



Transgender and Intersex Committee

Frequently

Asks

Questions

The Transgender and Intersex Committee (TAIC) is comprised of DOC staff from various disciplines, such as Health Services, Behavioral Health Services, Security, Population Management, and the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Coordinator. TAIC is responsible for making decisions around the needs of transgender and intersex adults in DOC custody and setting policy to ensure institutions are managing individuals in a fair and consistent manner. TAIC is also charged with determining appropriate and safe housing for the transgender and intersex adults in its custody. In making housing placements, TAIC makes decisions on a case-by-case basis considering individual needs, safety of the individual, safety of others they could be housed with, medical history, mental health status, observation of their behavior, and any other relevant information. Below are some of the most commonly asked questions. This document is made available to all AICs.

What happens when I arrive at the Intake Center?	Once staff become aware that you identify as transgender, intersex, or nonbinary you will be placed in the infirmary briefly while the Transgender and Intersex Committee (TAIC) makes a decision regarding your housing. You will be interviewed regarding your concerns and preferences and to gather history to inform TAIC's decision. You will be notified once a decision is made and moved to the appropriate housing unit. Refer to the Transgender and Intersex (AIC) Oregon Administrative Rules 291-210 for more information.
How do I request a transfer to a different facility?	Send your request in writing to the TAIC Chair, Jamie Breyman, and include justification for your request. Your request will be reviewed by the TAIC, and you will be contacted with the decision.
How do I request preferred-gender unclothed searches and observation of UAs?	Send your request in writing to the TAIC Chair, Jamie Breyman, and include justification for your request. Your request will be reviewed by the TAIC, and you will be contacted with the decision.
How do I update my gender and/or name of record in DOC's computer system?	Write to Offender Information and Sentence Computation (OISC) - either your local/facility Records Office or the Central Office – and include supporting documentation. If approved, and once the institution receives notification from OISC Central Office that the changes have been finalized, your ID card will be reprinted to reflect these changes.
How do I request hormones, surgeries, or other medical treatments?	Write to your local BHS or Medical staff for inquiries regarding gender-affirming treatment.
Are transgender and intersex AICs allowed female canteen items?	With the exception of only a few items, all AICs now have access to the same universal canteen list.

Who can I go to at my institution if I have questions or concerns?	The PREA Compliance Manager is a wonderful resource. You may also report safety concerns to security staff or any other DOC staff person at your institution such as a counselor, medical staff, or work supervisor. You can also call the Inspector General’s hotline by picking up any AIC phone and: • Make a language selection (1=English, 2=Spanish), • Press “9”, and then • Press “1” to make the call. Family and friends may call the Inspector General’s hotline by dialing 877-831-0389. Follow normal institution processes for things such as requesting a cell move, seeking work assignments, etc.
Who can I report PREA concerns to?	You can make a PREA report to any staff at your institution or by using the Inspector General’s hotline.
Many AICs look quite different with makeup versus without. How are ID cards handled?	We recognize this is an issue, but not just for transgender and intersex AICs – for any AIC who chooses to wear makeup. Security managers discussed the issue and determined all ID cards will be taken without make-up. That way, if there is any concern with identifying you, you may be directed to remove your makeup prior to a transport, etc.
If DOC has already obtained replacement ID for me and I change my name or gender, will DOC order new ID for me?	If you meet the eligibility criteria and within certain issuing-agency limitations, DOC will replace one of each type of identification (ID) during an incarceration cycle. This includes pieces of ID such as a birth certificate, driver license or state ID card, and Social Security card. If you change your name or gender after DOC has obtained the ID, DOC will not obtain a second on your behalf during the same incarceration cycle, but you are free to do so on your own.
Can transgender and intersex AICs in male institutions wear ponytails and other feminizing-type hairstyles?	Follow the Hygiene, Grooming, and Sanitation (AIC) Rules 291-123 . No inflammatory hair styles. Ponytails, side ponytails, braids are acceptable in any institution. A mohawk is unacceptable in any institution.
What pronouns will staff use?	Staff have been directed to use preferred pronouns or to address you as “AIC.” They have also been instructed not to purposely use the opposite pronoun than what you prefer. Out of respect for your privacy, we do not share your identity broadly, so please understand that not all staff are aware of your identity and may make honest mistakes. When communicating with your loved ones, we may not be certain they are aware of your identity and will do our best to respect your privacy as well as your preferences.
What training is available to staff?	All staff are required to take Respectful Communication and Search Training during New Employee Orientation (NEO), basic Corrections Course (BCC), and annual in-service training.