



JUSTICE AND
PUBLIC SAFETY CABINET

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FY25 Annual Report**

**Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Kentucky Department of Corrections**

Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report

This Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) report provides an overview of efforts by the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) to implement evidence-based practices to enhance public safety and reduce recidivism. Evidence-based practices (EBP) encompass interventions and supervision programs that scientific research demonstrates reduced instances of criminal activity when implemented.

Part of DOC's mission is to provide opportunities for offenders to acquire pro-social skills, promote successful reentry into the community, and reduce recidivism. DOC has worked diligently to implement evidence-based practices and to provide additional services and support to the justice-involved population since the 2011 Regular Session House Bill 463 was enacted.

DOC's average daily population in FY25 was 19,098. There were 14,170 admissions and 13,847 releases. Offenders sentenced to state custody are housed in state prisons, local jail facilities, halfway houses, and in the community on the home incarceration program. The average daily population of those on active supervision with DOC's Division of Probation and Parole in FY25 was 47,935 individuals.

Reentry programming is provided by members of DOC's Division of Reentry Services staff within communities and state prisons, in conjunction with DOC-approved community partners and vendors. In FY25, the Division of Reentry Services consisted of 114 staff members.

All DOC employees are trained to utilize the following Evidence-Based Staff Practices:

Motivational Interviewing – A cognitive-based interviewing technique taught to all DOC staff that enhances offender engagement in supervision and retention.

Core Correctional Practices – Supervision strategy that teaches DOC staff to apply principles of effective interventions with offenders.

DOC utilizes a program screening tool to review and approve programs for entry in the DOC course catalog. In collaboration with the University of Cincinnati's Corrections Institute (UCCI), DOC developed an evidence-informed screening tool to be used in the program selection process. This tool identifies key areas to consider, such as: research availability to show how the program reduced recidivism and/or improved other key outcomes; adherence to risk, need, and responsivity principles; and outcome measures. The tool also reviews other key factors an agency should consider when implementing a new program, such as cost and training requirements. Additionally, this tool has helped DOC identify the amount of completion credit an approved program should receive.

DOC offers three types of programs in addition to educational courses: Evidence-Based Programs; Promising Practices Programs; and Life Skills Programs. Promising practices are programs and strategies that have some research or data showing positive outcomes, but do not have enough evidence yet to meet the standard of an evidence-based program. Life skills programs remove barriers to successful reintegration into the community and address skill areas, including time management, money management, use of technology, communication, and social skills.

In FY25, DOC offered 77 different programs and courses, 40 of which were Evidence-Based. The listings can be found in three different course catalogs, depending on the location of the offerings (Community, Local Facilities, and Adult Institutions). There is also a full education course catalog for educational courses and technical classes offered statewide. The course catalogs provide a description of the program; time frame; applicable good time credits for completion; admission criteria; applicable policies; and locations. The KY DOC course catalog(s) undergo recurring updates to reflect program availability. The most recent versions of the course catalog(s) are made available to the DOC population at the applicable locations, as well as publicly on the DOC website.

Fiscal Year 2025: Programs and Practices

Moral Reconation Therapy (MRT)	MRT Mentor	MRT Anger Management	MRT Parenting	MRT Staying Quit
MRT Thinking for Good	MRT Untangling Relationships	MRT Trauma	Employment Program	Getting Started
Go Further	RHU Short Term Behavioral Modification	RHU Administrative Behavioral Modification	RHU Extended Behavioral Modification	RHU Transitional Behavioral Modification
Threshold	Challenges	Challenges-SHARE	Challenges-SHARE Mentor	MEE Journaling Series
Substance Abuse Program (SAP)	SAP Mentor	Outpatient SAP	Substance Abuse Program Co-Occurring Disorder (SAP- COD)	SAP-COD Mentor
Supporting Others in Active Recovery (SOAR)	SOAR Mentor	Supportive Assistance with Medication for Treatment (SAMAT)	Reentry Service Center/ Recovery Kentucky Center SAP	Reentry Service Center/ Recovery Kentucky Center SAP Mentor
Pretrial Substance Abuse Program- PSAP	SAP DOC Approved Community Program	SAP VOA Halfway Back Program	Comprehensive Outpatient Program- Community SAP	Supportive Housing for Adaptive Reentry- Co- Occurring (SHARE- CO)
The Bridges Program	The Bridges Program Mentor	Sex Offender Treatment Program	Sex Offender Treatment Program- Private Providers	Supportive Housing for Adaptive Reentry- Serious Mental Illness (SHARE-SMI)

1 Life Skills Program- PORTAL New Directions / 1 Promising Practice Program- STAR A-wing

Program Completions

The following table represents program completions for FY25 Evidence-Based Programs, Promising Practices Programs, Life Skills Programs, and Vocational/Education Course completions. This number is inclusive of the entire Department of Corrections population (inmates in all housing statuses and on community supervision):

Program / Course Type	Completions
Academic - Vocational	1,297
Evidence-Based	33,655
Life Skills	3,752
Promising Practices	15
Total	38,719

Expenditures

During FY25, DOC spent approximately \$31.5 million for evidence-based programming by utilizing General, Federal, Senate Bill 192, Restricted and Kentucky Centralized Inmate Commissary, Inc. (KCIC) funds. Details of the expenditures for these programs are listed in the below table. It should be noted that KCIC/Canteen funds are from inmate purchases that are used for programming for the population.

