



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

SUMMARY OF CHANGES
AR 516 – LEVEL SYSTEM
Effective May 25, 2023

Description	Page Number
Expand wording on performance-based criteria	4, 5, 6, & 7
Other minor changes have been made in verbiage and formatting for improved clarity and consistency.	



James E. Dzurenda, Director

5/25/23

Date

This summary of changes is for training record purposes only. You must also consult the Administrative Regulation and/or Manual for proper instructions.

I, _____, acknowledge receipt of this Summary of Changes and understand it is my responsibility to implement into the course of my duties.

Signature

Date



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION

**LEVEL SYSTEM
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION-516**

SUPERSEDES: AR 516 (Temporary, 10/11/11); AR 516 (06/17/2012)

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 25, 2023

AUTHORITY: NRS 209.131; NRS 209.352

RESPONSIBILITY

The Director of the Nevada Department of Corrections (NDOC and Department), is responsible for the implementation of this Administrative Regulation (AR).

The Wardens will ensure that their appropriate assigned subordinate supervisors have read and understand this regulation.

The Associate Wardens will ensure that their appropriate assigned subordinate supervisors have read and understand this regulation.

Supervisors will ensure that their appropriate subordinate staff members have read and understand this regulation.

Staff members will know, comply with, and enforce this regulation.

If, and where applicable, offenders will know and comply with this regulation.

Institutional Wardens and Facility Managers are responsible to develop and maintain an offender level system.

All classification and program staff involved in the classification process are responsible to ensure they make every reasonable attempt to follow the Level System Operational Procedure for their facility.

516.01 LEVEL SYSTEM PROCEDURE

1. An institution shall have a departmentally standardized level system which encourages and incentivizes offenders to work and program while allowing additional privileges. The institution shall monitor and evaluate the level system annually and update as needed.
 - A. Camps and Transitional Housing Centers may be excluded from this regulation.
 - B. Protective Housing, Disciplinary Segregation, Administrative Segregation and other specialized program units may be excluded from this regulation.
2. Each level should have a performance-based criteria which involves offender performance including but not limited to:
 - A. Work
 - B. Disciplinary
 - C. Program compliance
 - D. Appearance
 - E. Environment
3. All institutions should develop a level system which is standardized and comparable throughout the Department depending on institutional/departmental needs which also meet the diversity of the institution.
 - A. Offenders shall progress through the level system when eligible. Documentation within Nevada Offender Tracking Information System (NOTIS) is required.
 - B. Regressions from levels do not require disciplinary action but documentation within NOTIS is required.
 - C. A classification committee will be conducted on all level progressions and regressions.
 - D. Offenders transferred between institutions of like security level, not involving disciplinary actions or job terminations, may retain their level assignment upon transfer. This will be based on the needs of the institution.
 - 1) Offenders may be required to go through an initial evaluation/orientation period in the most restrictive Level, not to exceed thirty (30) days. Exceptions will be based on the needs of the institution.

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4. The following rights or privileges are components of any level system and are not to be abridged by the Operational Procedure:
 - A. Food
 - B. Mail
 - C. Legal access
 - D. Religious access
 - E. Access to medical treatment

 5. The following privileges may be used as incentives:
 - A. Property
 - B. Appliances
 - C. Program access
 - D. Work/pay
 - E. Yard/tier time
 - F. Phone access
 - G. Canteen
 - H. Recreation/gym access
 - I. Clothing
 - J. Packages
 - K. Work assignments

 6. Each medium and maximum security institution may establish three (3) levels with Level 1 as the level that allows the highest number of privileges. The institution may also consider factors including but not limited to ethnic balances, Security Threat Group and/or other institutional needs.

 7. Newly arriving offenders may qualify for a level contingent upon review of their disciplinary history and other level criteria.

 8. There is no set percentage of offenders assigned to each level.

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9. This regulation does not create any liberty interest, or right to any classification status, work assignment or placement, on behalf of any offender, nor is any liberty interest to be implied from the implementation of a level system.

516.02 MEDIUM SECURITY INSTITUTION LEVEL SYSTEMS

1. The following criteria should be followed for Level 1 offenders.

- A. Performance-based criteria

- 1) Work must include an assignment to full-time participation in work, education and/or special program assignment.
- 2) Offenders assigned to any Prison Industry Program must be housed in Level 1.
- 3) No major disciplinary convictions within the past twelve months; the committee may evaluate the overall disciplinary record.
- 4) Program compliance requires active involvement, participation, and attendance.
- 5) Appearance includes maintaining hygiene and grooming standards.
- 6) The offenders must maintain a clean and orderly living area and comply with all housing rules and Operational Procedures.

