

Arkansas
Department of Community Correction



Employee Handbook
(Revised 2009)



*"Service with Excellence
& Integrity"*

Arkansas Department of Community Correction

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Welcome from the Director

On behalf of the Board of Corrections (Board) and the Department of Community Correction (DCC), welcome to the Arkansas community corrections family.

As an employee of this agency, you have become a part of our team, thus, accepting the tremendous challenge to assist in the development, enhancement and operation of innovative, cost-effective community corrections programs in Arkansas.

This handbook is provided to help you better understand agency operations and expectations of you as an employee of the DCC. Combined with the employee orientation program, this document should answer most of the questions you may have about DCC, your role, and how DCC contributes to the safety of the residents of the state of Arkansas.

Please read this orientation booklet thoroughly. Every effort has been made to ensure its accuracy; however, some information may change over time. You are encouraged to verify information by reviewing the relevant policy located on EagleNet (the agency intranet), speaking with your supervisor or by calling the Human Resource Section (HRS).

Congratulations and much success to you as a member of the DCC team.

Sincerely,

G. David Guntharp
Director

Table of Contents

H-7-1-1. Overview	1
Introduction.....	1
General Information Regarding the Agency, History and Organization Structure	1
Key Staff and Functions.....	2
Organization.....	5
Mission Statement, Philosophy, and Goals	6
H-7-1-2. General Information.....	6
Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Statement	6
At-Will-Employer	6
Job Qualifications and Job Descriptions.....	7
Employee Orientation	7
Initial Probationary Period.....	7
Employment Status	8
Pay Procedures.....	8
Salary Determination, Job Classification.....	9
General Work Rules.....	9
Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).....	9
General Guidelines for Overtime.....	11
Time Sheets.....	11
Job Promotions and Demotions	11
Lateral Transfer.....	12
Employee Self Service in AASIS	12
Parking	12
H-7-1-3. Employee Rules	13
Attendance and Absenteeism.....	13
Work Schedules, Meal Period and Breaks.....	13
Physical Fitness.....	14
Sexual Harassment.....	14
Inclement Weather	14
Drug-Free Workplace	15
Tobacco Free Environment.....	15
Nepotism.....	15
Other Employment.....	15
Concurrent Employment.....	16
Whistle Blower Act.....	16
Hostage Situations	17
Employee-Management Relations	17
Vehicle Safety Program	17
Legal Assistance and Professional Liability	18

H-7-1-4. Employee Performance and Job Development	18
Personnel File.....	18
Supervisory File	18
Performance Evaluation.....	18
Merit Increase Pay	19
Service Awards	19
Training Opportunities.....	20
On-the-Job-Training	20
Cross Training.....	20
Disciplinary Procedures	20
Grievance and Complaint Procedures.....	21
H-7-1-5. Employee Benefits.....	21
Legal Holidays	21
Annual Leave	22
Educational Leave.....	23
Sick Leave.....	24
Military Leave.....	25
Maternity Leave	25
Court and Jury Leave	26
Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA).....	26
Leave Without Pay (LWOP).....	27
Catastrophic Leave.....	27
Workers' Compensation	28
Deferred Compensation	29
Employee Assistance	29
Savings Bonds.....	30
Retirement.....	30
Credit Union.....	30
Arkansas State Employee's Association (ASEA).....	30
State Employee Suggestion System.....	31
Chemical Right-to-Know	31
Health Insurance	31
H-7-1-6. DCC Policy and Procedures.....	31
General Guidance.....	31
Required Policies and Acknowledgements.....	32

H-7-1 Employee Handbook

H-7-1-1. Overview

Introduction

The DCC provides equal employment opportunities and human resources dedicated to supporting the mission of the agency and providing assistance that will enable supervisors and employees to perform their job duties and responsibilities at the highest possible level. This document will help you to become familiar with DCC policies and procedures, thus becoming more productive sooner. Services will be provided in compliance with State and Federal guidelines. Should you need personnel assistance, please contact (501) 682-9560 and one of the staff will be glad to assist you.

By accepting DCC employment, you agree to adhere to its policies and procedures, including any changes, deletions, and/or additions during the course of your employment. DCC reserves the right to make changes in the content of the application of its policies and procedures and this handbook as deemed necessary. These changes may be implemented even if they have not been communicated, reprinted, or substituted in this handbook. You should not rely on any oral or written statements contrary to what your employment application, this handbook and/or the DCC policies state. If information presented in this handbook conflicts with DCC official policies, the official policy will govern. Questions about the information contained in this handbook or any policy or procedure should be discussed during orientation or directed to your immediate supervisor.

General Information Regarding the Agency, History and Organization Structure

When the Arkansas Legislature passed the Community Punishment Act (548 in 1993), it created the Department of Community Punishment (subsequently named the Department of Community Correction). The purpose of this Act was to establish an agency to assume the responsibilities of management of all community punishment facilities and services, execute the orders of the criminal courts of the state of Arkansas, and provide for the supervision, treatment, rehabilitation, and restoration of adult offenders as useful law-abiding citizens within the community.

The ultimate goal of the Act was to balance the need for community correction services, to assist offenders in becoming law-abiding citizens, assume responsibility for the administration of all community correction facilities, services and means of supervision, including parole and probation and any other types of post release supervision.

Upon creation of the DCC, the Board, the governing body of the DCC, provided the following vision statements:

- 1) The paramount aim is to produce crime-free, productive citizens, ending the revolving door of crime;
- 2) Our relationships with offenders, victims, families, staff and service groups and agencies are marked by dignity and respect;
- 3) A continuum of sentencing options is established with appropriate placement and movement of offenders;
- 4) The roles of State adult correctional agencies are clear and relationships collaborative so offenders are served with continuity;
- 5) Every offender is given an opportunity to improve him/herself in an environment safe for both staff and offender; and,
- 6) Decisions are driven by data and knowledge of what works.

On August 13, 2001, the 83rd Session of the Arkansas General Assembly enacted a bill to change the name of the Department of Community Punishment to the Department of Community Correction (DCC). The act also changed the Board of Correction and Community Punishment to the Board of Corrections. The Board provides policy and operational oversight for the Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC), Arkansas Correctional School District, and the DCC.

Key Staff and Functions

Director. The Director, *G. David Guntharp*, is hired by and reports to the Board. He is the chief executive officer with complete managerial authority and sits on the Governor's cabinet.

As of June 2009, DCC had 1270 funded and 1387 authorized positions designated in three major areas, residential, community supervision (parole/probation), and central administration. As the Chief Executive Officer, the Director is responsible for the overall administrative and fiscal operation of the agency. Additionally, he is responsible for ensuring departmental operations adhere to the agency mission and philosophy, while following state of Arkansas operational guidelines and meeting performance measures. The Director directly oversees or supervises legal services, the grievance process, employee drug testing, internal affairs, public relations, and interstate compact.

By law, the DCC Director is designated as Compact Administrator for the state of Arkansas. He The Director serves as a member of the Arkansas Council for Interstate Adult Offender Supervision and as an Arkansas Commissioner to the Interstate Commission. The Arkansas Council exercises oversight and advocacy concerning participation in Interstate Commission activities and performs other Council-determined duties including policy development concerning Arkansas compact operations and procedures.

Chief Deputy Director, *Veter Howard*, is responsible for execution of planning and management services such as agency accreditation, human resources (personnel and payroll), project management, information technology, research, program planning and evaluation, grants, policy development, volunteerism, parole/probation treatment services, and training.

The Chief facilitates development, annual reporting, review and update of agency short and long-range plans, goals, and mission, aligning timelines with agency planning and budgeting processes. The chief reviews, updates, publishes, and makes available the agency structure reflecting span of control, lines of authority, and communication channels; facilitates collaboration and consultation with community interest groups, service agencies, colleges, and other criminal justice agencies on a continuing basis to enhance formulation, evaluation and operation of organizational policies, procedures and programs. She participates directly in federal, state, and regional planning efforts with criminal justice and other agencies; and provides an organized system for information gathering, retrieval, and review, which is part of an overall management, planning and research process. The Chief ensures that overall and program performance are measured.