FY25 Evidence Based Program Expenditures					
Program	General Fund	Federal Fund	SB192 Fund	Restricted Fund	KCIC/Canteen
Substance Abuse	\$ 18,720,000	\$ 474,585	\$ 2,657,781	\$ 1,658,207	\$ 16,917
Sex Offender Treatment Program	\$ 2,860,837				
Education	\$ 5,889,020	\$ 34,281		\$ 44,762	\$ 57,191
MRT	\$ 669,800				\$ 118,366
Total	\$ 28,139,656	\$ 508,866	\$ 2,657,781		\$ 192,474
					\$ 31,498,777

Efforts to Increase Success

After a review of various interdepartmental policies and procedures, amendments were made in FY25 to increase reentry success for the DOC population. These include:

- Addition of one (1) new program for the population and seven (7) new Educational / Vocational Courses:

Program Addition:

1. **Challenges-Share Mentor** - The Challenges-Share Mentor Program targets graduates of the Challenges-Share Program who have demonstrated significant personal growth in their treatment needs and have a desire to assist others attain similar goals.

Education / Vocational Course Additions:

1. **Aquaponics** – Introduction to aquaponics and work ready skills, which provides students with a competency credential for understanding how this sustainable farming method (a combination of aquaculture {raising fish} and hydroponics {soilless plant cultivation} creates an interconnected, self-sustaining cycle. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive a National Occupational Competency Testing Institute (NOCTI) Competency credential.
2. **Commercial Learner's Permit** – This course is designed to prepare students for a commercial learner's permit leading to licensure prep readiness. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) General Industry credential (as applicable) and Kentucky Commercial Learner's Permit.
3. **Construction Craft Laborer** – This course is designed to be an introduction to the construction industry and work ready skills. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive a National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) transcript.
4. **Cosmetology** – This course is designed to prepare students for Kentucky cosmetology licensure. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive a Kentucky cosmetology license (upon application & approval by the Kentucky Board of Cosmetology).
5. **Plumbing** – This course is designed to introduce Plumbing and work ready skills. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive a NCCER course transcript.
6. **Ironworkers Pre-Apprenticeship** – This course is designed to be an introduction to the ironworking trade and help prepare individuals to enter and succeed in a Registered Apprenticeship Program. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive an OSHA Construction 10-Hour card (as applicable).

7. **Painters Pre-Apprenticeship (Career Readiness)** – This Career Readiness Course is designed to be an introduction to the finishing trades and help prepare individuals to enter and succeed in a Registered Apprenticeship Program. Students successfully completing this course of study will receive an OSHA Construction 30-Hour card (as applicable).

- Formalization of designated Institutional Reentry Centers in each state-operated Adult Institution. An Institutional Reentry Center is a physical space located inside each prison where inmates who are within eighteen (18) months of possible release can visit and participate in activities to assist in their planning and preparation for successful release.
- As part of Institutional Reentry Center operations, the Division of Reentry Services schedules and oversees a series of workshops at state-operated prisons:

Workshop Topic
Life Skills
Employment Opportunities
Resource Assistance
Mental Health
Health Education (Healthcare Discharge Planning)
Addiction Services
Records
Probation & Parole Supervision
Continuing Education

- Expansion of Second Chance State Government Employment connecting justice-involved clients with state government jobs. This project began March 2024 as a pilot partnership between DOC and Kentucky State Parks at one state park. During FY25, this was expanded to include additional state government agencies. In total, twelve (12) individuals have been hired on as state government employees since the inception of the pilot.
- Collaboration with community entities enhancing reentry services:
 - The Division of Addiction Services provides additional non-12-step support to all the institutions to help the inmates have outlets without having to be in SAP. These sessions also allow them to have access to more information for resources when they are released. Informational pages have been added to not only give the inmates information but also gives access to their family members.
 - Family Engagement Sessions were made available to all SAP clients' families and participation allowed for an extended family visit at most institutions. The

family engagement sessions were also offered at different times to accommodate working families. All inmates and their family members are provided with resources during sessions.

- The Division of Education collaborated with community and state agency partners to obtain funding needed to expand educational and vocational opportunities.
- Expansion of technology to include inmate tablet use for postsecondary distance instruction.

Fiscal Year 2026 Department of Corrections Goals

DOC remains committed to creating a better, safer Kentucky by reducing recidivism in FY26 through the following strategies:

- Continued focus on programming to ensure consistency across all areas of program delivery.
- Continued expansion of Reentry Centers across state prisons. Provide on-going assessment of and relevant updates to the content provided during informational workshops, collaborative family reunification efforts, educational services, employer engagement, and targeted medical/mental health efforts.
- Full implementation of Consolidations Appropriations Act (CAA) and Medicaid 1115 Waiver process in state prisons. This allows a variety of needed services for the incarcerated to be funded by Medicaid while providing enhanced targeted case management (TCM) ensuring those released from incarceration are being released with needs being addressed.
- A continued focus on educational course pathways to ensure consistency and high-quality instruction across the state.
- Continued collaboration with community and state agency partners to enhance and expand educational and vocational reentry initiatives.
- Expanding access to SAP for clients in adult institutions. SAP will be made available in additional locations to enable inmates to remain connected to their vocational/reentry goals as well as address their substance use treatment needs.