required to be documented;
7. Clean bedding and personal hygiene items shall be available and provided at the facility;
8. Shower facilities shall be available with hot and cold running water at a ratio of at least one shower for every twenty inmates;
9. Continual supervision shall be provided by a trained detention officer;

10. Inmate counts shall be taken at the beginning of each shift and recorded in the detention facility log. At least one of the counts each day shall be a full lockdown count when all inmates are required to be immobilized and visually inspected;
11. Hourly visual safety checks shall be conducted at no more than sixty-minute intervals and on an irregular basis. Detention officers shall visually check all security features of the cell area and account for all detainees. Visual safety checks may include video surveillance provided that it has an unobstructed view of the entire cell;
12. Male and female inmates shall be housed in separated living areas with visual separation between the two genders. Housing of inmates with mixed gender identification will be administered in a manner to maximize inmate safety;
13. Each inmate shall be provided at least three meals that meet the national recommended allowance for basic nutrition every twenty-four (24) hours. At least two hot meals shall be provided daily. There shall not be more than fourteen (14) hours between the breakfast and the evening meals;
14. The following minimum fire safety requirements shall be implemented:
 - a. the facility shall be equipped with a smoke detection system and a sprinkler system that is approved by the State Fire Marshal,
 - b. polyurethane foam mattresses, pads, and pillows are prohibited. Mattresses that are in compliance with the requirements of the State Fire Marshal shall be used,
 - c. each facility shall have emergency lighting that meets the minimum standards as determined by the State Fire Marshal,
 - d. detention officer posts shall be located and staffed close enough to the lockup area to permit detention officers to hear and respond promptly to calls for assistance and provide immediate response to emergencies,
 - e. there shall be designated and marked emergency evacuation exits that comply with the requirements of the State Fire Marshal, and
 - f. each facility shall comply with any other applicable building and fire safety codes as determined by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 317 et seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes;
15. Inmates held for over twenty-four (24) hours shall be issued a clean set of detention facility clothing to include at least a shirt, trousers or coveralls, and footwear. An inmate shall receive a complete change of clothing at least once per week. Inmate street clothing shall be inventoried and shall be stored in a secure location;
16. A detention officer shall be on duty on each floor where inmates are confined unless the facility is equipped with:
 - a. viewing access to all areas of the facility through a video surveillance system, and
 - b. an intercommunication system between the cell or living area and detention officer post or control center to communicate with and monitor inmates; and
17. Smoking policies in lockup facilities shall conform to the requirements set forth in Section 1247 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 5, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.

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Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.5 - Policies and Rules - State Department of Health Notification

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.5 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

A. Each detention facility shall have written policies subject to the provisions of the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act and rules promulgated pursuant thereto for the following:

1. The reception, orientation, and release of inmates;
2. The safety, security, and control of staff, inmates, and visitors;
3. Escapes or other breaches of security of the detention facility;
4. Actions to be taken in emergency situations;
5. The use of physical force by staff and the use of instruments of restraint against an inmate;
6. Conduct of inmates, which shall include offenses for which charges may be imposed, and the range of sanctions and disciplinary procedures to be followed. Such information shall be made available to inmates. Such policies shall ensure that inmates are afforded administrative due process as required by law;
7. Inmate requests of staff and grievance procedures, including procedures for appeal;
8. Safety and maintenance of sanitation throughout the facility;
9. Fire prevention and evacuation plans;
10. Food services and dietary requirements including accommodation of medical needs and religious beliefs;
11. Inmate correspondence and visitation; and
12. Staff training, development, and evaluation.

B. The State Department of Health shall be notified no later than the next working day if any of the following incidents occur:

1. Extensive damage to detention facility property;
2. Serious injury to staff or an inmate defined as life-threatening or that requires transfer to an outside medical facility;
3. Escape;
4. Serious suicide attempts defined as life-threatening or that require transfer to an outside medical facility; or
5. Death.