Deputy Director of Residential Services, *Rick Hart*, is hired by the DCC Director responsible for oversight of the residential community-based correctional facilities within the DCC operation. This includes the treatment programs and services and/or educational programs that facilitate the return of residents to the community and the workplace as productive, accountable and employable individuals. This includes the provision of tools necessary to help offenders develop alternative lifestyles to crime, life skills, chemical-free living, vocation and other job skills training. The community-based residential centers provide structure, supervision, surveillance, drug/alcohol treatment and education, general education and vocational programs, employment counseling, socialization, life skills, community work transition, and other forms of treatment and services. Residential centers are located in Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Texarkana, Osceola, Malvern, and Fayetteville. The Malvern facility is the only one that solely houses parole technical violators.

Generally, the centers operate within a modified therapeutic community (MTC), a behavioral modification method for addressing criminal behaviors and patterns. The technical violator facility operates on an even more modified but intense concept due to the brief periods of stay. The rules are clearly stated and modeled in everyday activities by staff and residents. Treatment focuses on a multi-level approach to reach desired re-socialization. Residents are taught new concepts, values and rules of expected conduct to achieve behavioral changes. Peers follow, teach and model new values and morals (right living), with positive and negative consequences for behavior. Clinical staff instructs, facilitate processes, monitor the community, conduct individual sessions, and document results. The most powerful change mechanism is the community itself.

Deputy Director of Parole/Probation Services, *Dan Roberts*, is hired by the DCC director for oversight of over 53,000 parolees and adult probationers under community-based supervision who live at home under restrictions imposed by the court or the Parole Board, some drug court caseload management, day reporting centers, community services, electronic monitoring, drug testing and institutional release services. Using a risk assessment tool, offenders are classified into low, medium or maximum levels of supervision DCC staff provides offender supervision in coordination with offenders, judges and other court representatives, the Parole Board, coworkers, management, Interstate Compact, rehabilitation agency representatives, local and state police, and others.

Community Correction alternative programming may include probation, economic sanctions, home detention, community service, electronic monitoring, restitution, specialized caseloads, chemical-free living, boot camps, drug/alcohol, and mental health treatment, education, vocations, job skills development, pretrial supervision & monitoring and therapeutic communities. Many of these alternatives have been implemented by DCC. When created, the DCC assumed responsibility for probation operations previously handled by each judicial district, and parole operations previously handled by Arkansas Department of Correction. Supervision staff is certified as specialized law enforcement officers within one year of hire, pursuant to the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training. Supervision objectives are to promote public safety through active community supervision of offenders and to facilitate offender behavioral change through access to such services as substance abuse intervention and addressing educational and vocational issues.

Deputy Director of Administrative Services, *Anne Geddings*, is also hired by the DCC director to oversee the fiscal operations of the agency, including budgeting, procurement, accounts receivable and payable, fee collection, inventory control, and warehouse operations.

The Administrative Services Deputy facilitates development, approval, and submission of annual operating budgets, as required by the Department of Finance and Administration, establishing budget and accounting systems which reflect the costs of each program and funding sources. She ensures the budgeting and accounting system links affiliated expenses, to include overhead, with identified program function and the resources necessary for program support to facilitate both cost accounting and program evaluation.

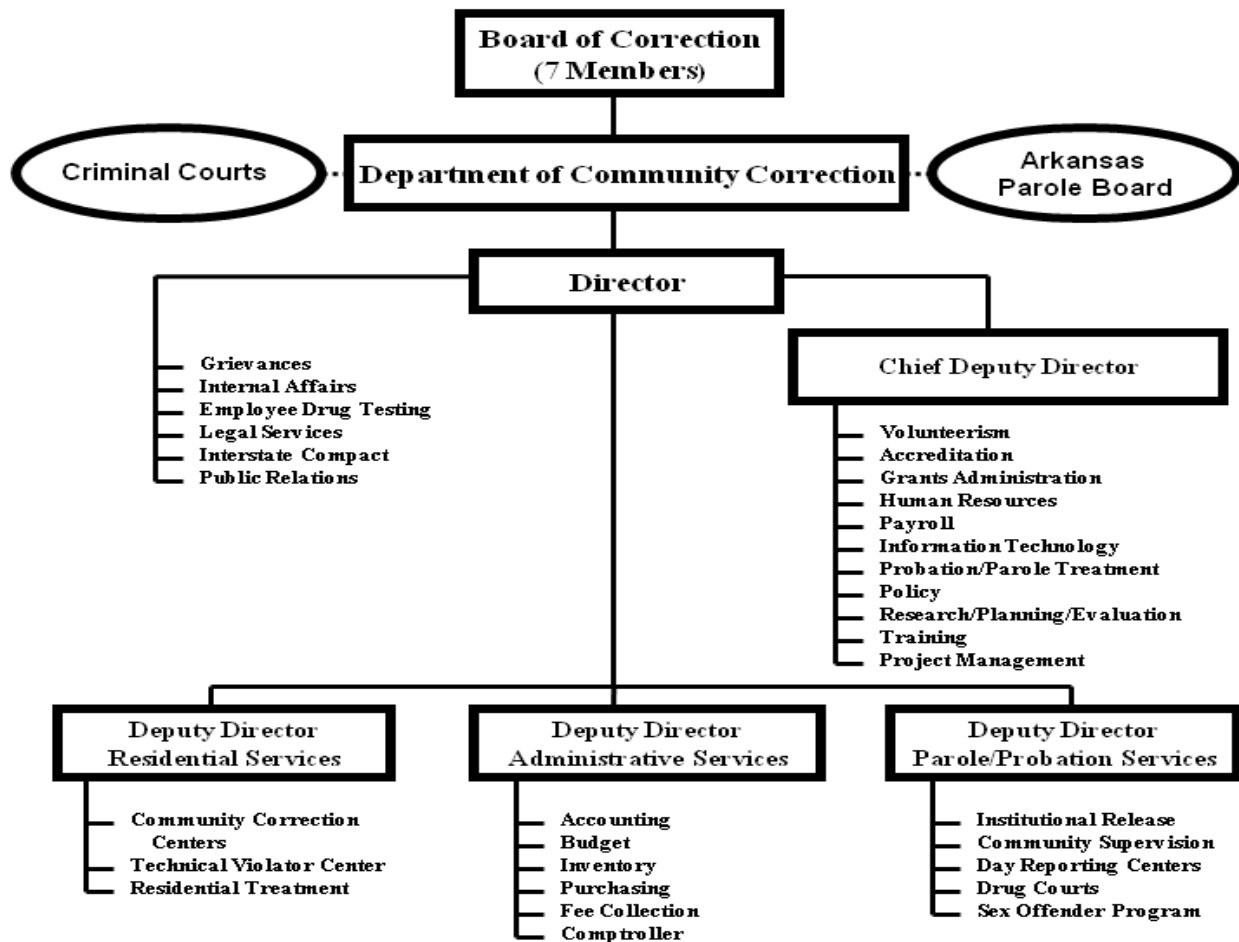
The Deputy recommends agency accounting and budgeting guidance and procedures. At a minimum, guidance includes internal controls, petty cash, offender funds, bonding, signature control on checks, indemnification and employee expense reimbursement, as reviewed and approved by the Board.

The Deputy ensures compliance with procedures governing collection, safeguarding, and disbursement of fee receipts.

DCC Staff Attorney, *David Eberhard*, is hired by the DCC Director and is responsible for coordinating the provision of legal assistance for staff as appropriate and as required in the performance of their duties; oversight of the Interstate Compact activities, and training on legal matters.

Organization

Arkansas Community Correction Structure



Mission Statement, Philosophy, and Goals

A complete description of the agency can be found in the DCC policy, Agency Description and Public Information located on the agency intranet, “EagleNet” and the DCC website at www.dcc.state.ar.us .

