	ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION STATE OF ARKANSAS BOARD OF CORRECTIONS	Section Number: DCC AR 2.2	Page Number: 1
		Board Approval Date: 09/09/11	
		Supersedes: None	Dated: N/A
		Reference:	Effective Date: 9/30/2011
SUBJECT: Best Practices Fund			

I. AUTHORITY. The Board of Corrections is vested with the authority to promulgate this administrative regulation by Ark. Code Ann. §§ 12-27-105, 16-93-1203 and 16-93-1205.

II. POLICY. It shall be Department of Community Correction (DCC) policy to adhere to State laws, Department of Finance and Administration rules and regulations, and general accounting procedures that govern the collection and disbursement of the Best Practice Fund (BPF). The DCC Director shall ensure the proper recording and tracking of collections and disbursements.

III. APPLICABILITY. This policy applies to DCC staff.

IV. DEFINITIONS.

A. Evidence-based Practices. Policies, procedures and practices proven through research to reliably reduce recidivism.


B. Recidivism. Return to incarceration in an Arkansas Department of Correction (ADC) or DCC correctional facility other than a DCC technical violator program within a three-year period.

V. GUIDELINES.

A. Community Supervision Fee. An offender on probation, parole or transfer status under supervision of the DCC shall pay to the department a \$35 monthly community supervision fee, \$10 of which will be credited to the Best Practices Fund.

B. Best Practices Fund. The Director shall ensure the expenditures from the Best Practices Fund are used to establish and maintain programs and services that implement practices proven to reduce the risk of repeat offense or recidivism, or improve or enhance services, including but not limited to programs that address offender treatment needs, operational enhancements designed to effectively and efficiently monitor and provide services, and IT projects to enhance and analyze offender data. Procedures concerning the BPF shall be established to ensure the following:

1. No less than seventy five percent (75%) of the funds are used by the DCC for direct Services to the offender population it supervises that have been proven, through research, to reduce recidivism among the offender population served.

	ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION STATE OF ARKANSAS BOARD OF CORRECTIONS	Section Number: DCC AR 2.2	Page Number: 2
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2. No more than 25% of the funds may be used at the discretion of the DCC Director to enhance existing and/or new programs and/or services meeting the principles and goals outlined in this policy, of which no more than 10% can be used to train staff managing the offender population in evidence-based practices. Prior to funding, a program or service must be reviewed and approved by the DCC Director. Funding is based upon evidence of reduced risk of repeat offenses or recidivism.
 3. The direct services may be provided by the DCC, and community-based vendors meeting these criteria and serving offenders supervised by DCC.
 4. Programs funded by the Best Practices Fund, whether provided by the DCC, another state agency or contracted private vendor, shall be evidence-based or services assessed as needs with the overall program direction meeting the following criteria:
 - a. Principles. Commitment to use validated assessment tools where applicable and be characterized in the proposed provision of treatment and/or services by the following principles of evidence-based practices:
 - 1) Risk/need – assess actuarial risk;
 - 2) Enhance internal motivation;
 - 3) Target intervention;
 - 4) Skill training with directed practice;
 - 5) Increase positive reinforcement;
 - 6) Engage in on-going support in the community
 - 7) Measure relevant practices; and
 - 8) Provide measurement feedback.
 - b. Goal. The primary program goal shall be to realize an overall effect of reduced recidivism. The program or service will address stabilization or survival needs (e.g. mental health issues, housing, employment, education, detoxification, medical/health issues, transportation, and identification), and/or one or more of the criminogenic risk factors (e.g., substance abuse, antisocial attitudes and values, peers and personalities, low self-control, dysfunctional family relationships).
- C. Evaluation.** Funded programs will be objectively evaluated to determine and/or prove reductions in recidivism.