



OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY

Policy Statement

Part II – Youth Services (Facilities)



Subject:

Youth Dress Standards in OYA Facilities

Section – Policy Number:

E: Programming - 8.0

Supersedes:

II-E-8.0 (12/12)

II-E-8.0 (10/11)

Effective Date:

06/07/2022

Date of Last

Review:

06/07/2024

Related Standards and References:

- [OYA policy](#): I-A-10.1 (Meeting LGBTQ+ Youth Needs)
II-A-2.0 (Searches of Youth and Youth Property in OYA Facilities)
II-B-1.2 (Use of Time-out, Room-lock Other, Isolation, and Safety Programs)
- [OYA Living Units Fundamental Practices](#)

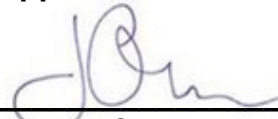
Related Procedures:

None

Policy Owner:

Facility Services Assistant Director

Approved:


Joseph O'Leary, Director

I. PURPOSE:

This policy establishes guidelines for staff to follow when ensuring youth follow prescribed dress standards in OYA facilities.

II. POLICY DEFINITIONS: None.

III. POLICY:

OYA values equity, diversity, inclusion and the importance of individual expression. OYA strives to balance facility safety and security with allowing youth to have clothing options that are culturally sensitive and age appropriate for the settings in which they live, work, attend school and recreate.

OYA will provide and maintain basic clothing for all youth in OYA facilities to allow them to present a neat and acceptable appearance at all times. The clothing style and color will not distinguish youth as incarcerated people but will reflect appropriate community dress. Staff may permit youth in transition facilities/camps and those achieving certain behavioral program levels to wear personal clothing within the standards of this policy.

This policy is aligned with OYA's Living Units Fundamental Practices 1 and 3, Clean, Safe, and Organized Living Units and Developmentally Appropriate Milieu and Services. Specifically, the key principles that environments matter and seeing people as resources.

Staff must ensure youth do not dress in clothing that resembles the facility staff uniform.

IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:

Facility staff must ensure youth clothing meet these standards.

- A. Clothing must be clean and neat.
- B. Clothing must fit properly without being excessively small or large.
- C. No portion of a youth's undergarments (underwear or bra) may be visible.
- D. Pants must be worn fully fastened and zipped.
- E. Multiple sets of clothing may not be worn simultaneously.
- F. Shoes or shower sandals must be worn at all times except during water-related recreational activities, or in bed.
- G. Boots may only be worn for work, and are not to be worn on living units.
- H. Footwear must be worn appropriately on the feet.
- I. G-string or thong-type underwear are not permitted.
- J. Strapless, low-cut, or underwire bras are not permitted.
- K. Undergarments must be worn at all times during the day.
- L. Socks are required when wearing shoes or boots.
- M. Shirts must be worn at all times during the day. Unit leadership teams may make exceptions for summer outdoor recreation.
- N. Issued nighttime attire must be worn in bed.
- O. Sunglasses may only be worn outdoors.

V. CLOTHING ISSUE AND REPLACEMENT:

- A. Staff must ensure each youth has a set of clothing and shoes in good repair as follows:
 - 1. Pants or shorts;
 - 2. T-shirts;
 - 3. Long sweatpants;
 - 4. Long-sleeved sweatshirt;

5. Sweat shorts;
 6. Individually-issued undergarments (underwear, and bras when needed);
 7. Individually-issued socks;
 8. Nighttime attire;
 9. Polo shirts;
 10. Black slacks;
 11. Shower sandals; and
 12. Sneakers.
- B. Staff must issue youth seasonal garments as needed by the facility climate, as follows:
1. Hat (ball cap or stocking hat);
 2. Set of thermals; and
 3. Jacket.
- C. Staff must issue youth in certain programs protective or weather resistant clothing as required by the programs, such as aprons for the kitchen, raingear for landscaping, coveralls for maintenance, and boots for off-site work crews.
- D. Staff must provide youth an opportunity to have exchanges of clean clothing at least three times per week and daily exchanges of undergarments and socks. This may be provided in several ways, including access to self-serve washer facilities, central clothing, or a combination of the two.
- E. Staff must replace clothing when worn or damaged on a one-for-one basis. Staff must hold youth accountable for replacing intentionally-damaged issued clothing.
- F. Staff must also allow youth clothing needs as outlined in OYA policy I-A-10.1 Meeting LGBTQ+ Youth Needs.
- G. Staff must confiscate clothing items that have been misused, altered, or used in a harmful manner. See OYA policy II-A-2.0 Searches of Youth and Youth Property in OYA Facilities regarding confiscating items.

VI. DRESS REQUIREMENTS:

A. School and Special Event Attire

Staff must ensure youth school and special event attire is black slacks and polo shirts. Special event attire must be worn as directed by facility administrators to such events as graduations, court attendance, and religious services.

B. Leisure Attire

Staff must ensure youth leisure attire is jeans and T-shirts. Staff may allow youth to wear sweats within the living unit and during recreational activities.

C. Nighttime Attire

Staff must ensure youth wear shirts, and short or long pajama or sweatpants to bed.

D. Work Assignment Attire

Staff may issue youth work-related gear, aprons, coveralls, or safety boots according to the requirements of the assigned jobs.

E. Intake Attire

Staff may temporarily issue youth sweats or scrubs during intake and prior to being issued regular clothing from an intake facility.

F. Isolation Attire

Staff may issue youth in isolation scrubs or a safety smock according to safety and security concerns. (See OYA policy II-B-1.2 Use of Time-out, Room-lock Other, Isolation, and Safety Programs in OYA Facilities.)

G. Facility Transfer Transport Attire

Staff must ensure all escorted youth transferring between OYA facilities are dressed in coveralls, underwear, bra (when needed), socks, and sandals.

H. Exceptions

Exceptions to youth dress requirements may be made due to medical issues, safety and security concerns, or special circumstances, at facility management's discretion.

VII. PERSONAL CLOTHING:

- A. Staff may allow youth residing in transition facilities/camps and youth on certain higher levels of behavioral programs to wear personal clothing.

- B. Staff must ensure youth personal clothing is worn according to the general dress standards of this policy and does not resemble the facility staff uniform.
- C. Staff must ensure youth personal clothing is modest in style. See-through garments, short-shorts, and halter or tank tops are not permitted.
- D. Staff must ensure youth personal clothing and hats do not contain any hate symbols; references to alcohol, substances, gang signs/symbols/colors, or any kind of sexual, offensive, or illegal activities.
- E. Facility administration may impose further limitations as appropriate or needed for the facility's safety and order.
- F. Facility administration may allow youth personal shoes to be worn at all facilities. Limitations on color and style may be imposed.
- G. Youth personal clothing is limited to five changes of clothing or less, at the facility administration's discretion and physical plant storage availability.
- H. Staff must ensure youth personal clothing is cleaned and, when necessary, disinfected before storage or allowing the youth to keep and wear personal clothing.

VIII. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO