



OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY
Policy Statement
Part II – Youth Services (Facilities)



Subject:

Apprehension of Escaped Youth from OYA Facilities

<p><i>Section – Policy Number:</i></p> <p>A: Security – 1.4</p>	<p><i>Supersedes:</i></p> <p>II-A-1.4 (01/11) II-A-1.4 (12/02) II-A-7.0 (11/98) II-A-7.0c (11/98) II-C-1.4 (7/98) II-A-7.0b (1/98) II-A-7.0a (1/96)</p>	<p><i>Effective Date:</i></p> <p>01/29/2026</p>	<p><i>Date of Last Review/Revision:</i></p> <p>None</p>
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<p>Related Standards and References:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ ORS 419C.080 (Custody; when authorized) ▪ ORS 419C.478 (Commitment to Oregon Youth Authority or Department of Human Services) ▪ ORS 420.905 through 420.915 (Apprehension of escaped, absent or paroled adjudicated youths) ▪ ORS 420A.023 (Authority of director to authorize youth correction officers to exercise power of peace officer) ▪ OAR Chapter 416, Division 320 (Arrest Orders and All Points Bulletins) ▪ American Correctional Association, <i>Standards for Juvenile Correctional Facilities</i>; 5-JCF-2A-01 (Security Manual); 5-JCF-2A-33 (Critical Incident Debriefing) ▪ OYA policy: I-E-1.0 (Director’s Incident Notification and Report) I-E-4.0 (Incident Reviews) II-B-1.1 (Physical Intervention in OYA Facilities) II-E-1.0 (Notification to Parents/Guardian) I-A-13.0 (Parole Revocation) III-D-2.2 (Field Custody) ▪ OYA forms: YA 0024 (Administrative Incident Review Report) YA 4508 (Order for Arrest and Detention of Escapee) YA 4509 (OYA Notice of Escaped Youth)
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<p>Related Procedures:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FAC I-E-4.0 (Youth Incident Reports)
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<p>Policy Owner:</p> <p>Facility Services Assistant Director</p>	<p>Approved:</p>  <p>Mike Tessean, Director</p>
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I. PURPOSE:

The scope of this policy applies to OYA facility operations. This policy provides guidance for OYA staff when responding to a youth who is in the act of escaping

or has escaped from an OYA facility; or a youth who is in the act of escaping or has escaped during a community escorted trip, program, or secure transport.

Apprehension of OYA youth on parole or probation status is addressed in OYA policies III-C-1.1 (Field Custody) and I-A-13.0 (Parole Revocation).

II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:

DOC youth: A person in the legal custody of the Department of Corrections and the physical custody of OYA.

Escapee: A youth:

- Who has left the grounds of a facility or work crew area without authorization;
- Whose location remains unknown after a reasonable search time regardless of whether they have gone beyond the perimeters of the facility;
- Who has physically escaped during a secure transport or from a hospital commitment; or
- Who has failed to return from an authorized leave at the specified date and time.

Youth: A person in the legal and physical custody of OYA, or a person in the legal custody of the Department of Corrections and the physical custody of OYA.

III. POLICY:

OYA facility staff must make every effort within their authority to apprehend an escapee. The act of apprehending an escapee poses a potential risk to the escapee, staff, and public. Standardized procedures must be followed to ensure staff safely execute the search and apprehension processes while protecting all parties involved.

- A. Pursuant to [ORS 420A.023](#), the OYA director has authorized OYA staff who have completed the Basic Training course offered by the Training Academy to do the following:
1. Prevent a youth's escape from the grounds of an OYA facility; and
 2. Go beyond the grounds of an OYA facility to -
 - a) Pursue a youth who is in the act of escaping from the facility;
 - b) Search for a youth who is in the act of escaping from the facility; and
 - c) Recapture a youth who is in the act of escaping from the facility.

- B. Each OYA facility administration must review its escape emergency response plan annually and update it as needed.
- C. Facility administration must ensure their staff participate in a debriefing after each escape attempt or successful escape and complete an Administrative Incident Review to capture participant information.

IV. PROCEDURE:

A. Staff Response to Missing Youth

1. When a youth appears to be missing from supervision in an OYA facility; or during a community escorted trip, program, or transport, staff must -
 - a) Maintain supervision and safety of the remaining youth.
 - b) Lock down the immediate affected area (no youth movement) and notify facility security, central control, or equivalent. Remain locked down until cleared by facility security, central control, or equivalent.
 - c) Complete an emergency count of all youth in the affected area to verify missing youth.
 - d) Call 911 to alert law enforcement of the escape.
 - e) Provide the following information to security, central control, or equivalent:
 - (1) Youth's name;
 - (2) Time identified missing from supervision;
 - (3) Location missing from;
 - (4) Direction headed;
 - (5) Description of clothing if information is immediately known and accurate; and
 - (6) Known past patterns of escaping.
 - f) Pursue and apprehend an escapee that is in the act of escaping only if safe to do so and no other youth are under the staff's purview (see section C below).
2. If the missing youth cannot be located, staff working in facility security, central control, or equivalent must -
 - a) Declare a facility emergency and limit radio traffic;

- b) Lock down the entire facility;
- c) Order an emergency count of all youth in the facility;
- d) Notify the superintendent/camp director or officer-of-the-day (OD) and;
- e) Dispatch staff for external perimeter checks;
- f) Dispatch staff to conduct an internal facilitywide search;
- g) Consult with the superintendent/camp director or OD about initiating an emergency staff recall to the facility; and
- h) Maintain constant communication with all living units to update other staff of the emergency status.

