

MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

RECOGNIZED RELIGIONS AND ALLOWABLE GROUP RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Notes:

1. This list is in addition to other scheduled group religious activities, such as religious study groups and special holiday worship services.
2. The holding of any group religious ceremony is contingent upon the availability of sufficient staff and/or religious volunteers to supervise the ceremony, as determined by the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee.
3. Healing or cleansing rituals as a group religious activity are permitted with these stipulations:
 - a. The ritual must be performed in accord with tenets and practices of the specific religion, to include the requirement, if any, for clergy (or Native American spiritual leader) as officiant.
 - b. The ritual must be directly supervised by a facility chaplain or other staff designated by the Chief Administrative Officer, or designee (supervision by a religious volunteer is not sufficient).
 - c. The ritual must be performed at the location and during the time set aside for the religion's regular or special holiday worship service (or Native American smudging ceremony). The ritual is not allowed to be performed in a cell/room or any location other than the one noted above.
 - d. The ritual is to include only approved group religious property.
 - e. If the ritual involves one resident placing hands on or near (hovering over) the body of another resident:
 - i. Verbal voluntary consent by the resident who is the recipient of the ritual must be given prior to any contact or hovering, and this consent must be heard by the chaplain or other supervising staff.
 - ii. The resident's shoulder or upper arm are the only allowable places of contact or hovering. There is to be no grabbing or noticeable pressure applied. For cleansing via Native American smudging, the resident performing the ritual may lightly sweep a feather across one shoulder and shoulder blade.
 - iii. Only one resident is allowed to perform the healing or cleansing ritual. Multiple people making contact with or hovering over a recipient of the healing or cleansing ritual is not permitted. The chaplain or officer supervising shall ensure that other residents are sufficiently away from the resident performing the ritual and the resident receiving it.
 - f. If a healing or cleansing ritual involves a chaplain or clergy (or Native American spiritual leader), they are permitted to touch or hover over the forehead, top of head, or hands of a resident, but only with the prior verbal voluntary consent of the resident who is the recipient of the ritual. Other residents may not participate in this and must be sufficiently away from the person performing the ritual and the resident receiving it.
 - g. There is to be no claim that any healing or cleansing ritual is a replacement for or supplement to health care.

Brujeria

Weekly worship service

Buddhism

Weekly worship service

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Christianity

Weekly worship service (may be separate services for different denominations)

Druidism

“Wheel of Year” worship services

Eastern Orthodox

Weekly worship service (may be separate services for different denominations)

Hinduism

Weekly worship service

Ifa

Weekly worship service

Islam

Weekly worship service

Jehovah’s Witness

Weekly worship service

Judaism

Weekly worship service

Latter Day Saints

Weekly worship service

Nation of Islam

Weekly worship service

Native American

Weekly smudging ceremony

Monthly sacred pipe and talking circle ceremony

Quarterly sweat lodge ceremony

Odinism

Weekly worship service

Pagan

Weekly worship service

Rastafari

Weekly worship service

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RECOGNIZED RELIGIONS AND ALLOWABLE GROUP RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

Santeria

Weekly worship service

Sikhism

Weekly worship service

Spiritual Baptist

Weekly worship service

Vodun

Weekly worship service

Wicca

Weekly worship service