Correctional Health Program Development to the NCCHC 2026 Standards

Last reviewed October 2026 · https://www.integralhs.com/correctional-health-program-development

What to have ready

Gathering these items before the first working session shortens the gap assessment. Each ties to an NCCHC source.

- Your facility's copy of the 2026 NCCHC standards for your setting, jail or prison (NCCHC, Applying for accreditation [https://www.ncchc.org/applying-for-accreditation]).
- Your current health services policies and procedures, for the standard-by-standard review NCCHC describes as the first step (NCCHC [https://www.ncchc.org/applying-for-accreditation]).
- Your receiving screening procedure and the records showing when screening occurs after admission, read against the E-02 timing requirement in the standards (NCCHC, 2026 standards release [https://ncchc.org/ncchc-releases-2026-jail-prison-standards/]).
- Any chronic disease management program documents, read against F-01 (NCCHC 2026 release [https://ncchc.org/ncchc-releases-2026-jail-prison-standards/]).
- The documentation you already keep for each standard, to compare with the recommended documentation lists in the 2026 edition (NCCHC 2026 release [https://ncchc.org/ncchc-releases-2026-jail-prison-standards/]).
- Records covering at least the last 12 months if you plan an initial survey, or 36 months for reaccreditation (NCCHC [https://www.ncchc.org/applying-for-accreditation]).
- Your self-survey questionnaire (SSQ) responses, if NCCHC has already sent one after an application (NCCHC [https://www.ncchc.org/applying-for-accreditation]).
- Facility profile facts NCCHC uses for its fee estimate: facility type, average daily population, satellite operations, and special medical or mental health services (NCCHC accreditation FAQs [https://ncchc.org/accreditation-faqs/]).
- Staffing levels, physician hours, custody procedures and the health services contract, which the manual has to match.