

2018 - 32 MAINTENANCE

All portions of existing buildings, both interior and exterior, are maintained in such manner that structural strength, stability, sanitation, indoor air quality, and safety of life and property are free from fire and other hazards. Repairs and upkeep are provided to ensure public safety, health, and general welfare. The building structural system is maintained structurally sound with no evidence of deterioration, and capable of supporting the load of normal use. All exterior walls are free of holes, breaks, loose or rotting boards or timbers, and any other conditions which might admit rain or dampness to the interior portions of the walls or to the occupied spaces of the building. All siding materials are kept in repair. Roofs are structurally sound and maintained in a safe manner and have no defects which might admit rain or cause dampness in the walls or interior portion of the building.

2018 - 33 STAFF / INMATE INTERACTION IN DIRECT SUPERVISION FACILITES

The physical plant design in direct supervision facilities shall facilitate continuous personal contact and interaction between staff and inmates in the general population housing units. Separation of supervising staff from inmates reduces interpersonal relationships and staff awareness of conditions in the housing unit. Staff effectiveness is limited if the only staff available are isolated in control centers as observers or technicians in charge of electronic management systems.

2019 HOUSING (Revised January 2026)

Unless otherwise noted this standard applies to all facilities planned, approved, and constructed after July 1, 2025. Housing Standards prior to July 1, 2025, can be found in the appendices of the Standards. These standards can only be applied to facilities planned, approved, and constructed after July 1, 2025, as noted in section 2012 of the Minimum Standards.

2019 - 1 JAIL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

A Facility should, as the first part of the planning for the construction of, addition to, or major renovation to an existing facility, have a jail needs assessment completed. The Jail needs assessment should be completed by a company that provides consultant services with qualified expert(s) and experience in the corrections field and sufficient experience conducting jail needs assessments to successfully complete the assessment. The final goal of the jail needs assessment is to provide the facility with a data-based report that justifies and explains both the current and future projected needs of the facility and provides projected bed space requirements to meet the different classification and custody types of inmates in order to allow the facility to classify and separate inmates according to the standards and recognized best practices. The jail needs assessment should consist of the following areas of evaluation:

1. Conduct a Current Facility Evaluation

If the existing jail is going through major renovations and additions, the existing jail should be evaluated from a physical plant, management, and operational perspective utilizing the SC Minimum Standards for Local Detention Facilities, Local and State Building Regulations, Fire Codes, and other applicable standards to assess the existing building for future use.

2. Data Development

A data set should be developed to support the analysis, profiling, and forecasting activities needed to complete the jail needs assessment. The data set will include information on the inmate and community populations, as well as other components of the criminal justice system that can impact the jail population levels. Data will be collected from the jail, county planning department, US Census, and other relevant sources. Data collection is vital to the completion of an accurate analysis and the generation of appropriate projections. The data gathered should, at a minimum, be collected for the previous ten (10) years.

3. Analyze Criminal Justice Trends

Analyze Patterns in county population growth and historical trends in crime and arrest rates to determine their impact on jail population including information on the type of arrests and bookable offenses, bonding policies, patterns of alternative incarceration, etc. Analyze the profile of the existing inmate population utilizing the current classification system and other relevant jail records to separate the inmate population into male/female, adult / juvenile, pre-trial / sentenced, nature of charges, special custody including mental and medical cases, disciplinary housing, administrative segregation, trustees, work release, etc. Analyze historical patterns in alternative forms of incarceration in conjunction with the corrections assessment.

4. Forecast Correctional System Needs

Using nationally recognized and accepted research methods establish baseline estimates into a forecast of the future inmate populations. The estimates will model the historical patterns according to race, gender, and offense type and project those trends out to the planning horizon. The baseline estimates will model growth scenarios based on various assumptions about changes in jail admissions and average length of stay. The patterns will be compared with overall statewide, regional, and national trends.

Baseline estimates will be used to form a forecast of the future inmate population. This conversion process involves modifying the baseline estimates to account for policy and programmatic impacts. A crucial element will be to account for the potential impact of alternatives to incarceration. Potential changes in state sentencing laws will be evaluated, and the impact of the changes will be incorporated into the consensus forecast. The consensus forecast will reflect the County's fiscal conditions as demands for correctional and other criminal justice services are balanced with other County public service obligations.

