



Oakland Senior Center – Activity & Class Policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for programs provided by the City of Oakland (“City”) at its Senior Centers. This policy will be subject to periodic review. The City may adopt and incorporate into this policy such additional guidelines as it deems necessary.

The City provides a balanced schedule of programs at the Senior Centers designed to meet the needs of senior members. Senior Center programs focus on physical, social, creative, and intellectual activities that support independence and community engagement. Senior Center programs reflect the inclusive nature of the Senior Centers, and foster acceptance of all members. Most Senior Center programs are held during business hours at the Senior Center facilities. Examples of regularly scheduled Senior Center classes include sewing, line dancing, computer skills, and bingo; other scheduled activities include trips to local attractions, and the Senior Center may sponsor activities such as fashion shows, dances, and flea markets during evening and weekend hours.

The Senior Center Director (“Director”) for each Senior Center is solely responsible for determining the programs the Senior Center will provide to Senior Center members, and for developing the class and activity schedule. Senior Center members and community members may propose new program ideas to the Director. However, the Director is not obligated to accept program suggestions or add any class or activity to the Senior Center programming schedule. The Director, in his or her sole discretion, will make decisions to sponsor programs, classes and activities based on the Senior Center schedule, and the interest and needs of Center members.

The Director may, in his or her sole discretion, add a program to the Senior Center schedule or take the following steps to identify whether a program idea is of interest to the Senior Center members:

- Post a flyer advising Senior Center members that a new class, program or activity is being considered, and asking them to demonstrate their interest, and/or
- Present a new program idea to the Senior Center Advisory Council for approval if funds are necessary to sponsor the program (a mandatory requirement if funds raised at the Senior Center will support the class or activity).

Once the Director approves a new program, the Director will work with the class instructor or the activity sponsor to identify the objectives and develop a schedule.

Instructors for certain classes such as physical activities (yoga, dance) and computer science may be required to provide certification of their skill level. With prior approval by the Director, certified class instructors may charge Senior Center members a small stipend to participate in the class.

The City will not provide programs with the following content:

- Programs that market specific products or services,
- Programs with a religious subject matter, and
- Programs with partisan political subject matter.

This Policy applies to programs, classes and activities provided and sponsored by the City at City of Oakland Senior Centers.

Senior Center members and community members may reserve Senior Center rooms for private events and functions by contacting the Senior Center. All renters must comply with the Senior Center Rental Policies, which may be obtained from the Senior Center. Room charges for private events and functions are set by the City Council in the City's Master Fee Schedule. City staff cannot waive or modify room fees.

Illegal use of drugs, drunkenness, disruptive behavior and/or gambling is prohibited at City facilities.

Animals are not permitted at Senior Centers unless the animal is a service animal.