



Administrative Policies and Procedures: 24.4

Subject:	Youth Appearance and Dress Code in Youth Development Centers
Authority:	TCA 37-5-105 (3); 37-5-106
Standards:	ACA: 4-JCF-4B-02; DCS Practice Standards: 8-306
Application:	To All Department of Children's Services Youth Development Center Employees
Policy Statement:	
Youth Development Center (YDC) Superintendents shall include in the facility youth handbook a dress code for youth that conforms to guidelines set forth in this policy.	
Purpose:	
To provide guidelines for personal grooming for youth in YDC's. All regulations concerning personal grooming are the least restrictive necessary.	
Procedures:	
A. Dress requirements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> All rules and regulations concerning youth appearance and dress code must be reasonable and restrictive only for the purposes of safety, security, identification and/or hygiene. Youth are required to dress neatly in clean clothes. They may wear personal clothing or a combination of personal and facility clothing based upon guidelines of their treatment program.
B. Hair care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hair care services that are culturally appropriate and comply with applicable regulatory requirements is available for all youth. Youth will not be required to wear a particular hairstyle in a particular manner for purposes of public embarrassment or punishment. Hair must be kept neat and clean at all times. Youth who work in food services must wear a hair net or head covering while on duty. Youth who wear their hair below the collar and who are assigned to work near machinery must be required to wear a hair net or a head covering. At their discretion, the YDC Superintendent may designate other areas requiring the use of a hair net or a head covering. Protective clothing and equipment are issued to youth assigned to work in other areas of the facility (e.g., physical plant, maintenance, vocational education and other special work areas).

C. Jewelry	Each YDC will determine what type of jewelry is allowed for youth to wear and will be included in the youth handbook.

Forms:	<i>None</i>
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Collateral documents:	<i>None</i>
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