Historical Data



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Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.6 - Control and Supervision - Search - Staff - Attorneys and Bonds Persons

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.6 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

- A. The movement of inmates from one location to another shall be controlled and supervised by staff.
- B. Staff shall provide twenty-four-hour supervision of inmates.
- C. Detention officer posts shall be located and staffed to monitor all inmate activity either physically or electronically and in close enough proximity to the living areas to allow for immediate response to calls for assistance or emergency situations. A detention officer shall be on duty at all times at each location where inmates are confined, or the observation of inmates shall be conducted by electronic means. The location shall be equipped with an intercommunication system in a location that is staffed twenty-four (24) hours a day with personnel capable of providing an emergency response.
- D. There shall be sufficient staff to perform all assigned functions relating to security, custody, and supervision of inmates. Staff assignments shall provide for backup assistance for all employees entering locations where inmates are confined as required in the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act.
- E. All inmates shall be searched when entering or leaving the security area.
- F. Policies shall specify a system for the supervision of female inmates by male staff and supervision of male inmates by female staff.
- G. When both male and female inmates are housed in a detention facility, at least one male and one female detention officer shall be available to perform sensitive functions and procedures as necessary to accommodate inmate gender.
- H. An inmate shall be prohibited from supervising, controlling, or exerting or assuming any authority over another inmate.
- I. The name and telephone number of the practicing attorneys and bonds persons in the area shall be posted conspicuously near the telephone used by the inmates.
- J. Direct supervision of inmates shall be permitted if the facility has policies in place to ensure the safety of employees, inmates, and visitors and if the design of the physical facility lends itself to direct supervision operations.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 7, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.



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Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.7 - Classification and Segregation - Criteria

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.7 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

The facility administrator shall develop and implement written policies for the classification and segregation of inmates to ensure the safety of inmates and staff. The following criteria shall be implemented to ensure an adequate classification and segregation system:

1. Inmates of opposite genders shall be housed in separated living areas. Separation shall be by substantial architectural arrangements which permit no sustained sight contact. Housing of inmates with mixed gender identification will be administered in a manner to maximize inmate safety;
2. Inmates considered to be a threat to other inmates or staff shall be housed separately from other inmates based upon the following criteria:
 - a. the past criminal history of the inmate,
 - b. the nature and severity of the charges pending against the inmate,
 - c. the behavior of the inmate while in the facility, and
 - d. other relevant reasons as directed by the administrator;
3. Inmates may be double-celled or confined to dormitory-style housing if the floor space meets the square footage requirements. Such inmates shall be afforded temporary sleeping surfaces on an interim basis and shall receive the same living conditions and privileges as those occupying the general population. A fire-safe cot and industry products such as those referred to as "boats" are examples of suitable temporary sleeping surfaces. Any exceptions regarding conditions and privileges shall be defined by the administrator;
4. Inmates who are intoxicated or under the influence of a controlled substance shall be housed separately from other inmates until such time as the medical authority or the facility administrator determines their suitability for placement into the general population or other appropriate housing;
5. Inmates who appear to have a significant medical or psychiatric problem may be separated from other inmates;
6. Unsentenced inmates shall be separated from sentenced inmates to the extent possible and shall be permitted whatever confinement is least restrictive unless inmate behavior or other security considerations dictate otherwise; and
7. Classification and segregation shall not be determined solely on the basis of race, color, creed, or national origin.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 8, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.



