

INTERSTATE COMPACT BEST PRACTICES



Published by:
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Interstate Compact Best Practices

An Interstate Compact Best Practice is a Successful Goal-Oriented Compact Initiative that has Documented its Efficiency, Effectiveness & Impact in Everyday Practice

What is a Best Practice?

Best Practice is a management idea which asserts that there is a technique, method, process, or activity more effective at delivering a particular outcome than any other technique, method, process etc. It may be considered by some to be a buzzword, but is nonetheless a useful concept. Documentation of a Best Practice describes the process of developing and following a standard way of conducting business related activities that other organizations can adopt for management, policy and even software systems uses.

The adoption of best practices is not new to community corrections. Agencies around the world are developing, implementing and sharing innovative methods. While the Commission has not documented those specific to the Interstate Compact, it is confident they exist. For that reason, the Commission is interested in producing a best practices publication on policies, procedures and practices that, through experience, have reliably led to a desired or optimum result with regard to Interstate Compact operations.

Why Best Practices Work

While each state is unique in structure, the mission and responsibilities with regard to compact operations are similar. For example, all states are involved in training field personnel, sustaining a state council, resolving disputes, etc. In an effort to provide additional technical assistance to the states, the Commission is assembling a publication of best practices for national distribution.

Next Steps

The Commission would like to hear from you. If you have a best practice or a model program in one of the topic areas listed below, or if you would like to suggest a different topic, please call or write the national office.

Suggested topics include, but are not limited to the following:

- Compact office workload distribution/flow
- Activating a state council
- Sustaining an effective state council
- Self assessment tools
- Dispute resolution
- Organizing and delivering compact training to field staff, judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys
- Judicial compliance

The most desirable practices are those that can be duplicated in other jurisdictions with minimal redesign. The program or practice highlighted in the submission must comply with all the rules and opinions of the Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision.

Submissions are categorized by type of submission and subject matter, as outlined below.

Type of Submission

1. Program
2. Policy
3. Procedure

Subject Matter

1. Administration
2. Management
3. Operations
4. Offender Supervision
5. Offender Treatment
6. Training

Submission requirements vary according to the type of submission. Generally, submissions should adhere to the following guidelines:

Program:

1. Include the agency name and contact information for the author.
2. Approved by the Compact Commissioner.
3. Organized to include section headings for title, introduction, development and implementation; supporting data and outcome; and conclusion.
4. The submission should demonstrate the “Best Practice” is evidence based or has been evaluated and has shown its effectiveness for twelve months or more.
5. Must show promise or be capable of replication by other agencies with comparable resources and staffing.
6. Complies with ICAOS rules, opinions and policies.

Policy:

1. Include the agency name and contact information for the author.
2. Approved by the Compact Commissioner
3. A copy of the policy
4. A description of the implementation and evaluation process
5. Must show promise or be capable of replication by other agencies with comparable resources and staffing
6. Complies with ICAOS rules, opinions and policies

Procedure:

1. Include the agency name and contact information for the author.
2. Approved by the Compact Commissioner
3. A description of the procedure
4. A description of the implementation and evaluation process
5. Must show promise or be capable of replication by other agencies with comparable resources and staffing
6. Complies with ICAOS rules, opinions and policies

Submission will be subjected to blind and impartial peer review by at least three members of the ICAOS Executive Committee to determine its applicability to other jurisdictions. If no one on the Executive Committee has expertise in the subject matter of the submission, a reviewer will be identified from another ICAOS standing committee.

The Commission's National Office is available to assist with the development of a submission. For more information regarding the “Compact Best Practices” program contact:

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