- B. Incentives and authorized activities:

- 1) Offenders will have access to open yard activities and the multi-purpose activity centers.
- 2) Offenders will have canteen as scheduled and authorized by Operational Procedures.
- 3) Offenders shall have access to education, law library, gym, chapel, culinary and other such areas as institutional schedules permit.

2. The following criteria should be followed for Level 2 offenders:

- A. Performance-based criteria:

- 1) Shall include an assignment to work, education, and/or special program.
- 2) The committee should evaluate the overall disciplinary record.

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- 3) Program compliance requires active involvement, participation, and attendance.
 - 4) Appearance includes maintaining hygiene and grooming standards.
 - 5) The offenders must maintain a clean and orderly living area and comply with all housing rules and Operational Procedures.

B. Incentive and authorized activities:

- 1) Access to certain work assignments and/or recreational activities.

3. The following criteria should be followed for Level 3, the most restricted level:

A. Performance-based criteria:

- 1) Offenders who do not meet the criteria for Levels 1 or 2:
 - a) New arrivals.
 - b) Removed from Level 1 or 2.
 - c) Recently classified from segregation housing or close custody.
 - d) Pending disciplinary action which may result in removal from Level 1 or 2.
 - e) Austere Housing.

B. Incentives and authorized activities:

- 1) Access to programs and education.
- 2) Access to limited activities as stated in 516.01.

516.03 MAXIMUM SECURITY INSTITUTION LEVEL SYSTEM

1. The following criteria should be followed for Level 1 offenders:

A. Performance-based criteria:

- 1) Shall include an assignment to work, education, and/or special program.
- 2) Offenders assigned to any Prison Industry Program must be housed in Level 1.

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- 3) No major disciplinary convictions within the past twelve months; the committee may evaluate the overall disciplinary record.
 - 4) Program compliance requires active involvement, participation, and attendance.
 - 5) Appearance includes maintaining hygiene and grooming standards.
 - 6) The offenders must maintain a clean and orderly living area and comply with all housing rules and Operational Procedures.

B. Incentives and authorized activities:

- 1) Outside yard access as scheduled.
- 2) Canteen requests will be delivered to the designated housing unit.
- 3) All meals are served in the designated area of the institution.
- 4) Access to scheduled tier time.
- 5) Escorts and movement will be controlled by Operational Procedure.
- 6) The Warden will determine physical access to the education facilities.
- 7) The Warden will determine the number of participants who will have access to the institutional chapel.
- 8) Unit yard access as scheduled.
- 9) Recreational activities and gym access as scheduled and determined by Operational Procedures.

2. The following criteria should be followed for Level 2 offenders:

A. Performance-based criteria:

- 1) Shall include an assignment to work, education, and/or special program.
- 2) Having no major or general disciplinary convictions within the past six months.
- 3) Program compliance requires active involvement, participation, and attendance.
- 4) Appearance includes maintaining hygiene and grooming standards.

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- 5) The offenders must maintain a clean and orderly living area and comply with all housing rules and Operational Procedures.

B. Incentives and authorized activities:

- 1) Outside yard access as scheduled.
- 2) Canteen requests will be delivered to the designated housing unit.
- 3) All meals are served in the designated area of the institution.
- 4) Access to scheduled tier time.
- 5) Escorts and movement will be controlled by Operational Procedure.
- 6) The Warden will determine the number of participants who will have access to the institutional chapel.
- 7) Unit yard access as scheduled.
- 8) Recreational activities and gym access as scheduled and determined by Operational Procedures.

3. The following criteria should be followed for Level 3 offenders:

A. Performance-based criteria:

- 1) Compliance with housing rules and Operational Procedures is required to remain in this level.
- 2) Offenders who have completed a disciplinary sanction or granted early release from the sanction.
- 3) Offenders who have recently transferred as a management problem.

B. Incentives and authorized activities:

- 1) Unit interior yard access as scheduled.
- 2) Canteen requests will be delivered to the designated housing unit.
- 3) All meals are served in the units.
- 4) Escorts and movement will be controlled by Operational Procedure.
- 5) Access to education via correspondence.

APPLICABILITY

1. This regulation applies to the operation of all institutions and facilities except for camps, restitution centers and transitional housing.
2. This regulation requires an Operational Procedure for all institutions with a level system.
3. This AR does not require an audit.



James E. Dzurenda, Director

5/25/23

Date