Agency Mission:

“To promote public safety and a crime-free lifestyle by providing cost-effective community-based programs and enforcing State laws and court mandates in the supervision and treatment of adult offenders.”

Agency Philosophy:

“We provide opportunities for positive change.”

Agency Motto:

“Service with Excellence and Integrity.”

H-7-1-2. General Information

Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action Statement

In keeping with the mission of the DCC, the agency desires to employ individuals who are dependable, professional, of good character, and sincerely interested in serving the mission of the agency.

The DCC is an equal opportunity employer, providing employment opportunities without regard to race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran status or other biases prohibited by State or federal law. This policy and practice relate to all phases of employment including, but not limited to recruiting, hiring, placement, promotion, transfer, layoff, recall, termination, compensation, training, use of all facilities and participation in employee activities and programs. Members of DCC management staff are familiar with this policy, the philosophy behind it and their responsibility to apply these principles in good faith for meaningful progress in the utilization of minorities and women. DCC follows the administrative directive regarding equal opportunity and affirmative action which is located on “EagleNet.”

At-Will-Employer

The DCC is an “at-will” employer. Nothing in this document or policies and procedures establishes, constitutes, or implies an employment contract, the guarantee of employment or

benefits, or employment for any specific duration. Nothing contained in DCC policies, handbooks, applications, or other documents, or the granting of any interview or the placement in a probationary status or any other administrative act, creates a contract between an individual and DCC for either employment or the provision of benefits. The DCC does not guarantee continued employment for any specific period of time. Therefore, employment can be terminated by the agency or the employee at any time, with or without cause or notice. Individuals hired must provide proof of eligibility to work in the United States pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

Job Qualifications and Job Descriptions

As you have learned, DCC fills all positions through a process of team interviews, individual ranking of the interviewees and an assessment of the qualifications as prescribed in the job classifications. You have been hired to perform a specific set of duties that are associated with specific job classification. Job classifications, qualifications, and the pay range associated with a position are established by the State of Arkansas Department of Finance and Administration, Office of Personnel Management (OPM), responsible for managing the State Classification and Compensation System. This evaluating jobs, developing classification standards and specifications, assigning pay grades to classifications, collecting salary data, developing and administering pay plan policies and procedures, developing and administering performance evaluation guidance and providing professional assistance and guidance related to personnel management. You can find more information on your job specifications at the DFA web site located at www.arkansas.gov contact the HRS.

During your initial week of employment, your supervisor will have provided you with a description of the specific duties, activities and responsibilities assigned to you, and for which you will be expected to perform. If you are unclear concerning your duties and responsibilities, you should immediately contact your supervisor for clarification.

Employee Orientation

New DCC employees must attend the three phase new employee orientation program. Usually, Phase 1 will be conducted on the first day of employment or soon thereafter. In this phase, information will be shared as necessary to beginning your employment with DCC, such as completing tax forms, insurance documents, fingerprinting Phase 2 will be administered to you by your supervisor or designee when you return to your local office. Upon completion, you will be scheduled for Phase 3. Phase 3 is approximately 3 working days in duration administered at the Training Academy or another area determined by the Central Training Section (CTS). Some of your training will be computer based using “JAKE”, the electronic agency training system.

Initial Probationary Period

You are placed in a “probationary” status for the first year of employment as a DCC employee. If you are a rehire being transferred within DCC or promoted into a new position, a six month probation period is imposed.

The purpose of the probationary period is to determine your suitability for the position. A performance appraisal may be conducted by the supervisor at various intervals within this twelve month period to determine if additional training is needed. Even if the probation period is satisfied, the employment at will doctrine applies.

Employment Status

For the purpose of Fair Labor Standards, employees of the DCC fall into one of the categories below.

Exempt - employees (usually supervisor or managers) within DCC that are paid a set salary.

Non-exempt – employees who work a 40 hour week and are paid overtime at the rate of time and one half the usual rate of pay for hours physically worked in excess of 40 in a week. The overtime earned is placed on your leave account (banked) in lieu of pay.

7 (k) Law Enforcement Exemption – Employees who work as security personnel in DCC residential facilities centers and as parole/probation officers. They are paid on a salary basis and do not qualify for overtime pay until they physically work over 86 hours in a pay period. Any overtime earned is banked in lieu of pay.

Extra Help – temporary employees who work 1,000 hours or less in fiscal year. They are eligible for overtime like the non-exempt employee. The only benefit they receive is paid time off for holidays when they qualify.

If questions arise, contact your immediate supervisor.

Pay Procedures

Pay is issued by the State of Arkansas twenty-six (26) times each year on a bi-weekly basis. As a condition of employment, a person hired or appointed to a DCC position is required to accept payment of salary or wages by electronic warrants transfer (direct deposit) to the employee's bank account.

Your payroll check will be made through direct deposit to a bank account you designate. You must complete the Mandatory Direct Deposit Notification Form. Deposit authorizations are completed during Phase 1 orientation. Changes to the authorizations can be made anytime by contacting Human Resources Section.

Salary Determination, Job Classification

The rate of pay to which a classified employee is entitled is established under current law. OPM monitors the application of laws governing classification and compensation. Employees entering State service for the first time will be paid at Entry Pay Level of the grade assigned to the position entered unless a special entry rate has been approved prior to the hire date. The DCC complies with this and all laws.

General Work Rules

Most regular salaried full time employees are scheduled to work at least 5, 8 hour days (forty hour week) unless otherwise authorized by the Governor. Community correction centers are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Regardless where or when you work, you are expected to begin work on time and promptly leave your work station at the end of your scheduled work day. If there is a need to work before your usual start time or beyond your usual stop time, your supervisor will give you sufficient notice (when possible). Non-exempt and 7K-Exempt employees are not authorized to work outside regular work schedules unless overtime is approved by the supervisor in advance. If you are "exempt," you are expected to work the hours necessary to accomplish their jobs when overtime is approved or directed. This may require working more than an eight hour day or more than forty hours in a work week.

Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA)

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) of 1938, as amended, is a Federal law that affects overtime pay, minimum wage and child labor laws. DCC employees must comply with this law. It does not cover vacation, holiday, severance or sick pay, premium pay for weekend or holiday work, double time, pay raises, or fringe benefits. Each DCC position has a status designation as it relates to application of the FLSA.

You will be informed of your FLSA status during the first day of orientation. Arkansas Code §19-4-1612, states, "Overtime. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the state of Arkansas that overtime pay for state employees is the least desirable method of compensation for overtime work." The Code further states that "all state departments, agencies, boards, commissions and institutions may pay overtime to its employees, under the rules and regulations set out by the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act." Overtime will be managed in the most efficient and economic manner possible.

The HRS Administrator ensures DCC positions are appropriately classified as exempt, nonexempt, or 7K exempt.

- A. Non-Exempt.** Non-exempt employees are those whose functional job duties and responsibilities do not meet the FLSA exemption test and who are compensated with time

on a multiple of their hourly rate of pay for overtime. Time sheets must reflect the exact time the non-exempt employee physically worked.

Actual overtime physically worked above 40 hours in a scheduled work week will be credited in the form of FLSA overtime at the rate of time and one half for those hours physically worked over 40 in one week. In addition to compensation for regular hours worked, a non-exempt employee will be credited with time off in lieu of pay or the time will be banked for all hours physically worked over 40 in a work week up to 240 hours. The non-exempt employee will be compensated for hours earned over 240.

- B. 7K Law Enforcement (Partially Exempt).** Employees categorized as 7K law enforcement personnel are partially exempt from the FLSA and will record time based on a standard 14 day work period (80 to 86 hours). The partial exemption provides that employees are paid at their regular work schedule rate of pay for the first 80 hours they physically work. Those hours physically worked between 80 and 86 hours will be counted as straight time and placed in the employee's banked straight time account. Hours physically worked in excess of 86 in the 14 day work period are counted as overtime at a rate of one and one half times. These hours will be placed in the employee's overtime account. The 7K exempt employee will be compensated for straight time in excess of 40 hours and overtime hours in excess of **200**.
- C. Exempt.** Employees whose positions meet specific tests established by the FLSA and State Law and are exempt from the FLSA overtime requirements. Exempt employees are paid on an annual salary basis

Time worked above the normal work hours must be earned before it can be used. The time used will be deducted from the employee's accrued compensatory time. Compensatory time of fifteen (15) minutes or more must be accounted for, whether earned or used.

