

Rules for Public Comment: CCTV To Video Monitoring

259.168 Television Monitoring

~~Closed circuit television~~ Video monitoring may be provided to supplement control and security functions. View of toilet and shower areas shall not be allowed except in medical and special observation areas. Digital privacy screens shall be used.

§ 259.264. Television Monitoring

~~Closed circuit television~~ Video monitoring may be provided to supplement control and security functions. View of toilet and shower areas shall not be allowed except in medical and special observation areas. Digital privacy screens shall be used.

§ 259.358. Television Monitoring

~~Closed circuit television~~ Video monitoring may be provided to supplement control and security functions. View of toilet and shower areas shall not be allowed except in medical and special observation areas. Digital privacy screens shall be used.

§ 259.454. Television Monitoring

~~Closed circuit television~~ Video monitoring may be provided to supplement control and security functions. View of toilet and shower areas shall not be allowed except in medical and special observation areas. Digital privacy screens shall be used.

§ 259.770. Television Monitoring

Closed circuit television monitoring may be provided to supplement control and security functions. View of toilet and shower areas shall not be allowed except in medical and special observation areas. Digital privacy screens shall be used.

§ 275.1. Regular Observation by Corrections Officers

Every facility shall have the appropriate number of jailers at the facility 24 hours each day. Facilities shall have an established procedure for documented, face-to-face observation of all inmates by jailers no less than once every 60 minutes. Observation shall be performed at least every 30 minutes in areas where inmates known to be assaultive, potentially suicidal, mentally ill, or who have demonstrated bizarre behavior are confined. There shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and jailers, licensed peace

officers, bailiffs, and designated staff at all times. ~~Closed circuit television~~ Video monitoring may be used, but not in lieu of the required personal observation. Electronic sensors or cameras capable of recording the required personal observations of inmates in high-risk cells or groups of cells shall be installed no later than August 31, 2020.

§ 275.7. Supervision Outside the Security Perimeter--Court Holding Cells

Inmates shall be observed by a peace officer or a jailer licensed by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement or bailiff when outside the security perimeter in court holding cells. The sheriff/operator shall have an established procedure for documented, face-to-face observation of all inmates no less than once every 30 minutes. One jailer, licensed peace officer, or bailiff shall be provided on each floor where 10 or more inmates are detained, with no less than one jailer, licensed peace officer, or bailiff per 48 inmates or increment thereof on each floor for direct inmate supervision. Where required, there shall be a two-way voice communication capability between inmates and jailers, licensed peace officers, or bailiffs at all times. ~~Closed circuit television~~ Video monitoring may be used, but not in lieu of the required personal observation.

Rules for Public Comment: Chapter 259

§ 259.117. Inmate Entrance

The inmate entrance shall be from the vehicular sally port through a safety vestibule into the processing area. This entrance shall allow for passage of patient evacuation equipment between interlocking doors. The entrance shall be designed and constructed to allow observation and identification of persons approaching the inmate entrance. Electronic surveillance equipment may be used. Adjacent space should be provided for immediate medical and mental health screening activities.

§ 259.123. Kitchen

A properly equipped kitchen of adequate size shall be provided within the system and shall include the following:

- (1) Functions. Kitchen space and equipment shall allow for the efficient operations of receiving, storage, processing, preparation, cooking, baking, serving, dish washing, cleaning, menu preparation, record keeping, personal hygiene, and removal of waste and garbage. Kitchen functions shall be performed without compromising the security of the facility. The kitchen shall not be designed as a passageway for nonfood handling persons.
- (2) Storage. Adequate dry and cold storage shall be provided appropriate for the size of kitchen. Separate storage shall be provided for nonfood items.
- (3) Surfaces. The kitchen floor shall be properly pitched to adequate floor drains and allow for proper cleaning. Floor finish should reduce the possibility of slipping. The junction between floors and walls shall be ~~covered~~ coved. Walls and ceilings shall be finished with smooth, washable, light colored surfaces.

(4) Light. Adequate lighting shall be provided on all work surfaces.

(5) Ventilation. Food service areas shall be adequately ventilated to control disagreeable odors and moisture. All openings to the outside shall be secured and provided with insect screens.

(6) Water. Adequate hot and cold water shall be provided for food preparation, cleaning, and dish washing. Hot water equipment shall be of sufficient size and capacity to meet the needs of the facility.

(7) Codes. Kitchens shall comply with state health codes.

§259.132 Exercise Area

See supplemental

§ 259.141. Dimensions

All cells and day rooms shall be not less than eight feet from finished floor to ceiling and ~~five feet six inches~~ seven feet from wall to wall, in accordance with International Building Code. Cells containing over/under bunk units shall be measured from center line of units to wall. Corridors shall be not less than four feet wide.

§ 259.151. Detention Doors

Hollow metal doors shall be constructed of 12 to 14 gauge steel inside the security perimeter. ~~Eighteen gauge hollow metal doors may be used outside the security perimeter.~~ Plate doors shall be constructed of material not less than 3/16 inches thick. The security

quality of each detention door shall be determined by the level of security sought to be achieved. Detention doors shall be equipped with detention hardware and accessories. All cell doors shall be not less than ~~28~~ 32 inches in clear width and not less than six feet-eight inches high.

§ 259.153. Door Closers

~~Door closers for all detention swinging doors shall be appropriate for the weight of the door.~~
All detention doors shall be equipped with an appropriate door closer.

§ 259.737. Dormitories

Dormitories shall contain 9 to 48 bunks. Dormitories operated as direct supervision may accommodate more than 48 inmates but shall not exceed more than 72 inmates.

Dormitories shall contain not less than 40 square feet of clear floor space for the first bunk plus 18 square feet of clear floor space for each additional bunk. Each dormitory shall have adequate toilets, lavatories, and may include showers. Dormitories with contiguous day rooms in direct supervision facilities may exceed 40% of the facility capacity.

Rules for Public Comment: Weapon/Ammunition Procedures

Effective Date: January 1, 2026

269.3 Weapon /Ammunition Procedures

Each sheriff/operator shall develop, submit, and implement a Weapon Ammunition Procedure approved by the Texas Commission on Jail Standards no later than January 1, 2026.

The weapon ammunition procedure shall include, at a minimum, the following components

- (a) Weapon Classification. A list of approved weapons permitted inside the jail (e.g., tasers, OC spray, batons) and how they will be stored when within the secured perimeter.

PLEASE NOTE: Due to Texas Register formatting requirements, this may be submitted differently. The rule will not be substantively changed, only formatted differently. The effective date for the standard will be updated.

Rules for Public Comment: SCBA Plans

§263.40 Plans

Each facility shall have and implement a written plan, approved by the commission, for escapes, riots, assaults, fires, evacuations, rebellions, civil disasters, and any other emergencies. Each plan shall provide for:

- (1) use and response to alarms;
- (2) notification of and access for:
 - (A) fire department;
 - (B) emergency medical service;
 - (C) other law enforcement officials;
- (3) isolation of emergency areas;
- (4) prompt release and evacuation of emergency areas (including nonambulatory inmates);
- (5) prevention of escapes during evacuations;
- (6) fire suppression and extinguishment, rendering of prompt medical aid and quelling disturbances;
- (7) protection of staff during emergencies.
- (8) A commission approved Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) plan that specifies the agreed upon charge for air tanks and has been coordinated with a certified Fire Marshal.