



Arts Instruction in Juvenile Day Reporting Centers: An Overview

This document is intended as orientation to assist those who seek to expand their programming and may have teaching artists that are new to this work. It is purposefully brief and intended only as an introduction. However, there is a section related to policies and regulations recently adopted to address Covid-19 issues and remote instruction that might be helpful even for teaching artists with extensive experience working in Juvenile Day Reporting Centers (JDRCs).

Note: There are significant differences and variations both within a given facility, depending on which youth are served, and from one facility to the next. This document does not address the full set of possible scenarios that instructors will encounter.

Overview

JDRCs were established by the Probation Department as a “one-stop community center for supervision and treatment of medium-to high-risk probation youth.” Youth enrolled at JDRCs are typically between the ages of 14-18 years old. JDRCs are intended to provide a safe, supportive and therapeutic learning environment. They serve this purpose in partnership with school districts in which probation youth are often refused reentry due to significant behavioral or academic challenges. JDRCs are designed to offer a comprehensive set of services to improve these youths’ ability to function in a regular school setting and to recover credits that are often deficient for their age and grade level. Youth are required to attend and participate in after school enrichment services daily. All youth are provided with transportation to and from school to help ensure attendance.

Schedules

Arts instruction will be scheduled Monday through Friday in the early afternoon after-school time block. If the classroom teacher approves, there may be some instruction within the school day. Sessions must be planned to have been completed in time for youth to assemble for their transportation.

Security

LiveScan clearance must be obtained by every individual who delivers instruction and has contact with youth. The process requires paying for the service, traveling to the probation office in Downey, and waiting for sometimes as many as six weeks.

Safety

- Protecting the personal safety of the youth being served is of paramount importance. Under no circumstances can photography or video reveal the face or identify of any individual.
- In general, youth surnames are not revealed or included on sign-in sheets.
- If youth are creating any artifacts related to their personal history, these writings or art works

must be carefully monitored and guarded to prevent placing the youth in danger.

- In general, snacks and food are prohibited. There may be exceptions for culmination events if arranged far in advance with specific vendors and types of meals.

Covid-19

- At the time of this writing, all services are being delivered virtually through remote instruction. Classroom teachers will indicate the platform that is in place for each cohort of youth, such as Instagram, Zoom or Microsoft TEAMS.
- Every instructor must have a signed Confidentiality Waiver on file with the Department of Arts and Culture. This includes stipulations covering the secure space from which the services are being broadcast and the means to protect the identify of youth.
- The duration of sessions will generally be one hour or less. There is typically more than one session per day. Contracts provide payment for a two-hour minimum.
- Instructors can provide supplies to be distributed by JDRC staff. The curriculum design and planning process must clearly detail the types of materials and the process for administering the supplies.

Reporting

- Every community-based organization that delivers arts instruction in a JDRC must submit a CBO form by the 10th day of the month following services. This form includes a specific set of instructions for recording the participation of youth and will be explained in an orientation once the planning meetings are underway.