When an employee uses earned compensatory time, he/she shall be paid at the base rate of pay of his/her current grade.

Compensatory time may be earned only with the prior approval of the Director, or his/her designee.

Employees must request to use earned compensatory time by completing a request for leave form. An employee may be required to use any and all accrued compensatory time.

Upon termination from employment, the employee will receive cash payment for any unused overtime or straight time accrued at a rate not less than the average regular rate received by an employee during the last three (3) years of his/her employment; or the final regular rate of pay received by an employee, whichever is higher.

General Guidelines for Overtime

Employees may not work overtime unless authorized in advance to do so by their supervisor. Arriving early and staying late without permission is prohibited. Your supervisor will try to give you reasonable notice when the need for overtime work arises. Please remember, however, that advance notice may not always be possible. DCC employees receive leave on the books in lieu of cash payment up to the limitations stated earlier. Overtime is only earned when the physical time worked extends beyond the usual scheduled work period. A combination of paid leave and hours worked cannot be used to earn overtime. The time must be physically worked.

Time Sheets

A bi-weekly time sheet is required if you are a non-exempt or 7K employee. It is state and federal law that accurate work records are kept of every hour the employee works and the earned leave time taken. Falsification of a time sheet is grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination. Your immediate supervisor and or time keeper will instruct you on how and when the time sheet is to be completed. Completing your time sheet and getting it turned in to your time keeper is your responsibility. Should you make an error on your time sheet, notify your supervisor immediately. If you neglect to turn in your time sheet, you will not get paid.

Job Promotions and Demotions

The DCC is an equal opportunity “at will” employer. The recruiting activities that we perform include but are not limited to job postings on the state web site www.arstatejobs.com as well as appropriate newspapers, and publications. The minimum requirements for each job are posted and must be met without exception. Additional job postings are made on the agency intranet (EagleNet) and /or through the email system.

DCC will operate within legal parameters and guidance from OPM. Nothing in this document establishes, constitutes or implies an employment contract, the guarantee of employment or benefits, or employment for any specific duration. DCC policy is to promote based on exemplary performance and conduct when funds are available.

When you complete your probationary period and/or meet the eligibility requirements for a higher grade position, you may be eligible to compete for promotion. You must submit a letter, resume and any other relevant documents to your supervisor (within the advertisement period) requesting a promotion recommendation. Your supervisor will ascertain you are not on probation (performance, disciplinary, new/rehire) before forwarding the documents along with a favorable recommendation (within the advertisement period) to the receiving hiring official for review and consideration. In cooperation with HRS, the receiving hiring official should verify with HR that you meet the minimum qualifications for the new position. Promotions are contingent upon appropriate approval by the Reviewing Official and the availability of funds.

Subsequently, all documentation will be forwarded to the HRS for processing in accordance with established guidelines.

Upon **promotion** one or more grades, an employee's salary will be increased by 10 percent. If the new rate of pay falls below the entry level for the new grade, your rate of pay will be adjusted to the entry level pay rate. Salary increases resulting from promotions or bonuses are added to your base pay for retirement credit for the new grade, the employee's rate of pay shall be adjusted to the entry level.

You must complete a six month probationary period following each promotion you receive. You may not grieve or appeal denial of a promotion unless they believe the denial was based upon unlawful discrimination.

The HRS Administrator monitors and administers the promotion process, provides necessary reports, ensures appropriate file maintenance and provides technical assistance, reviews records to determine unusual patterns, and maintains required employee certification or licensure documents for audit purposes.

If you are **demoted** (voluntarily or involuntarily) one grade or more, you will receive a 10 percent salary reduction. If the new rate of pay for the new grade exceeds the highest level of pay for the grade, your rate of pay will be adjusted down, in accordance with OPM guidance.

Lateral Transfer

A lateral transfer is a move within the agency from one classified position to another with the same grade, salary and title and with no change in eligibility date. This action must be approved by the losing and gaining immediate supervisor and reviewing official.

Employee Self Service in AASIS

The Arkansas Administrative Statewide Information System (AASIS) is a statewide system used for payroll processing and various accounting transactions. Your pay is automatically deposited directly into an account which you have designated. There is not a "pay stub" as it has been called but you may access your remuneration statement through this system by going to <http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/aasis/>. Your supervisor and/or timekeeper will assist you in contacting HR to establish a required password.

Parking

The DCC provides parking for its employees. If you are located at one of the parole/probation offices or centers, be sure to follow any parking instructions and adhere to designations. Depending upon office locations, you may be assigned a parking space. If you park in any other space without authorization, your car is subject to be towed or booted at your expense. If someone parks in your space, park temporarily on the street and inform your supervisor.

H-7-1-3. Employee Rules

Attendance and Absenteeism

- You are expected to regularly and consistently be at your work station at the time you are to begin work, unless you are on approved leave.
- You must notify your supervisor, in advance, if you cannot attend work as scheduled. This should be done before or within 15 minutes of your start time. If the supervisor cannot be reached, you should notify your next level supervisor or as otherwise designated by your supervisor. Note: You may want to email or leave a voice message for your supervisor prior to going to the next level if it is not urgent.
- You must give the reasons for absences (e.g. annual leave or sickness) and indicate when you expect to return to work. If you do not know when you will return, notify your supervisor each day of your absence, at or before the normal starting time.
- If you fail to make this notification, you are subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.
- If you are on Sick Leave for five or more consecutive days, you must furnish a certificate of illness from an attending physician or a recognized Christian Science practitioner. This note must verify your illness during the specific time away and indicate when you may return to work, if there are work restrictions and when the restrictions will be removed.
- Supervisors may ask for a doctor's certificate at anytime if it is suspected that you are abusing Sick Leave. If you do not report for work for three consecutive work days, without contacting immediate supervisor, you are subject to termination.

Work Schedules, Meal Period and Breaks

Work hours, meal periods and breaks are scheduled to provide consistent and adequate coverage. It is required that you report to your assigned duty station and are ready for work when the work schedule begins. A break each morning and afternoon is a privilege and may be given or not given by the supervisor depending on work requirements each day. If awarded, they are 15 minutes in length and the break begins when you leave your duty station and ends when you return. Breaks are paid time away from your job so do not abuse them. Breaks may not be used to add to lunch periods or change work day starting and ending times. However, breaks may be combined only for the purpose of participating in a physical fitness-related activity or exercise (see below). The meal-periods are non-paid times and begin when you leave your duty station and end when you return. Absenteeism and tardy rules apply to all the above.

Physical Fitness

You are encouraged to maintain a healthy lifestyle and be physically and mentally fit for duty. To facilitate employee involvement in fitness activities, a voluntary program is available allowing you 30 minutes daily, combining both morning and afternoon breaks, to participate in such activities that contribute to maintaining or achieving good physical health; upon supervisory approval. There are restrictions on the use of time, so you are expected to review the policy and its implementation with your supervisor prior to taking any time.

Sexual Harassment

DCC provides an environment where you can work together comfortably and productively, with other employees free from sexual and other forms of harassment. Sexual harassment is prohibited by state and federal law and will not be tolerated. Sexual harassment of fellow employees or offenders will result in disciplinary actions which may include termination. In addition to sexual harassment, DCC has a zero tolerance policy toward any sexual misconduct. Related policies are on the DCC intranet.