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Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.8 - Medical Care - Payment

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.8 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

A. Adequate medical care shall be provided in a detention facility. The facility administrator shall develop and implement written policies for emergency medical and health care services. The facility administrator shall be responsible for the medical services of the detention facility and shall develop, with the assistance of a designated medical authority, the health care plan for the detention facility. With appropriately credentialed on-site or off-site supervision, a detention facility may utilize physicians or other licensed medical personnel, Certified Nurse Practitioners (CNP), psychologists, licensed professional counselors, licensed clinical social workers, licensed masters social workers, licensed alcohol and drug counselors, emergency medical technicians, certified medical assistants, or certified nursing assistants for the provision of medical care. Security restrictions shall be considered in the development of the plan and any medical personnel included in the plan shall have their responsibilities regulated by written job descriptions. The health care plan shall cover, at a minimum, the following:

1. Intake screening procedures;
2. Medications in the possession of the inmate;
3. Medications prescribed or administered to the inmate;
4. Documentation of information relevant to the health or medical care of the inmate, including current illnesses and health problems, as well as observation of the behavior and physical condition of the inmate;
5. Disposition and referral of inmates to qualified medical personnel on an emergency basis;
6. Retention and disposition of inmate medical records; and
7. Such other procedures as may be necessary for the protection of facility employees, visitors, and inmates.

B. A detention facility operated by a county, with permission from the county sheriff, may deduct monies collected from an inmate as a medical payment on account for medical services received by the inmate while incarcerated in the detention facility pursuant to the provisions of Section 531 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 9, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.



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Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 192.9 - Juvenile Inmate - Permission to Place - Records

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 192.9 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

- A. A juvenile shall be incarcerated only in a detention facility authorized by the appropriate judicial or juvenile bureau authority. A juvenile shall not be detained in any holding facility or lockup facility. This requirement shall not preclude juveniles from being held in nonsecure areas until a parent or other responsible party arrives to take custody of the juvenile.
- B. Prior to a juvenile being placed in an eligible detention facility, permission shall be obtained from the appropriate judicial or juvenile bureau authority. A record of permission shall be maintained at the facility.
- C. Sight checks of juvenile inmate living areas shall be performed at least one time each hour. The check shall include all areas of each cell and the juvenile inmates shall be visually observed. Checks shall be documented in writing on a form provided by the facility administrator.
- D. An adult inmate who is assigned trustee status shall not be permitted sustained contact with a juvenile inmate. A staff member shall serve all meals to a juvenile inmate.
- E. In addition to existing visitation privileges, juvenile inmates shall be permitted visits from authorized juvenile agency personnel. Visits from family members who are unable to visit during normal visiting hours shall be allowed so long as arrangements are made in advance with the administrator and provided the visit does not jeopardize facility security. Each facility that holds a juvenile shall have written policies for such visits.
- F. A juvenile inmate shall be able to communicate with staff members at all times. Such communication may be either by voice or electronic means. If electronic systems are used, there shall be a backup plan to insure communication ability is maintained.
- G. No staff member shall be permitted to enter a juvenile inmate living area without backup assistance being available from another staff member. At least one staff member shall be of the same gender as the juvenile inmate except in life-endangering or life-threatening situations. Any time a decision is made to enter the living area without appropriate backup assistance as defined herein, the action shall be documented. Documentation shall show the reason for the decision and a permanent record shall be maintained.
- H. A juvenile charged with a crime which would constitute a felony if committed by an adult or a juvenile who is an escapee from a juvenile training school or from a Department of Human Services group home may be detained in any detention facility authorized by the appropriate judicial or juvenile bureau authority, police station, or similar law enforcement office not approved for long-term detention, for a period of six (6) hours or less for identifying, processing, or arranging for transfer to a juvenile detention facility or alternative program. In no other circumstances shall a juvenile be securely detained in an adult detention facility.
- I. The State Department of Health shall coordinate with the Office of Juvenile Affairs to certify detention facilities for holding juvenile offenders based on the compliance of the detention facility with the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act and the provisions of Section 2-3-103 of Title 10A of the Oklahoma Statutes.

J. The designation of a detention facility as a place for the detention of juveniles shall be made from a list of eligible detention facilities supplied by the Department. Eligible detention facilities shall be those detention facilities deemed by the Department as compliant with the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act.

K. Any adult detention, holding, or lockup facility shall record and report the detention of any person eighteen (18) years of age or younger in a manner consistent with the requirements of the Office of Juvenile Affairs.

