

Chapter: Agency Management and Operations Subchapter: Interaction with the Public Rule: Site Selection for Juvenile Facility Construction ACA: N/A Statutes: N/A	Effective Date: 10/1/16 Page: 1 of 2 Replaces: GAP.385.8165, 12/31/96
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RULE

(a) **Purpose.**

This rule establishes a systematic process for selecting sites for the construction of juvenile facilities that will be solely owned and operated by the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD).

(b) **Applicability.**

This rule does not apply when the only sites under consideration are adjacent to:

- (1) existing residential facilities owned or leased by TJJD; or
- (2) contracted residential facilities.

(c) **General Provisions.**

- (1) Sites should facilitate settings that provide safe environments for staff and youth, meet applicable security requirements, and provide reasonable protection for the public.
- (2) TJJD selects a site through a Request-for-Proposal (RFP) process unless otherwise directed by the TJJD board or Texas Legislature.

(d) **Request for Proposals.**

- (1) An RFP for the site selection of a facility to be solely owned and operated by TJJD must be prepared by staff selected by the executive director or designee.
- (2) The RFP must:
 - (A) identify the minimum requirements for the site and improvements that are necessary to accommodate the facility described in the RFP or contemplated by TJJD; and
 - (B) include criteria to be used to evaluate the site and improvements.
- (3) The geographical area(s) identified in the RFP are based on a projection of the number of youth committed to TJJD in the area(s).
- (4) All government entities and private groups or individuals within an identified area are encouraged to submit proposals. It is the responsibility of each proponent to obtain a copy of the RFP.
- (5) The general criteria in the RFP must include, at a minimum, the following general categories:
 - (A) availability of a labor force that is capable of meeting the operational needs of the facility and that represents the cultural diversity of the youth served;
 - (B) availability of adequate medical facilities nearby;
 - (C) availability of academic and educational support;
 - (D) availability of fire and police service in the immediate area;

- (E) location of the site in relation to existing properties (e.g., schools, churches, residential developments, etc.);
- (F) suitability of the site for ease of construction and cost effectiveness;
- (G) availability and accessibility of utilities and appropriate infrastructure; and
- (H) social impact and level of community support.

(e) **Selection Process.**

- (1) The executive director selects a review committee composed of TJJD staff. The TJJD board chair appoints a TJJD board member to chair the committee.
 - (2) The review committee:
 - (A) reviews all proposals received;
 - (B) evaluates the proposals based on the criteria stated in the RFPs; and
 - (C) ranks the proposals based on the evaluations.
 - (3) The chair of the review committee presents the results of the review to the TJJD board.
 - (4) Final site selection is made by the TJJD board unless otherwise directed by the Texas Legislature.
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