Inclement Weather

In general, DCC does not close its offices during bad weather without the Governor's declaration. However, pursuant to a Governor's Policy Directive the following policy is in force to attempt to provide for your safety, and eliminate confusion during bad weather:

Greater Little Rock Area (Pulaski County):

If you work in the Little Rock area and severe weather strikes in the early morning, you should listen to radio or local television to hear whether the Governor's Office declares the day to be an "Inclement Weather Day." On a day declared to be an "inclement weather day," and you can get to work without undue personal risk, you should do so and be at your work station no later than 10:00 a.m. If you arrive by 10:00 a.m., you will be given credit for a full work day. If you arrive after 10:00 a.m., you will be charged the amount of the time you were late (counting from your regular starting time), and if you do not come to work at all, you will be charged a full day absent.

When severe weather occurs during office hours, the Director has the discretion to allow you to leave work early for safety reasons.

Parole/Probation Offices Outside of Pulaski County:

In the event of severe weather, the Area Manager will contact local authorities for help in determining local road conditions. If road conditions, in general, are IMPASSABLE, the supervisor may excuse you from work that day without penalty or use of earned leave after contacting the next level supervisor for approval.

Community Correction Centers:

The Center Supervisor will develop policies and procedures to cover facility operations during inclement weather. These policies and procedures balance the requirements for 24 hour resident care and/or public access against the safety of center employees.

When severe weather occurs after you have arrived for work, Area Managers and Center Supervisors have the discretion to allow you to leave work early for safety reasons. You should check with your Center Supervisor and/or center procedures for guidance.

Drug-Free Workplace

The DCC maintains a drug-free workplace. Employees, interns, and volunteers are prohibited from the unlawful manufacture, purchase, distribution, dispensing, possession, and or of prohibited drugs and consuming or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs during the work day. Violators are subject to discipline up to and including termination. You are subject to random and reasonable suspicion testing. Details about the DCC Drug-Free workplace can be found in the policy on EagleNet or the DCC website.

Tobacco Free Environment

It is DCC policy to provide a tobacco-free environment for the health and safety of staff and offenders. Tobacco products are any smoking or smokeless tobacco product. You should refer to the Tobacco policy on EagleNet or the DCC website.

Nepotism

In accordance with Act 2262 of 2005,, “Hiring Relatives,” relatives you may not work in the same line of supervision of a relative whereby one supervises the other or has authority to hire, transfer, suspend, lay-off, recall, promote discharge or assign the other. “Relative” under this law means husband, wife, mother, father, stepmother, stepfather, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother, sister, stepbrother, stepsister, half-brother, half-sister, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, daughter, son, stepdaughter, stepson, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, uncle, aunt, first cousin, nephew, or niece. For further details please consult the DCC web site under policies.

Other Employment

DCC is your primary employer. You may not work at outside jobs during the time you are scheduled to work for DCC. You may not have outside jobs which create a “conflict of interest” as defined by State law nor one that affects the level of performance on the DCC job. You may not accept another job outside DCC without the approval of your immediate supervisor, and as appropriate, approval of OPM. You may be dismissed because of poor work performance if the

outside job conflicts with DCC employment. If secondary employment is desired, complete the Secondary Employment Agreement Form discuss it with your supervisor and obtain approval.

Concurrent Employment

Concurrent employment is when you simultaneously work for two or more state institutions. Also, under certain circumstances, you may be concurrently employed by the same institution/agency. Your combined salary payments from the institution/agency are not to exceed the larger maximum annual salary of the line-item position authorized for either institution/agency from which you are being paid. Employees who perform services for their primary employer (one having control over the employee's services) outside regularly scheduled hours of work may be paid additional compensation if such services constitute independent, additional duties over and above those of the employee's primary position within the institution/agency. Additional compensation will be allowed only when the services rendered are clearly not a part of the employee's regular (primary) job. Such additional services must meet the criteria as specified in Arkansas Code Annotated §§ 6-63-307 & 19-4-1604. Concurrent employment requests are subject to the approval of the Chief Fiscal Officer of the State prior to implementation. DCC will not be liable for any overtime work outside of your DCC duties and responsibilities.

Whistle Blower Act

DCC will not take adverse action against you because you, or a person authorized to act on your behalf, communicates in good faith the existence of waste of public funds, property, or manpower, including federal funds, property, or manpower, administered or controlled by a public employer or a violation or suspected violation of a law, rule, or regulation adopted under the law of this State or a political subdivision of the state to an appropriate authority. The communication may be made at a time and in a manner which gives the public employer reasonable notice of need to correct the waste or violation.

“Whistle-blower” means a person who witnesses or has evidence of a waste or violation while employed with a state agency or institution of higher education and who communicates, in good faith, or testifies to, the waste or violation, verbally or in writing, to one of the employee's superiors, to an agent of the public employer or to an appropriate authority, provided that the communication is made prior to any adverse action by the employer. For further information, refer to the Whistle Blower policy on the EagleNet site.

Hostage Situations

During your orientation program, you will be provided with a full description of the DCC actions regarding hostage situations and how to respond if you are in a hostage situation. You should remember that DCC will not grant any offender freedom because of a hostage situation.

Employee-Management Relations

Supervisors are required to attend various courses regarding inter-personal communication, the grievance process, human relations (T.H.E. course), the supervisors' course, and others. These training requirements are described in the agency training policy on EagleNet. You are free to join any professional organization that is of interest, at your own expense. DCC will not reimburse employees for their membership fees/dues and employees should note that Arkansas is a right to work state. Please be aware that attendance of association conferences is not authorized unless the employee has current membership and supervisory approval.

Vehicle Safety Program

The purpose of this program is to reduce State insurance costs and loss of employee work time due to accidents.

1. If you are authorized to operate an agency or private vehicle to conduct DCC business, you must maintain a valid driver's license in accordance with the requirements of applicable Arkansas State laws. You must complete and sign the Authorization to Operate State Vehicles and Private Vehicles on State Business, VSP-1, to periodically obtain "Traffic Violations Reports". You must also provide a photocopy of your drivers' license.
2. If you operate or ride as a passenger in a State vehicle equipped with seatbelts, you are required to wear them. Also, when driving a personal vehicle on State business and receiving mileage reimbursement you must wear your seatbelt.
3. You must maintain the required liability insurance on the personal vehicle you use to conduct DCC business.
4. You must report, in writing, all accidents or traffic violations occurring in a State vehicle within 24 hours or by the next business day and if driving a personal vehicle on State business within 7 days of occurrence. See the Vehicle Safety and Drug-Free Workplace policies.
5. If you have had an at-fault accident must attend a Defensive Driving Class within 60 days following the accident.

The DCC will use the traffic violation point system to identify high risk drivers. Depending on the number and severity of your traffic violations or accidents, you may lose the right to operate a State vehicle. Your employment may be terminated if driving is an essential function of your job, and your driving record reflects poor performance.

Legal Assistance and Professional Liability

The Arkansas Attorney General's Office will represent you if you are sued in your "official capacity". An "official capacity" claim against you is a claim against the office or position you hold or held at the time of the event in question. The claim would be considered as a claim against the state of Arkansas, and therefore cannot result in any personal judgment against you that would be satisfied by any of your personal assets. Neither the DCC nor the state of Arkansas will provide legal assistance in personal matters or matters that do not pertain to your job duties during your work hours.

DCC employees must comply with and follow the procedures in the Administrative Directive on Legal Documents or they may be held personally liable. If you are involved in a job-related legal matter, you are required to fully cooperate with the DCC legal counsel and others as required.

H-7-1-4. Employee Performance and Job Development

Personnel File

HRS in the Central Office maintains an official personnel file on each employee. You may make an appointment to review your personnel files by contacting HRS

Notify your supervisor or the HRS of such changes as your name, telephone number, home address, marital status, number of dependents, and individuals to notify in case of emergency, to keep your personnel file up-to-date.

Supervisory File

A file will be maintained by your immediate supervisor including information concerning decisions about such things as performance evaluation ratings, recommendations for pay increases, promotions, enrollment in special training courses, and disciplinary actions.

Performance Evaluation

The DCC administers an employee performance evaluation system which measures performance and facilitates communication between you and your supervisor (rater). The employee performance evaluation system was developed within legal parameters. Refer to the Administrative Directive on Employee Performance Evaluation policy on EagleNet. You may want to maintain a file of your work performance (e.g. accomplishments, projects completed) to assist you in completing the employee input part of the performance evaluation process. Completed performance evaluation documents are maintained in the HRS.

