

POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 01-03-101
THE DEVELOPMENT AND DELIVERY OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES
ATTACHMENT
September 1, 2020

“Religious Property Guidelines”

Religious property shall meet the criteria in Policy and Administrative Procedure 02-01-101, “Offender Personal Property.”

Religious property shall not include items which could reasonably be determined to be a weapon, gang identifier, or other security risk

Some items may be restricted to chapel/religious services area use only

Some items may not be available to offenders in restrictive status housing.

Purchase of personal religious items is the responsibility of the offender. No State funds (including recreation or similar funds) shall be used to purchase items for individual possession. At facilities which allow religious groups to maintain a recreation-sub account for donations, those funds shall not be used to purchase individual property.

State funds, including recreation funds, may be used to purchase items deemed necessary for the operation of the chapel/religious services area and group services. This may include books of scripture, hymnals, instructional books, candles, or similar supplies for use in the chapel/religious services area.

The facility shall define “immediate bed area” for non-celled space. This will generally not include day rooms or other common areas.

Religious Items must be purchased through commissary when available. If not available through commissary. Religious items must be shipped to the facility by vendor. The facility may compile a list of approved vendors from which offenders may purchase items. Family and friends shall not be permitted to send religious items directly to offenders.

Headwear

Adult males: up to three plain black yarmulkes or kufis.

One (1) red Fez may be stored in personal property, and worn only in chapel/religious services area, cell/immediate bed area

Adult females: Plain black or khaki scarf, may not be worn to obscure the face

Religious jewelry

One (1) religious medallion or prayer bag is authorized. It must meet value restrictions in the facility's personal property operational procedure. Chain or cord must not be suitable as a weapon or tool.

Religious jewelry must be commercially made and purchased or donated. Homemade medallions or pendants are not acceptable.

Prayer bags may not contain contraband or prohibited property.

Religious medallions are worn concealed from view, except in the chapel/religious services area, cell/immediate bed area.

An offender may possess small (less than 2" diameter) lapel pins or similar items; however, they may only be worn in the chapel/religious services area, cell or immediate bed area.

An offender may possess Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous (AA/NA) tokens, saint's medallions, or similar items. These must be carried or stored in personal property.

Undergarments

Up to three (3) tallit kattan or tzit tzit. These are white or plain unbleached items. They are worn underneath the shirt or jumpsuit and the tassels concealed. If tassels are worn separately from a talit kattan, they must still be concealed. Attaching to belt loops or pockets is not permitted.

Oil

Up to two (2) ounces may be possessed by any adult offender. Oil may only be purchased through commissary.

Cloths

An offender may possess one prayer rug, prayer shawl, altar cloth or similar item. Item must be smaller than 36 x 48 inches, and does not contain security threat group insignia. Colors and patterns associated with security threat groups shall not be permitted.

Items may be used or worn only in chapel/religious services area or immediate bed area, and may not obscure the face.

Books and other publications

Religious books and publications must meet the requirements of Policy 02-01-103 Offender Correspondence. Offenders of any or no religious preference may possess and purchase books and publications of any faith.

Publications are not redacted or cut to remove prohibited material.

Prayer beads

An offender may possess one set of prayer beads, including a rosary. Beads must be less than one-half inch ($\frac{1}{2}$ ") in diameter, and the item must have an overall length of less than forty-five (45) inches. Beads must be solid black, white, clear, or woodtone. If the beads are worn or carried, they must be concealed under clothing.

Tarot Cards

An offender may possess one deck of Tarot cards. Cards may not contain nudity or other objectionable material. Each card must be marked with the offender's IDOC number.

Runes

An offender may possess one set of runes.

Herbs

Sage, sweetgrass, cedar, and other herbs are not authorized for offender possession. Sage, sweetgrass, and cedar may be secured under lock by Chaplains and issued for smudging or other ritual uses. Only the amount necessary for the ritual shall be issued.

Tobacco

Except at designated facilities, offender possession of tobacco is prohibited. However, religious use of tobacco is permitted. A reasonable amount of tobacco may be brought in by approved volunteers or staff for use during a service. **Any excess must be removed from the facility.**

Incense/smudge

Incense is not authorized for individual possession. It may be used when appropriate in religious services. While it may be used indoors, consideration must be given to the impact incense use may have on other activities in the area, particularly medical.

Candles

Candles are not authorized for individual possession. Candles may be used when appropriate in religious services.

Note: Use of smudge, incense, candles or other burning/smoldering items requires constant staff or Level 1 Volunteer supervision.

Wine

Offender possession of wine or other alcohol is not authorized. A reasonable amount of wine (less than 1 oz per participant) may be brought in by an authorized volunteer or staff person for sacramental use. **Excess shall be removed from the facility.**

Pictures or Icons

An offender may possess religious pictures or icons which conform to general offender property guidelines.

Feathers

An offender may possess one feather for religious use. Some feathers, including those from an eagle or hawk, are restricted by federal or State law.

Offender in possession of a hawk or eagle feather must maintain a copy of the appropriate federal permit with the feather.

Tefillin

Offender possession and use of tefillin is permitted. Facilities shall develop a facility directive that outlines storage requirements.