



## POLICY DIRECTIVE

Policy:	<b>DOC 4.2.2 SPECIAL NEEDS OFFENDERS</b>
Effective Date:	01/01/1998 <span style="float: right;">Page 1 of 2</span>
Revision Date(s):	02/22/2012; 04/24/2026
Signature/Title:	/s/ Eric Strauss, Director

### I. POLICY

Department facilities and programs will identify, assess, and manage offenders with special needs, including those who are potentially vulnerable and potentially dangerous, to provide safe housing, adequate protection, and programmatic resources to meet their needs.

### II. APPLICABILITY

All divisions, facilities, and programs Department-owned and contracted, as specified in contract.

### III. DEFINITIONS

### IV. REQUIREMENTS

#### A. Identification and Management

1. The facility or program administrator will follow applicable procedures and:
  - a. identify special needs offenders in accordance with the provisions of this policy and *DOC 4.2.1 Offender Classification System*;
  - b. comply with classification recommendations or separation needs directives when making housing, program, and work assignments;
  - c. address the safety and case management needs of youth offenders who may be committed to adult facilities;
  - d. investigate offender requests for status change or protection;
  - e. reassess classification status, placements, and assignments, as needed;
  - f. monitor offender adjustment and behavior to ensure the most appropriate management options are implemented;
  - g. activate the disciplinary process when required; and
  - h. document all information pertaining to offender special needs management.

#### B. Vulnerable and Predatory Offenders

1. The facility or program administrator will follow applicable procedures and:
  - a. require that offenders are screened within 24 hours of arrival at the facility to identify potential vulnerabilities or tendencies of acting out with sexually aggressive behavior;
  - b. ensure that offenders identified as high risk with a history of sexually assaultive behavior are assessed by a mental health or other qualified professional;
  - c. require that offenders with a history of sexually assaultive behavior are monitored and counseled by a qualified professional;
  - d. ensure that offenders identified as at risk for sexual victimization are assessed by a mental health or other qualified professional; and
  - e. require that offenders at risk for sexual victimization are monitored and counseled by a qualified professional.

**C. Offender Orientation**

1. The facility or program administrator will follow applicable procedures and provide:
  - a. offender orientation in accordance with *DOC 4.1.2 Offender Reception and Orientation*;
  - b. instructions by which offenders may communicate with staff in accordance with *DOC 3.3.5 Offender and Staff Communication Methods*;
  - c. information on the rights, programs, and services available to all offenders with special needs (for example, physically or developmentally disabled offenders) and where and how to access those services; and
  - d. information on the prevention, intervention, and confidential reporting of sexual abuse or assault toward any offender under Department jurisdiction or contract.

**V. CLOSING**

Questions about this policy should be directed to the facility administrator or program classification manager.

**VI. REFERENCES**

- A. *53-1-203, MCA*
- B. *DOC 3.3.5 Offender and Staff Communication Methods; DOC 4.1.2 Inmate Reception and Orientation; DOC 4.2.1 Offender Classification System*