Review the Employee Performance Evaluation policy on EagleNet. If there are questions, please consult your immediate supervisor or HRS.

Merit Increase Pay

Eligibility Requirements. During the performance evaluation rating period, you must completed at least 6 months in a regular classified or unclassified position and have not been laterally transferred (from outside DCC), promoted, involuntary/voluntarily demoted or rehired within the last six months; OR is on extended leave (such as military or extended military, catastrophic leave or leave without pay); met your annual training requirements; was not disciplined for a violation of the Code (excluding verbal warnings), AND you earned “satisfactory” or above on each performance category. If you are a supervisor, you additionally must have timely submitted all required PE reviews to HRS on the employees you supervise.

The percentage of merit increases for satisfactory, above average, and exceeds standards will be awarded in compliance with guidance from the Department of Finance and Administration each budget cycle. The HRS Administrator will provide notice of this percentage following issuance.

Your immediate supervisor will cover this and other related issues with you.

Service Awards

The following awards are offered by the state of Arkansas and DCC:

State Awards

Governor’s Service Recognition Certificates for full-time employees with 10, 20, and 30 years of service.

*Career Service Recognition Bonuses are awarded to you on your eligibility date for continuous service in full-time position as follows:

10 through 14 years of service -	\$600
15 through 19 years of service -	\$700
20 through 24 years of service -	\$800
25 or more years of service -	\$900

**Amounts are subject to change in accordance with law.*

DCC Awards

Officer of the Year; Employee of the Year; Supervisor of the Year; Support Staff Member of the Year; Special Projects Recognition (optional); and Director's Award (optional). Nominees must have met the following minimum requirements: made significant contributions to the mission or enhancement of the department's image; received an overall rating of satisfactory or above performance evaluation rating during the award period; free of disciplinary action through the award period and process; accomplishments took place between October 1st of the previous year and September 30th of the award year; accomplishments fit within the scope of the nomination award category described in the policy; and the Employee Award Nomination Form has been completed and submitted. For details, review the DCC policy titled "Employee Awards/Recognition" located on the DCC website.

Training Opportunities

You will be given opportunities to improve and expand your skills once you have mastered the basic job duties, to help you prepare for advancement or promotion, you will be encouraged and sometimes required to participate in training. For a more detailed explanation, as well as the guidelines for training, see the "Employee Training" policy located on EagleNet.

On-the-Job-Training

You may work under the supervision of a trained employee without leaving the work site or disrupting work schedules to acquire a standard level of competency on a newly assigned job.

Cross Training

Certain employees may be given the opportunity, or in some cases, required to learn a new skill outside their current responsibilities. DCC encourages this type of opportunity so that employees may become more "promotable" or be prepared to temporarily step into a new position in the event of an emergency. Cross training is generally handled at the work location under the supervision of a well-trained employee.

Disciplinary Procedures

If you violate a rule or do not perform satisfactory work, "progressive discipline" may be used to correct the problem. This means each time a particular rule is violated, the penalty may become more severe. Although the progressive discipline process is the most commonly used process at DCC, it is not the sole process used. Some actions may be so severe that progressive discipline would be inappropriate. Therefore, supervisors assess the situation and act appropriately given the circumstances of the violation(s). Details of the disciplinary policy are located on EagleNet.

Grievance and Complaint Procedures

You are entitled to fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory treatment in all aspects of your employment. If you are eligible and believe you are a victim of unfair or discriminatory treatment may seek relief through the grievance procedures, without restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination or fear of future reprisal. However, you must have reasonable evidence which can be substantiated to avoid false or malicious claims.

For a complete explanation of the DCC grievance procedure see the Administrative Regulation titled “Employee Grievance Procedure” and the Administrative Directive titled “Employee Grievance and Mediation Procedure” found on EagleNet.

H-7-1-5. Employee Benefits

DCC offers an array of benefits for you and your family. If you have questions, please consult your immediate supervisor or HRS.

Legal Holidays

You are granted time off to observe the following regularly scheduled legal holidays:

New Year’s Day	January 1
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr./Robert E. Lee Birthdays	Third Monday in January
Presidents Day & Daisy Gaston Bates Day	Third Monday in February
Memorial Day	Last Monday in May
Independence Day	July 4
Labor Day	First Monday in September
Veteran’s Day	November 11
Thanksgiving Day	Fourth Thursday in November
Christmas Eve	December 24
Christmas Day	December 25
Employee’s Birthday	Your actual birthday

*Only the Governor may declare additional holidays

If you are required to work on a holiday, you are eligible to earn up to eight hours of Holiday Time.

To be eligible to be paid for a Holiday, you must be in “pay status” the last work day before the holiday, and at least one hour on the first work day after the holiday. You are considered to be in “pay status” if you are not on leave without pay.

If a holiday falls while you are on compensatory time, annual or sick leave, that day is charged as a Holiday and is not charged against annual, sick or compensatory leave. If a holiday falls on your regularly scheduled day off, you will be credited Holiday time. If a holiday falls while you are on Worker' Compensation, that day is charged as a holiday and will not be charged against your annual or sick leave as long as you are in "pay status."

State offices in Pulaski County will remain open when a legal holiday occurs during a general or special session of the legislature, with the exception of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr/Robert E. Lee birthdays. These offices will maintain the minimum number of employees required to conduct State business. However, these offices may be permitted to close by Resolution of the General Assembly.

Occasionally, you may have to work on a holiday if the needs of the Department warrant it. If you are requested or required to work on a holiday, you may receive equal holiday time off later on a day agreed upon by you and your supervisor. Holidays worked must be scheduled off by the supervisor as soon as possible. Should a holiday remain on the books for a year, the holiday will be added to your annual leave account.

Annual Leave

As a full time employee, you will accrue leave at the rates shown in the table below. If you work less than full time but more than 1000 hours per year, you will accrue annual leave in the same proportion as time worked. For example: If you work half time, you will receive half of the annual leave accrual shown on the table.

Complete Years of Employment	Hours Accrued Monthly	Hours Accrued Annually	Qualifier
Through 3 years	8	96	From hire through 3 full years
4 through 5 years	10	120	Completed 3 full years and starting in the 4 th year
6 through 12 years	12	144	Completed 5 full years and starting in the 6 th year
13 through 20 years	14	168	Completed 12 full years and starting in the 13 th year
Over 20 years	15	180	Completed 20 full years and starting in the 21 st year

Accrual rates will change on the first day of the month following eligibility for the next higher accrual rate.

Annual leave is cumulative and the balance must be 240 hours or less on December 31st of each year. Accrued leave may exceed 240 hours during the calendar year, but hours exceeding the 240 will be forfeited if not used by December 31st of each year.

You may not earn annual leave when on leave without pay for 10 or more cumulative days within a calendar month.

You may request to use accrued annual leave at any time. Your supervisor may grant the leave request at such time that least interferes with the efficient operation of the office or agency.

Annual leave is granted on the basis of work days, not calendar days. Non-work days, such as holidays and weekends, are not charged as leave.

Annual leave accrued during a calendar month is not actually earned until the last working day of the month. Leave must be earned before it can be used; therefore, it may not be used from anticipated future accruals. You may not use annual leave accrued by other employees unless it is provided under the provisions of the catastrophic leave program.

You must use all compensatory time and holiday leave on the books before you may the use annual leave, unless you are in a “use or lose” annual leave situation at the end of the calendar year.

Educational Leave

As a full-time DCC employee, you are entitled to eight (8) hours of leave during any one calendar year for the purpose of attending or assisting with the educational activities of a child enrolled in pre-kindergarten through grade 12, if the child is one of the following relations to you:

1. Your natural child;
2. Your adopted child;
3. Your stepchild;
4. Your foster child;
5. Your grandchild;
6. You were warded the child state by virtue that you have been appointed the person’s legal guardian or custodian; or
7. You are acting as a parent for the child in any other legal capacity.

