

**NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION
810**

RELIGIOUS FAITH GROUP ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

Supersedes: AR 810 (11-15-04) AR 810.01 (9-1-06) AR 809 (8-15-05) AR 809.1 (8-15-05) AR 814 (11-15-04)

Effective date: 07/08/08

AUTHORITY: NRS 209.131

RESPONSIBILITY

The Regional Department Deputy Director/Wardens/designees/Chaplains are responsible for the practice of Religious and Faith Group services in the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC).

810.01 RECOGNITION OF INMATE RELIGIOUS NEEDS

1. In accordance with restrictions and limitations the Department will take the necessary steps to ensure inmates are provided their constitutional right to practice their religion. The religious needs of inmates will be met, taking into consideration safety, security, available resources, and need.
2. The Department provides oversight to evaluate and/or monitor its Administrative Regulations.
3. The Department facilitates religious programs for inmates. This includes program coordination and supervision, opportunities to practice the requirements of recognized faith groups and utilizing community resources.
4. All limitations or prohibitions must be consistent with consideration of whether the limitations or prohibitions is in furtherance of a compelling government interest and is the least restrictive means of furthering that compelling governmental interest, or as otherwise required by applicable law.
5. Any grievance related to this Administrative Regulation (AR) and the “Nevada Department of Corrections Religious Practice Manual” must comply with AR 740.

810.02 RELIGIOUS FAITH GROUP ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS

1. The Department maintains guidelines to provide space and scheduling for inmates subject to the specific institutional resources and the needs of the recognized Faith Group.
2. Activities are established as outlined in the “Nevada Department of Corrections Religious Practice Manual”.
3. Each major institution and/or facility is responsible for developing Operational Procedures to coordinate space and schedule religious activities.
4. Institutions will take reasonable steps to meet the needs of faith groups, such as: diets, holy days and special services or ceremonies and study groups.

810.03 RESOURCES

1. Volunteers
 - A. The Department encourages volunteers to assist in supervising activities and programs for inmates.
 - B. The Department requires Volunteers to comply with ARs 802 and 338 regarding prison access. Volunteers must complete Department training as scheduled.
 - C. The Department requires that Volunteers comply with all applicable ARs regarding prison access and update a tuberculin test annually at their own cost to continue participation within the Department.
2. Material and financial donations
 - A. The Department allows and encourages donations as set forth in the “Manual”.

810.04 RESTRICTIONS AND MONITORING

1. Restrictions
 - A. The Department restricts activities that impact the safety and security of an institution or facility. Security threat group activities or racial biases are not tolerated.

2. Departmental Oversight

- A. The Director's Religious Review Team (RRT) will be responsible for ensuring religious Administrative Regulations are uniformly interpreted, applied and enforced. The Team consists of a Warden, Chaplain and Deputy Attorney General and each serves a maximum term of three years. New members will be appointed by the Director.

810.05 APPLICABILITY

1. This regulation applies to all inmates and employees of the Department.
2. This regulation requires an OP from each institution.
3. This regulation requires an audit.

REFERENCES:

Howard Skolnik, Director

Date