5. Define Bedspace Needs by Custody Category

The number and type of bedspaces will be projected based on the consensus forecast of future inmate population levels. Using data from previous tasks, a preliminary classification of the future inmate population will be developed to reflect appropriate custody levels and the functional requirements of the correctional system. This preliminary classification will be used to estimate the various types of bedspaces and housing configurations required for the projected population. Based on the historical analysis, the bedspace projections will be adjusted to account for any seasonality and peaking patterns in the inmate population.

6. Operational Review

The operations of the jail will be examined with reference to local requirements, national standards, recognized case law and generally accepted operational models. This task will include a review of written orders, discussions with staff, and extensive on-site observation. The jail needs assessment company will look at the degree to which staff has structured guidelines for operation and the extent to which they are followed in actual practice. A key part of the assessment will relate to the training policies and procedures adopted and the regularity and manner through which operational training standards are maintained.

2019 - 2 TOILETS

Inmates have access to toilets and hand-washing facilities twenty-four (24) hours per day and are able to use toilet facilities without staff assistance when they are confined in their cells/sleeping areas. Toilets are provided at a minimum ratio of one (1) for every twelve (12) inmates. Urinals may be substituted for up to one-half of the toilets in male facilities. It is the responsibility the facility to maintain toilets in a working condition and shut down housing units that do not have an operational toilet until such time as it can be repaired or replaced.

2019 - 3 WASH BASINS

Inmates have access to operable wash basins with hot and cold running water in the housing units at a minimum ratio of one basin for every twelve (12) occupants. Provisions must be made for inmate access in cells or sleeping areas, dayrooms, and other parts of the facility.

2019 - 4 SHOWERS

Inmates have access to showers that are thermostatically controlled to temperatures ranging from one hundred (100) degrees to one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit, or to showers that can be manually regulated to temperatures no higher than one hundred twenty (120) degrees Fahrenheit, in order to ensure the safety of the inmates and to promote hygienic practices. Showers are to be available at a minimum ration of one (1) shower for every twelve (12) inmates.

2019 - 5 DAYROOMS

Dayrooms with space for varied inmate activities are situated immediately adjacent to the inmate sleeping areas. Dayrooms provide a minimum of thirty-five (35) square feet of space per inmate (exclusive of lavatories, showers, and toilets) for the maximum number of inmates who use the dayroom at one time, but no less than thirty-five (35) square feet per inmate to accommodate one half the rated capacity in each housing unit. Dayrooms provide sufficient seating and writing surfaces for every inmate using the dayroom at one time.

Such furnishings are appropriate to the custody level of inmates assigned. In an open dormitory setting, consistent routine access throughout non-sleeping hours to enough tables and chairs to accommodate the entire inmate population will make it unnecessary to provide additional desks/writing surfaces and chairs/stools inside the immediate sleeping areas.

2019 - 6 FURNISHINGS

Each inmate confined to a cell/room is provided a sleeping area with the following: a bed; storage for personal items; and a place to store clothes. A desk or approved writing surface and chair or stool is not required in the cells provided, A) these items are located in sufficient quantities in the day room to accommodate all inmates in the housing unit and B) inmates are provided a minimum of eight (8) hours each day out of the cell. Disciplinary and Administrative Segregations cells where confinement can be expected to exceed sixteen (16) hours a day shall have the desk or approved writing surface and chair or stool included in their construction.

2019 - 7 COMMON AREA FURNISHINGS

In facilities which have a combination of day rooms, multipurpose rooms, and other activity areas that are routinely accessible to the inmates on a consistent basis during non-sleeping hours, appropriate furnishings may be moved as needed throughout the day if doing so will not limit use by the inmates assigned. If the dayroom tables and chairs are intended to avoid having additional desks/writing surfaces and chairs/stools inside the immediate sleeping areas in open dormitory settings, there must be enough furnishings to accommodate the entire inmate population. The standard provides managers and designers with flexibility in designing and furnishing communal activity space and takes into consideration the range of activities that may occur (e.g., television viewing, reading, exercise, friendly conversation, and sometimes meals. In lower security settings, the use of more traditional furnishings should be considered.

2019 - 8 EXERCISE AREAS

Indoor and outdoor space for inmate exercise is provided. Indoor exercise may be conducted in the dayroom or in the multi-purpose room. When outside exercise space is provided for, the minimum space requirements are as follows:

For Individual Housing Units:

1. General Population Units:

Outdoor exercise areas shall provide at least fifteen (15) square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates who are expected to use the area at one time, but not less than seven hundred and fifty (750) square feet of unencumbered space, with none of the dimensions less than fifteen (15) feet.

2. Segregation/ Maximum Security Units:

Outdoor exercise areas shall provide at least fifteen (15) square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates who are expected to use the area at one time, but not less than two hundred (200) square feet of unencumbered space.

3. Common Exercise Room:

When one common outside exercise yard is provided for use by multiple housing units, the outdoor exercise area shall provide at least fifteen (15) square feet per inmate for the maximum number of inmates who are expected to use the area at one time but not less than the number of inmates for the largest housing unit it will serve or seven hundred fifty (750) square feet of unencumbered space, whichever is larger, with none of the dimensions less than fifteen (15) feet.

2019 - 9 LIVING UNITS

Unless otherwise noted, each facility planned, designed, approved, and constructed after July 1, 2025, shall comply with the following requirements for living units:

1. The number of inmates occupying a cell, room, or dorm shall not exceed the rated capacity of the cell, room, or dorm when based upon the average daily population for the previous three (3) months.
2. Each facility shall provide dayroom (communal activity) space for each cellblock or cluster of rooms. (Any area within a dormitory or other living unit considered dayroom space shall not be added to the square footage when determining rated capacity.)
3. Any cell, room, or area to which inmates are confined (locked in) shall have one (1) operable water closet at a minimum ratio of one (1) per twelve (12) inmates, and one (1) operable lavatory with running water at a minimum ratio of one (1) per twelve (12) inmates, that are accessible twenty-four (24) hours a day. (Urinals may be

substituted one (1) for one (1) for water closets in male areas; however, at least one-half of fixtures shall be water closets.)

4. Each facility shall provide a fixed sleeping surface for each inmate up to the rated capacity of the facility. Fixed sleeping surfaces must be a minimum of eight (8) inches off of the floor. In instances where the facility is over capacity, the facility may provide temporary sleeping surfaces often called “boats” to prevent the inmate from sleeping on the floor.

5. Where correctional programs are offered, sufficient area for them shall meet the need and provide space for the following:

- a. Religious Services
- b. Counseling
- c. Interviews
- d. Classroom
- e. Library
- f. Recreation

2019 - 10 MINIMUM NUMBER OF SINGLE OCCUPANCY CELLS

A facility shall have the option of meeting its needs assessment numbers through the construction of several different type housing units which will be covered in detail later in this section. Those types include but are not limited to open bay dorm style housing, sixteen (16) person cells, eight (8) person cells, four (4) person cells, two (2) person cells, and single (1) person occupancy cells or other sizes as designed by qualified architectural firms and approved for construction by the Department of Corrections, Compliance and Inspection Division.

Administrative segregation, disciplinary housing, and quarantine cells must be constructed as single occupancy cells. The minimum number of single occupancy cells for a facility shall not be below the number recommended from the jail needs assessment or ten (10%) percent of the total rated capacity of the facility, whichever is greater. The facility must account for making single occupancy cells available when indicated for the following. “When indicated” refers to determinations made by the classification system, medical diagnosis, or other professional conclusion. A facility may accomplish additional single occupancy cells when needed by housing one inmate in a double occupancy cell.

1. inmates with severe medical disabilities
2. inmates suffering from serious mental illness.
3. sexual predators
4. inmates likely to be exploited or victimized by others.
5. inmates who have other special needs for single occupancy housing.

2019 - 11 SINGLE OCCUPANCY CELL SIZE & CONFINEMENT

1. Single Occupancy Cells designed for less than sixteen (16) hours a day (24 Hour Period) confinement must contain a minimum of fifty (50) square feet of floor space with no less than seven (7) feet between walls and eight (8) feet between floor and ceiling. The facility cannot house inmates longer than sixteen (16) hours per day in these cells without being in violation of the standard.
2. Single Occupancy Cells designed for more than sixteen (16) hours of confinement per day (24 Hour Period) must contain a minimum of seventy (70) square feet of floor space with no less than seven (7) feet between walls and eight (8) feet between floor and ceiling. Provided a facility includes a single shower in the cell with the additional square footage required for the shower, inmates may be confined to these cells on disciplinary action without removal for shower or recreations time not to exceed the days allowed in an approved disciplinary policy.
3. Single Occupancy Cells designed for more than sixteen (16) hours of confinement per day (24 Hour Period) that do not contain a shower must follow Standard 2075 providing the inmate with the opportunity to shower at least three (3) non-consecutive days a week.

