



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

APPLICABILITY  
**PRISON/REENTRY**  
FACILITY/SPANISH MANUAL

REVISION DATE  
3/13/23

PAGE NUMBER  
1 of 3

NUMBER  
**DOC 540.200**

## POLICY

TITLE

**VIDEOS ALLOWED IN CONFINEMENT**

### REVIEW/REVISION HISTORY:

Effective: 8/3/92  
Revised: 12/1/93  
Revised: 10/16/02  
Revised: 5/23/07  
Revised: 6/23/08  
Reviewed: 8/16/10  
Revised: 8/1/12  
Revised: 11/18/19  
Revised: 10/11/21  
Revised: 3/13/23

### SUMMARY OF REVISION/REVIEW:

Updated title  
Policy Statement I., Directive I.A., II.B. & C., II.F., II.F.1., and II.F.3. - Adjusted language for clarification  
I.A., II.F.4., and II.F.7. - Removed unnecessary language  
Added I.A. that videos must be screened and approved when containing potentially controversial, sexually explicit, or explicit in terms of language or violence  
Added II.A.2. that an appeal may be submitted to the appropriate Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Removed II.D. that the appropriate Assistant Secretary must approve in writing for selections


### APPROVED:

Signature on file

\_\_\_\_\_  
**CHERYL STRANGE**, Secretary  
Department of Corrections

2/8/23

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date Signed

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## REFERENCES:


DOC 100.100 is hereby incorporated into this policy; [RCW 72.02.280](#)

## POLICY:

- I. The Department does not promote videos (e.g., Digital Versatile Discs (DVDs), movies, documentaries, shows) that advocate or contain excessive violence, discrimination, or sexually explicit and/or obscene material. The Department will make every effort to show videos that are in the best interest of the incarcerated population.

## DIRECTIVE:

- I. General Provisions
  - A. Copyright infringement and illegal use of commercial and home-recorded videos are prohibited.
  - B. A commercially-produced program that may be recorded or facility broadcast requires a letter of approval from the broadcast owner as detailed in the copyrights for each production (i.e., prohibition from reproduction of broadcasts without the express written permission from the appropriate authority).
  - C. All applicable licenses will be obtained and maintained.
  - D. Public performance licenses require the written approval of the appropriate Assistant Secretary.
- II. Selection
  - A. The Superintendent/Reentry Center Community Corrections Supervisor (CCS) has authority over video selection.
    1. Videos that have content that is potentially controversial, sexually explicit, or explicit in terms of language or violence must be screened before being approved for viewing.
    2. If the video is denied, an appeal may be submitted to the appropriate Deputy Assistant Secretary.
  - B. Video rentals or purchases may be authorized for self-help, entertainment, incentive, religious, or educational programs.
  - C. Educational videos must be assessed by educational providers through authorized sources (e.g., Board of Education, college trustees, licensing boards).

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- D. Input provided by incarcerated individuals may be considered in the selection process.
- E. The following types of videos will only be authorized for viewing when approved by the Deputy Assistant Secretary:
  - 1. Unrated or rated over PG-13.
  - 2. Foreign without subtitles.
  - 3. Advocating discrimination based on genetic information (e.g., national origin, ancestry, race, color), religion/creed, age, gender, gender expression, marital status or status as a state registered domestic partner, pregnancy, sexual orientation, political views, immigration/citizenship status, veteran/military status, or the presence or history of a physical/mental/sensory disability.
  - 4. Threatens the orderly operation of a facility.
  - 5. Threatens legitimate penological objectives.
  - 6. Describes the procedures for the construction or use of weapons, ammunition, bombs, or incendiary devices.
  - 7. Depicts discrimination, explicit sex, excessive violence, and/or obscene subject matter.

**DEFINITIONS:**

The following words/terms are important to this policy and are defined in the glossary section of the Policy Manual: Discrimination, Obscene, Sexually Explicit Materials. Other word/terms appearing in this policy may also be defined in the glossary.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

None

**DOC FORMS:**

None