“Educational activity” means any school-sponsored activity which includes without limitation:

1. A parent – teacher conference;
2. Participation in school-sponsored tutoring;
3. Participation in a school-sponsored volunteer program;
4. A field trip;
5. A classroom program;
6. A school committee meeting;
7. An academic competition;
8. Assisting with athletic, music, or theater programs.

Sick Leave

If you work at least 1,000 hours per year in a regular position you will accrue sick leave. If you work less than full time but more than 1,000 hours per year, you will accrue sick leave in the same proportion as time worked.

You accrue sick leave at the rate of 8 hours for each completed month of service; however, you may not have over 960 hours of accumulated time on December 31st of each year. Accrued sick leave may exceed 960 hours during the calendar year, but those days in excess of 960 hours will be forfeited if not used by December 31st of each year.

Sick leave accrued during a calendar month is not earned until the last working day of the month. Leave must be earned before it can be used. Sick leave is granted on the basis of work days, not calendar days. Non-work days, such as holidays and weekends, are not charged as sick leave. The use of sick leave is contingent upon the occurrence of one of the events listed below. If the event never occurs, you are not entitled to the sick leave.

Sick leave may be used for the following purposes only:

- You are unable to work because of sickness or injury; or for medical, dental or optical treatment.
- Death or serious illness of a member of your immediate family (father, mother, sister, brother, spouse, child, grandparents, grandchild, in-laws or individual acting as your parent or guardian.)

The minimum sick leave amount you can use is 15 minutes. No smaller amount may be authorized or used.

If you are on sick leave for 5 or more consecutive days, you must furnish a certificate of illness from an attending physician. Your supervisor may require you to furnish a certificate from an attending physician for any use of sick leave. A certificate from a Christian Science practitioner listed in the Christian Science Journal may be submitted in lieu of a physician's certificate.

Requests to use sick leave for medical, dental or optical examinations, hospital stays, funerals, etc. should be made in advance.

If you fail to make proper notification for use of sick leave as provided herein, such absences will be charged to your annual leave or leave without pay. You must complete a leave form when requesting sick leave in advance or within 2 working days after returning to work after non-scheduled use of sick leave.

Military Leave

As a regular, full-time employee and a member of the National Guard or any of the reserve branches of the US Armed Forces, you will be granted military leave of 15 working days per calendar year, plus necessary travel time for annual training purposes. Up to 15 unused military leave days may be carried over to the succeeding year for a maximum of 30 military leave days for military training for that calendar year. You must attach a copy of your military orders to each request for military leave.

Military leave for annual training or other official training duties will be granted without loss of pay and in addition to annual leave.

Active Duty for Military Service: As a regular full-time employee, if you are drafted or called to active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States or volunteer for military service, you will be placed on extended military leave without pay. Unused sick and annual leave at the time of military leave will be reinstated at the time you return to DCC unless you requested and received a lump-sum payment for the annual leave balance when placed on the extended military leave.

Active Duty for the Purpose of Specialized Training: When you volunteer or are ordered to active duty for the purpose of special training, you will be placed on leave without pay for the period of training unless you elect to use your accrued annual leave. The leave without pay is given in addition to the paid leave for annual military training. You will retain eligibility rights including accumulated annual leave (unless the above option has been exercised) and any sick leave not used at the time you begin the training. You do not accumulate annual or sick leave during the leave without pay period, and the annual leave accrual rate will be calculated as though there had been no period of absence.

If you perform active military service for fewer than 31 days, you must report for reemployment on the first regularly scheduled workday within 8 hours after discharge from military service. If you serve more than 30 but less than 181 days, you must report within 14 days after discharge. If you serve more than 180 days, you must report for reemployment within 90 days after discharge from military service.

Maternity Leave

Maternity leave is to be treated as any other leave for sickness or disability. However, you may elect to take leave of absence without pay without exhausting accumulated annual and sick leave. Before taking maternity leave, you should talk with the physician and submit a doctor's statement to your supervisor indicating when maternity leave will begin and end

While on maternity leave, you will continue to earn annual and sick leave unless you are on leave without pay status. You have the option of choosing to take leave without pay instead of using earned annual or sick leave. Consult HRS or the Family Medical Leave Act for requirements which may impact maternity leave.

Court and Jury Leave

If you serve as a juror or you are subpoenaed as a witness to give a deposition in a court or hearing, not involving personal litigation or service as a paid witness outside the scope of state employment, you are entitled to receive normal and full compensation in addition to any fees paid for such services. If you provide reasonable notice to your supervisor of the required proceedings, you will not be subject to discharge from employment, loss of annual or sick leave days or accrual rates, or any other form of penalty. You must submit a copy of the subpoena, summons, or statement from the court with the time sheets (if appropriate) when taking Court or Jury Leave. If you are called to Jury Duty, you may keep any fees paid for such services. However, if you are called for service and released, you must notify your supervisor immediately and return to work to complete the rest of the work day.

Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

FLMA allows eligible employees to take up to 12 weeks (84 calendar days) of unpaid, job-protected leave per calendar year for any of the following reasons:

1. Birth and care of a newborn child;
2. Adoption or foster care of a child;
3. Care of employee's spouse, child, or parent with a serious health condition; and
4. Employee's own serious health condition.

To be eligible for FMLA, you must have been employed by the State for at least one year. To apply, submit the Request for Leave form (being certain to check the appropriate block at the bottom of the form), Request for Family and Medical Leave form, and a completed Certification of Physician or Practitioner form. FMLA forms may be obtained by contacting your timekeeper or HRS.

FMLA leave is leave without pay. However, DCC requires you to use annual, sick leave, holiday, or compensatory time balances, at the beginning of FMLA until exhausted or FMLA ends.

FMLA may be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave (part-time) schedule so long as it does not result in a reduction in the total amount of leave to which the employee is entitled. Please note the following additional requirements and information concerning FMLA:

- FMLA time off will be counted against your annual FMLA leave entitlement;
- You are required to furnish medical certification of any serious health condition and failure to do so may result in the FMLA request being denied.

- If you are in a LWOP status, you are required to make premium payments to maintain your health benefits. Contact the insurance specialist in HRS to make arrangements for such payments. Failure to make such payments on a timely basis may result in insurance coverage being canceled.
- You may be required to furnish fitness-for-duty certificate to return to work.
- You will be restored to the same or an equivalent position upon return from leave.
- The DCC may recover its share of health insurance premiums paid during the unpaid FMLA if you fail to return to work after taking FMLA leave.

Leave Without Pay (LWOP)

Generally, LWOP is used for emergency time off when you do not have any appropriate leave available. Also, supervisors may impose LWOP as a disciplinary measure. See the DCC policy manual located on the website for additional information.

You may apply to take LWOP by submitting a request form to your immediate supervisor who will present it to the DCC Director for approval. Time off on leave without pay is limited up to six months per incident.

If you use 10 or more days of LWOP in any month, you will not earn annual and sick leave for that month only. If you are on LWOP when a legal holiday is observed you will not receive pay for the holiday. LWOP status may interrupt participation in the State's group health insurance. There are a few exceptions to this rule if you are on Military, Worker's Compensation or Family Medical Leave.

This rule does not prevent you from paying the premium cost of your group insurance. During LWOP, you must pay the total cost for DCC group insurance, which includes your premium and DCC's cost. You should contact the HRS insurance benefits specialist in advance to continue insurance coverage while in LWOP status.

Catastrophic Leave

You may voluntarily donate earned annual and sick leave to the Catastrophic Leave Bank for use by eligible employees as long as the donation will not reduce your annual and/or sick leave combined to less than 80 hours except in the case of death, retirement or termination. This program provides full time employees with paid leave when they are faced with a catastrophic illness and who otherwise would have to be placed on LWOP.

A catastrophic illness is a medical condition of yours your spouse, parent or child which may be claimed as a dependent under the Arkansas Income Tax Act of 1929, as certified by a physician

that requires an employee's absence from duty for a prolonged period of time and which, except for the catastrophic leave program, would result in a substantial loss of income to the employee because of the exhaustion of all earned sick and annual leave.

