

The following is a summarized list of questions and answers from the audience of the IIBF Public Meeting on October 24, 2024, and from the IIBF Question Inbox.

Question :	Answer:
<p>For music rooms, will this still require a hobby fee for them to use it? Or will it be free?</p>	<p>Our current policy doesn't require a fee for music room usage. We are not planning on having a fee associated with it. The sign-up process will be handled at the facility level.</p>
<p>AHCC said they would have an increase in travel and lodging reimbursement, but I haven't seen an increase. It's currently \$50 a visit to cover either transportation or lodging. When will the increase happen?</p> <p>Were there any changes to the program and if so, what were the changes? The dollars allocated for Transportation and the dollars for Lodging have remained the same even though the number of visits increased. Why was there no increase in the dollars budgeted?</p>	<p>DOC has a workgroup developing proposals to improve the program. Meetings have occurred where input from Statewide Family Council representatives was shared and is being considered in the final proposal. Further work is necessary, and we intend to have final proposals to share with leadership by the end of November.</p>

<p>Would it be possible to allow out-of-state guests the full \$100 for one trip since they travel less often? The addresses are on the application form so you can see where people are traveling from.</p>	
<p>When you revise policy don't you put it up for feedback from the public?</p>	<p>There are two family representatives from the IIBF budget committee also involved with the IIBF policy renewal and are members of the IIBF policy work group to provide their feedback. All DOC policies are available for comment by anyone at any time by submitting input through the Policy Feedback survey, which is posted to the DOC public website at https://doc.wa.gov/information/policies/feedback-survey.htm</p>
<p>What's the estimated total fund balance after the 1.3M in expenditures? Including revenue?</p>	<p>The current fund balance of IIBF is \$12M before considering the 1.3M in supplement budget proposals. It is important to keep in mind that the FCC ruling that eliminated the commission of on phone calls will eliminate most revenue to the IIBF, thus it will impact the fund balance. DOC has not fully outlined the impacts of the ruling but plans to complete it soon. The effective date is January 2026 for the current contract with Securus. We plan to prepare projections in the coming months for end of the year to obtain this figure.</p>

<p>Is there a reason the cultural program hasn't been spent? I think we are confused as to what "cultural" covers. DOC cannot use IIBF funds for cultural funds since that doesn't affect the majority of the population, has the policy changed?</p>	<p>With the clear guidelines from the Corrections Program, the facilities started to decide how to spend the funds last fiscal year, such as meal enhancements and to spend on cultural-related vents. IIBF policy states that \$5 will be used for cultural programs. It doesn't have to be a limited cultural event; it's meant to be for learning and growth for everyone. Some of these events are multicultural, where different kinds of foods are available for everyone. The policy hasn't changed, but we are focused on using funds to benefit the entire population.</p>
<p>IIBF funds are being used in facilities to beautify, SCCC is planning on making a koi pond, will they use IIBF funds for that? I'm concerned that is not for the incarcerated.</p>	<p>Beautification projects have not been approved yet with IIBF funding. If the facility wants to use IIBF for the pond it would need to be in the area where most of the incarcerated population can access it.</p> <p>Washington Way and Amend will not use IIBF funds for DOC staff participation.</p>
<p>Why hasn't the FY25 budget been posted on the website? Even the facilities reports for FY25 are missing and we are going into Q2</p>	<p>The approved FY25 IIBF budget document has been posted on the DOC IIBF web page. The IIBF Quarterly Budget to Actual Report was presented at the IIBF quarterly public meeting on October 24 and all facilities IIBF reports are now available at the DOC public website IIBF web page.</p>
<p>How can each facility get set up for a recycling program? With the very small dollar amount on the reports, it appears that not many facilities are</p>	<p>The recycling revenue comes from designated incarcerated individuals visiting room. There are no revenue projections for this type of revenue as it depends on the facility that has the recycling program and to collect recyclable items such as plastic, and aluminum cans from these areas.</p>

<p>recycling. Who is to ensure the funding will be used for EFV and visiting improvement?</p>	<p>Facilities must weigh on the cost to participate in the recycling program at the visit room and how much of the commission will receive from that. Vending commission revenue is part of the overall revenue stream and not limited to supporting EFV and visiting only.</p>
<p>How does the vending machine commission work? Is the commission from the overage or markup of the product or is there a certain percentage that will be deposited into the IIBF?</p>	<p>The vending machine revenue comes from the commissions from the visitation area. The revenue projection is based on the previous fiscal year's actual revenue that received in IIBF. The Department of Services for the Blind owns all vending machine contracts for DOC, and commission rates vary by vendor and by contract.</p>
<p>What will be included in the Holiday/Big game bags this year?</p>	<p>There will be a discussion on the items between facilities and the vendor. There will be a survey to the II as well, a similar process to last year. We have increased the dollar amount on the budget for 13% to ensure there are enough items to support all incarcerated individuals.</p>
<p>Incarcerated individuals aren't always asked or have a say in how they would like to see the money spent for their betterment. Staff are the ones making the calls on what to spend for the facilities</p>	<p>As part of the IIBF policy renewal process, we are working on creating a document called "How to request the IIBF funding" to support the families/loved ones and incarcerated population to request IIBF funding for events/activities. The workgroup is working on finalizing the document.</p>

<p>and the purchases often aren't what the incarcerated or families would like. Staff running the local family councils often don't request, take feedback, or deny everything requested. Can a memo and/or training be provided to the staff that is managing the LFC and IIBF budget? They should not exclude the population and families from decision-making and request for their facility</p>	
<p>If a facility would like to have a movie night for the population in their gym, do they need to have a special permit to watch a movie in a larger setting? How much would that be from IIBF? When requested our CPM stated we would have to pay for a very pricey motion picture permit to play a DVD movie because it was against some law or rule to show a movie in a larger public setting for the men.</p>	<p>DOC enhanced the public performance movie license contract with Swank Motion Pictures in FY24 and has significantly improved movie options. The public performance movie license under IIBF covers all prison and reentry facilities to show movies whose production companies work with Swank except FOX. The facility just has to verify that what they intend to show whether via DVD or automatic stream is from one of the allowed production companies.</p>