L. Records of detention for persons eighteen (18) years of age or younger and detained in the last year shall be subject to review during the annual inspection conducted by the Department.

M. If detention of a juvenile is authorized, such juvenile shall be housed separately from adults in order to prohibit sustained sight and sound contact. Inadvertent contact with incarcerated adults outside of detention facility living areas not dedicated for use by juvenile offenders should be minimized.

N. A juvenile may be held for up to six (6) hours for the purpose of identification, investigation, processing, release to a parent, transfer to court, or transfer to a juvenile facility following the initial custody of the juvenile.

O. A juvenile arrested for or charged with a criminal offense may be securely detained in an adult detention or lockup facility for up to six (6) hours immediately before or immediately after a court appearance, provided sight and sound separation is maintained. This period may be extended to twenty-four (24) hours, excluding weekends and holidays, if the jurisdiction is outside the metropolitan statistical area where:

1. State law requires an initial court appearance within twenty-four (24) hours after being taken into custody;
2. There is no acceptable alternative placement; and
3. The detention facility has been determined by the Department to provide for sight and sound separation.

Historical Data

Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 10, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025.



OKLAHOMA STATE COURTS NETWORK

Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

Section 193 - Right of Entry - Report of Inspection

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 193 (OSCN 2025), Oklahoma Jail Standards Act

A. Inspectors employed by the State Department of Health shall be permitted to enter all jail premises and administrative offices for the purpose of performing their assigned duties.

B. The results of these inspections shall be presented in the form of a written report to the person immediately responsible for the administration of the facility inspected and such other offices the Department deems appropriate. The report shall contain:

1. A list of deficiencies in the condition or operation of the facility and specific proposals for their solution; and
2. A statement as to whether or not the facility inspected is in substantial compliance with the jail standards established pursuant to the Oklahoma Jail Standards Act.

Historical Data

Laws 1977, HB 1397, c. 137, § 2, eff. October 1, 1977; Amended by Laws 1978, HB 1478, c. 244, § 39, emerg. eff. July 1, 1978; Amended by Laws 2018, HB 1461, c. 71, § 2, eff. November 1, 2018 ([superseded document available](#)); Amended by Laws 2025, SB 595, c. 11, § 19, emerg. eff. April 28, 2025 ([superseded document available](#)).



OKLAHOMA STATE COURTS NETWORK

Oklahoma Statutes Citationized

Title 74. State Government

Chapter 6 - Charitable Institutions and Jails

Section 194 - Deficient Facility - Closing

Cite as: 74 O.S. § 194 (OSCN 2025)

If the deficiencies listed in the report have not been corrected, within sixty (60) days after delivery of the report, the Commissioner of Health shall be authorized to file a complaint with the Attorney General or the district attorney for the purpose of assistance in obtaining compliance or to close the deficient facility. Provided, that upon demonstration of a good-faith effort by the governmental entity involved to correct said deficiencies and achieve compliance with the established standards, the Commissioner of Health shall extend the time for compliance a reasonable period before filing the complaint requesting assistance in obtaining compliance or the closing of the facility. An action to close such facility shall be brought in the district court having jurisdiction in the county in which the facility is located. Upon the issuance of an order by the district court to close the facility, the facility shall be closed and prisoners shall be removed to a suitable facility at the expense of the governmental entity responsible for the facility ordered closed. Provided, that upon demonstration of a good-faith effort by the governmental entity involved to correct said deficiencies and achieve compliance with the established standards, the district court shall extend the time for compliance a reasonable period before ordering the facility closed.

Historical Data

Laws 1977, HB 1397, c. 137, § 3, eff. October 1, 1977; Amended by Laws 1978, HB 1478, c. 244, § 40, emerg. eff. July 1, 1978; Amended by Laws 1985, HB 1064, c. 62, § 2, eff. November 1, 1985; Amended by Laws 2018, HB 1461, c. 71, § 3, eff. November 1, 2018 ([superseded document available](#)).