To request Catastrophic Leave, you must have been employed by the State for at least 2 years, and at the onset of the catastrophic illness or injury, have to their credit at least 80 hours of combined sick and annual leave and have exhausted all leave, holidays and compensatory time. To be considered for catastrophic leave you must complete an application, with attachments and forward it to the HRS Administrator in an envelope marked "Confidential". Forms may be secured from your time keeper or EagleNet.

A committee of DCC employees reviews the applications for catastrophic leave and makes a recommendation to the Director based on the information submitted. HRS will notify the applicant of approval or disapproval of their request.

To donate leave to the Catastrophic Leave Bank secure the necessary forms from your timekeeper or EagleNet, complete the forms and return it to them to your timekeeper. DCC employees fund the entire program. Therefore, the catastrophic leave committee must be good stewards of donations, making sound, conscientious award recommendations of catastrophic leave.

Workers' Compensation

The purpose of Worker's Compensation is to provide payment of your medical expenses and partial salary continuation in the event of a work-related accident or illness. The amount and length of these payments depend upon the nature of your injury or illness. In general, however, all medical expenses connected with the injury are paid in full and you receive partial salary payments.

If you are injured on the job, you must immediately report the injury to your supervisor. Failure to make this report may jeopardize your right to Workers' Compensation. Your immediate supervisor will give you the name of the managed care provider in your area. If you select a doctor outside of the network, Workers' Compensation will not cover the cost of the treatment. You must also give your supervisor a doctor's statement indicating the extent of your injury and any required change in your work status.

If you are going to be absent from work for an extended period, you have the option to use your earned sick, annual, compensatory or holiday leave so that you receive your usual and customary pay. Under no circumstances will the workers compensation combined with the employee's salary exceed the employee's regular pay amount.

Deferred Compensation

Deferred Compensation is a tax deferred investment program for DCC employees. You may voluntarily authorize a portion of your salary to be withheld and invested. Deferred Compensation payments are payroll deductible.

Neither the amount withheld nor earnings on the investments are subject to current State and federal income taxes until they are withdrawn, usually at retirement. Benefits can also be withdrawn if you terminate employment or file a “hardship” request. Each year you may defer up to 25% of your state salary within the annual minimum and maximum limitations established by DF & A. To obtain the current minimum and maximum amounts, contact HRS.

Employee Assistance

The StarEAP is your employee assistance program which provides immediate, professional assistance with personal, work-related, or emotional issues. These free, confidential services are available to you and your eligible family members. NOTE: Membership in the state health plan may be required. Therefore, if you are uninsured, the EAP benefits may not cover your spouse and/or dependants.

StarEAP professionals will assess your situation and help to clarify and resolve problems within the scope of their services. They provide assistance in areas that deal with life, family, legal, work, money, and everyday issues (e.g. stress, addiction and recovery, depression, anxiety, relationships, grief and loss, legal matters, estate planning, forms-wills, power of attorney, final arrangements, free initial consultation, childcare resources, emergency care, summer school/vacation camp, parenting, adoption, child development, college planning, caring for older adults, budgeting, debt management, home buying and refinancing, retirement planning, insurance, tax planning, co-worker relationships, change and transition, balancing work and personal life, relocation, business travel, communication, consumer information, home remodeling/repair/buying, car buying, big-ticket purchases, pet care resources).

Supervisors may refer you to the StarEAP for problems, critical incident debriefing and stressful situations that may be adversely affecting you and/or your job performance.

You are encouraged to get the guidance you need any day or time by calling 866.378.1645 or going online to corphealthcap.com. EAP staff is available 24 hours a day, 7 days per week. Appointments for non-emergency situations are made during regular business and some evening hours.

Savings Bonds

Savings Bonds are available to you by payroll deduction. The purchase price is one-half the face value. For example, \$25 will buy a \$50 bond. Denominations are \$50, \$75, \$100, \$200, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000. The minimum deduction per pay period for the purchase of a bond is \$10. Contact the benefit specialist in HR for additional information.

Retirement

The Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System (APERS) is non-contributory and contributory. If you were hired before July 1, 2005, you are under the non-contributory plan and there is no contribution made you, and DCC pays the entire amount. If you were hired after July 1, 2005, you are under the contributory plan where you are required to contribute 5% of your annual salary and DCC contributes the rest.

Under the state retirement plan, you can voluntarily retire with full benefits, at either age 65 with 5 years service or at any age after 28 years of credited state service. The minimum pension, by State law, is \$150 per month. To find out what your pension would be upon retirement, contact APERS.

Credit Union

The Credit Union is a non-profit corporation that serves only its members and is owned and operated by them. Members who save at the credit union provide the money for those who need to borrow. The interest paid on loans is used to pay dividends on the savings. The members elect a board of directors to manage the organization and a credit committee to approve loans. Participation is optional and contributions, as well as loan payments, are payroll deductible. You (even if retired from the state) and your family members are eligible to become members.

Arkansas State Employee's Association (ASEA)

The ASEA is an independent, non-profit organization that focuses on improving working conditions for State employees.

ASEA lobbies the General Assembly on behalf of State employees, publishes and distributes "ALERT" (a weekly memorandum of what is happening on employee-related matters) and other informational newsletters.

ASEA offers its members a benefit package called SEBCO (State Employee's Benefit Corporation) which includes a vanpool program, credit union, and various insurance coverage, such as dental, home, automobile, life, burial, vision, cancer, and accidental death. These program costs are optional and are payroll deductible. Participation is optional and dues are payroll deductible.

State Employee Suggestion System

The Employee Suggestion System is a program that rewards employees who find faster and less expensive ways to do State business without a loss in quality. It opens a channel of communication between the employee and management that allows these suggestions to be heard. To submit a suggestion or acquire more information, contact HRS or the Office of Personnel Management, DFA Building at Room 201 7th Street & Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Little Rock, AR 72203

Suggestions must be on the official suggestion form and should be detailed and specific. Attach graphs, charts, diagrams, worksheets or supportive papers as needed. Eligible suggestions will be forwarded to a subject matter expert for evaluation.

The evaluation period is 30 calendar days. Payment of award, if any is due, will be at the end of the test period or after the suggestion has been in effect for one year, whichever is less. If an award is given, it will be \$100 or 10% of the amount of the savings, up to a maximum of \$5,000.

Chemical Right-to-Know

You have a right to training and information concerning hazardous chemicals, if any, that are expected to be used on the job. This enables you to minimize your exposure to such chemicals and protect your health, safety and welfare. Contact your supervisor or the DCC Purchasing Department for information regarding chemicals used.

Health Insurance

There are various types of health insurance options. Due to the vast range of coverage by each plan, your questions should be directed to the benefit/insurance specialist in the HRS.

H-7-1-6. DCC Policy and Procedures

General Guidance

DCC policies and procedures (including manuals) on EagleNet and the DCC website contain guidance for agency operations. Divisions and other sections may also publish standard operating procedures (SOP) that are administered and maintained within that division or section. Contact your immediate supervisor for any questions regarding accessing policy or procedure. You are required to read policies that pertain to you, general agency operations, and any job specific policies/procedures.

The DCC policies and procedures include Administrative Regulations issued by the Board, Administrative Directives issued by the DCC Director, and Administrative Memoranda issued by Deputy Directors. Deputy Directors may also publish manuals.

You are responsible for understanding and following applicable policy and procedure. Policy and procedure documents do not reflect or represent every conceivable situation, but provides guidance and common understanding. If you have questions about policy issues, consult your immediate supervisor.

Required Policies and Acknowledgements

You will be asked to sign forms acknowledging awareness of various DCC policies. Some of these policies will be covered in detail during orientation and you will be required to sign acknowledging that you have reviewed and understand them. All agency policies undergo routine review and updating. You are required to keep up-to-date with relevant policies and procedures. These documents are on “EagleNet”.