B. Superintendent/Camp Director/OD Responsibilities

1. The superintendent/camp director or OD must direct all apprehension efforts.

Security staff, or designated facility staff, may direct apprehension efforts in the absence of the superintendent/camp director or OD.

2. Once it is determined the youth has escaped, the superintendent/camp director or OD must ensure –

- a) Appropriate law enforcement agencies are notified of the escape and provided a completed OYA Notice of Escaped Youth (YA 4509);
- b) An All-Points Bulletin (APB) is ordered through MacLaren YCF, *exception for DOC youth*;

If the escapee is a DOC youth, the superintendent/camp director or OD must ensure staff notify the control center at Santiam Correctional Institution (503-378-2144 extension 322 or 323). DOC staff will issue all warrants and place all APBs for DOC youth.

- c) All relevant surveillance videos are reviewed;
- d) Youth with possible related information are interviewed;
- e) The escapee's personal property is searched and stored in a designated area; and
- f) Additional notifications are made (see section F).

3. The superintendent/camp director or OD will determine how long staff will continue apprehension efforts, the areas that will be

searched beyond the facility perimeter, and the extent of law enforcement involvement in the search.

C. Apprehending an Escapee beyond the Facility

1. When possible, staff must seek supervisory approval prior to apprehending an escapee.

It is recognized that there may be occasions where apprehending an escapee is not a planned process and it may not be possible to obtain prior supervisory permission. Staff may act without supervisory approval in these instances, and must notify a supervisor of the apprehension as soon as possible.

2. Staff must use verbal intervention skills as the primary means of encouraging an escapee to cooperate with the apprehension process.
3. At least two staff must be involved in the apprehension process.
4. Staff must follow OYA's Physical Intervention and Restraint Continuum (OYA policy II-B-1.1) when using force to apprehend the youth. Additional backup may be needed and requested from law enforcement or other staff.
5. Staff are only authorized to use compliance techniques taught by the Training Academy.
6. Staff will continuously assess their safety and discontinue the apprehension process if their safety or the safety of others is threatened.

D. Staff Response to Seeing an Escapee after Conclusion of Search Effort

Once OYA has officially ended its search effort, the escapee is no longer in the act of escaping and has officially escaped. Therefore, staff may no longer actively search for the youth or apprehend the escaped youth if they see the escaped youth in the community.

1. Staff who observe an escaped youth in the community after the facility search effort has officially ended must do the following:
 - a) Immediately call 911 to alert law enforcement of the observation;
 - b) Contact MacLaren YCF to verify an APB or warrant for the youth's apprehension has been issued and is still in effect; and
 - c) Avoid approaching or attempting to apprehend the escapee.

2. Facility staff on duty must ensure law enforcement was contacted so law enforcement may apprehend the escapee. If the staff who observed the escapee did not call 911, facility staff on duty must contact law enforcement.
3. Once the escapee is apprehended, law enforcement may initially transport the escapee to a detention facility. Youth will eventually return to the same facility from which they escaped, unless other arrangements are approved by the superintendent/camp director.

E. Failure to Return from Authorized Leave

If a youth on an authorized leave (home visit, temporary release) fails to return to the facility at the specified date and time –

1. Staff working in facility security, central control, or equivalent must notify the superintendent/camp director or OD of the youth's failure to return (escape).
2. The superintendent/camp director or OD must ensure –
 - a) Appropriate law enforcement agencies are notified of the escape and provided a completed OYA Notice of Escaped Youth (YA 4509);
 - b) An All-Points Bulletin (APB) is ordered through MacLaren YCF. *See exception for DOC youth (section B above)*;
 - c) The Professional Standards Office (PSO) is notified;
 - d) All relevant surveillance videos are reviewed;
 - e) Youth with possible related information are interviewed;
 - f) The escapee's personal property is searched and stored in a designated area; and
 - g) Additional notifications are made (see section F below).

F. Additional Notifications

1. The superintendent/camp director or OD must ensure the following people or entities are notified of a youth's escape and apprehension:
 - a) PSO (verbal notification);
 - b) Assistant Director, Facility Services (verbal notification);
 - c) Youth's juvenile parole/probation officer (JPPO);

If the JPPO is not available, the appropriate field supervisor or designated Community Services OD must be notified;

- d) Neighboring businesses and homes (if applicable);
 - e) Youth's parent/guardian; and
 - f) Listed victims – only when determined appropriate by the JPPO or youth's treatment team.
2. In addition, staff must ensure the following after a youth has been apprehended:
 - a) Request the APB or warrant be cancelled; and
 - b) If the youth was not returned to the facility, complete an Order for Arrest and Detention of Escapee (YA 4508). Ensure a copy is mailed to the PSO.

G. Documentation

1. Staff must document the youth's changes in status in JJIS.
2. Responding staff must complete related Youth Incident Reports (YIR). See Facility Services procedure FAC I-E-4.0 Youth Incident Report.
3. Staff must document all notifications regarding the youth's escape and apprehension in related YIRs, including the Director's Office notification.

See OYA policy I-E-1.0 (Director's Incident Notification and Report).

H. Staff Debriefing

Facility administration must conduct a staff debriefing of the escape or attempted escape and document it in an Administrative Incident Review report (YA 0024). A review of the following will be included in the debriefing:

1. Prior indicators;
2. Limitations of facility or operational security;
3. Adequate security safeguards; and
4. A review of the youth's JJIS Alerts.

I. Critical Incident Review

Any youth escape from an OYA facility also requires a Critical Incident Review as described in OYA policy I-E-4.0 (Incident Reviews).

V. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO