



**STATE OF MONTANA  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
POLICY DIRECTIVE**

Policy No. DOC 4.5.59	Subject: <b>HEALTH CARE STAFFING</b>	
Chapter 4: FACILITY/PROGRAM SERVICES		Page 1 of 2
Section 5: Clinical Services		Effective Date: 4/19/2021
Department Director Signature: /s/ Brian Gootkin		Revised:
Medical Director Signature: /s/ Dr. Paul Rees		
Clinical Services Division Administrator Signature: /s/ Connie Winner		

**I. POLICY**

The Department of Corrections will ensure that sufficient numbers and types of health and mental health staff are scheduled to care for the offender population.

**II. APPLICABILITY**

All Department of Corrections secure care facilities.

**III. DEFINITIONS**

**Responsible Health Authority**– The Clinical Services Division Administrator that is tasked with ensuring the organization and delivery of health care in the facility.

**Responsible Physician** – A designated person who holds a physician’s license pursuant to 37-3-102 and 37-3-303, MCA who has the final authority at a given facility regarding clinical issues.

**IV. DEPARTMENT DIRECTIVES**

**A. General Requirements**

1. The responsible health authority approves the facility’s clinical staffing plan.
2. The adequacy and effectiveness of the staffing plan are assessed by the facility’s ability to meet the health and mental health needs of the offender population.
3. Responsible physician time must be sufficient to fulfill both clinical and administrative responsibilities.
4. A documented plan must be in place for custody staff to follow when a health situation arises, and health or mental health staff are not present.

**V. CLOSING**

Questions concerning this policy should be directed to the Clinical Services Division Administrator.

**VI. REFERENCES**

- A. P-C-07; National Commission on Correctional Health Services in Prisons, 2018*
- B. MH-C-07; National Commission on Correctional Mental Health Services in Correctional Facilities, 2015*
- C. Y-C-07; National Commission on Correctional Health Services in Juvenile Detention and Confinement Facilities, 2015*

**VII. ATTACHMENTS**

None