2019 - 12 MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY CELL SIZE & CONFINEMENT

1. Cells Designed for Multiple Occupancy must contain a minimum of forty (40) square feet of floor space per inmate with no less than seven (7) feet between walls and eight (8) feet between floor and ceiling.
2. The minimum square footage per inmate must be maintained regardless of the capacity of the cell design. (I.E., a sixteen (16) person designed cell must contain a minimum of six hundred forty (640) square feet to be in compliance)
3. Special Discussion for Double Occupancy Cells. Many facilities in other states are forgoing the building of single occupancy cells including maximum security housing for construction of double occupancy cells. Nothing in these standards prevents a facility from making these same construction decisions provided Standard 2019-10 Minimum Numbers for Single Occupancy Cells is followed. Consideration should be given that building double occupancy cells will provide the ability to build extra bed space for the same funds. A facility utilizing this provision must use the replacement of jail needs assessment of single occupancy bed space requirements with double occupancy cells to increase the rated total bed capacity of the facility not keeping the same rated capacity. This will allow double occupancy cells to be utilized for single inmate housing without causing overcrowding in the facility.

For Example: A facility budget may allow for the building of five hundred (500) beds with an average need of fifty (50) single cells recommended by the needs assessment; however, for the same funds build a five hundred and eighty (580) bed jail utilizing double occupancy cells. Fifty (50) double

occupancy cells could be used to house the fifty (50) inmates that need separate housing while still gaining thirty (30) additional beds.

4. No multiple occupancy cell shall be used for confinement to exceed sixteen (16) hours per day with the exception of double occupancy cells utilized as single occupancy cells.

5. In multiple occupancy cells, a classification system is used to divide the occupants into groups which reduce the probability of assault and disruptive behavior. At a minimum, the classification system evaluates the following:

- a. mental and emotional stability
- b. escape history
- c. history of assaultive behavior
- d. medical status
- e. age
- f. enemies of record
- g. other categories that may impact facility security

2019 - 13 OPEN BAY DORMITORIES

Open bay dormitory style housing units may be utilized in lieu of cells for housing minimum security inmates.

1. Open bay dormitory style units must have a minimum of thirty-five (35) square feet of floor space per inmate not including shower, lavatory, or dayroom area.

2. Sleeping area partitions are required if more than six (6) people are housed in one sleeping area.

3. A classification system is used to divide the occupants into groups which reduce the probability of assault and disruptive behavior. At a minimum, the classification system evaluates the following:

- a. mental and emotional stability
- b. escape history
- c. history of assaultive behavior
- d. medical status
- e. age
- f. enemies of record
- g. other categories that may impact facility security

4. If Medium security inmates are housed in multiple open bay dormitory style housing, it requires the open bay dormitory style housing to be a direct supervision housing unit. (See glossary for definition of direct supervision.)

2019 - 14 DIRECT SUPERVISION

1. Any housing unit may be managed as a direct supervision housing unit provided it meets the requirements found in the definition of direct supervision.
2. Housing units constructed as a direct supervision unit must have an officer station designed and built as part of the housing unit.
3. Direct Supervision Housing Units must have a staff lavatory with toilet and sink constructed as part of the housing unit where the staff has direct access to the lavatory without leaving the housing unit unless policy calls for the officer to be properly relieved from their post for a bathroom break. Architectural design may allow for one lavatory to serve multiple direct housing units.

2020 - 2029 RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE (Revised January 2026)

2030 INMATE PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

Each facility should provide an array of programs that includes social services, religious services and events, library services, vocational counseling, and educational courses.

The plan for inmate programs should emphasize the list of community resources available. (Revised August 2005)

2031 VISITING

Each facility shall develop and implement an inmate visiting plan which shall include the following:

- (a) A minimum of one (1) hour per week of visitation per inmate shall be permitted. Restrictions on visitation should not be imposed unless such privileges have been suspended and/or restricted based on legitimate government interests related to the safe and secure operation of the facility; to prevent continued criminal activities; or other similar concerns.
- (b) Visitors shall be treated with courtesy. An explanation shall be given of visitors' rights and restrictions; and procedures visitors must follow to file complaints should either be posted conspicuously or provided in written handouts.
- (c) Special visiting hours and arrangements shall be made available for visitors who have transportation problems, who have handicaps, or who are working on regular visiting days.