



**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES BUREAU  
FACILITY OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENT**

Requirement:	<b>PFB 6.2.461 RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES</b>
Effective Date:	06/08/2020 <span style="float: right;">Page 1 of 1</span>
Revision Date(s):	08/11/2021
Reference(s):	53-1-203, MCA
Signature / Title:	/s/ Megan Coy, Programs and Facilities Bureau Chief

**This requirement is referenced as ACCD 5.6.100 Religion in Section 3.K.1. Offender Management; Offender Rights; Religion, in the following contracts: Alternatives, Inc., Butte Prerelease, Gallatin County Reentry Program, Helena Prerelease, Passages, Elkhorn, Nexus, and START.**

**This requirement is referenced as ACCD 5.6.100 Religion in Section 2.2.10 Services; Offender Management; Offender Rights in the Connections Corrections Program (CCP) and WATCH contracts.**

**I. PURPOSE:**

The Programs and Facilities Bureau contract facilities will follow established requirements to ensure offenders are provided reasonable and equitable opportunities to pursue religious activities.

**II. DEFINITIONS:**

**PFB-Programs and Facilities Bureau** – The Bureau oversees the facilities providing assessments and sanctions, prerelease, and treatment services.

**III. REQUIREMENTS:**

**A. GENERAL:**

1. All PFB contract facilities must provide offenders the opportunity to voluntarily participate in their own religious activities deemed essential by the governing body of the offender’s faith, subject only to those limitations necessary to maintain the order and security of the facility.
2. Offenders will not be required to attend or participate in religious services or discussions. Facility staff may not attempt to influence an offender to change religious preference or faith.
3. Facilities will have a policy/procedure in place regarding all religious activities at the facility. Religious activities must be accessible to all faith groups and authorized by an administrator or designee.
4. Religious articles may be worn when consistent with the safety, security, and orderly operation of the facility and according to facility procedures.
5. When a representative of the faith to which an offender subscribes is not available in the facility, the offender must be permitted contact with a properly credentialed representative of that faith via visits, phone, or correspondence.

**IV. CLOSING:**

Questions regarding this procedure will be directed to the Programs and Facilities Bureau.