

Use of Debit Card for Inmate Release Funds

Jurisdiction	Please provide the contact information for the person completing the survey:				How does your agency provide release funds to inmates? (please select all that apply)				
	Agency:	Name and Title:	Phone:	Email:	Cash	Check	Debit Card	Other	Other (please specify)/Comment:
Alabama	Alabama Department of Corrections	Robert Brantley, Asst. Finance Director	334-353-5561	robert.brantley@doc.alabama.gov		Check	Debit Card		Inmates with balances over \$5,000 may receive checks for their balances. If an inmate prefers a check it is up to the warden's discretion.
Arizona	Arizona Department of Corrections	Michael Hawthorne, CPA	602-364-3371	mhawthorne@azcorrections.gov		Check	Debit Card		
Arkansas	Arkansas Department of Correction	Tiffanye Compton, Research & Planning Administrator	870-267-6335	tiffanye.compton@arkansas.gov		Check	Debit Card		None Work Release Inmates receive a debt card. Any amount over \$3,000.00 will be issued to the Inmate in the form of a check up to \$3,000.00. Work Release Inmates receive a check.
Colorado	Colorado Department of Corrections	Jill Hynes, Cashier	719-269-4023	jill.hynes@state.co.us	Cash	Check	Debit Card		* Mostly debit cards

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Florida	Florida Department of Corrections	Jeffrey R. Straley, Financial Administrator	850-717-3850	straley.jeff@mail.dc.state.fl.us	Cash		Debit Card		
Georgia	GA Dept Corrections / Consolidated Banking Unit	Tonya Wharton, A.O.C. II	478-992-6299	whartt01@dcor.state.ga.us		Check	Debit Card		
Idaho	Idaho Corrections	Brent Reinke, Director	208-658-2139	breinke@idco.idaho.gov		Check			
Illinois	Illinois Department of Corrections	Jared Brunk, CFO	217-558-2200 x2029	Jared.Brunk@doc.illinois.gov	Cash	Check			
Indiana	Indiana Dept of Correction	Tina Little, Regional Finance Director	317-232-5748	tlittle@idoc.in.gov		Check	Debit Card		

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Kansas	Kansas Department of Corrections	Judy Curtis, Account V	785-273-6484	JudyC@doc.ks.gov				Other	The offender must sign an Authorization Agreement, and have a social security number in order to receive his/her trust fund balance and/or gratuity on a debit card. When an offender has over \$55 in their trust fund account plus gratuity, \$50 cash is given him/her with the balance placed on the debit card or on a check is mailed to the address provided by the offender. If the offender has \$55 or less in their trust fund plus gratuity, the entire amount is given to him/her in cash. Offenders released to detainers will be issued a check if staff determines he/she will be incarcerated for a significant amount of time.
Kentucky	Kentucky Department of Corrections	Stephen W. Castle, Director of Administrative Services	502-782-2278	StephenW.Castle@ky.gov			Debit Card		
Louisiana	Louisiana	Joey Bielkiewicz, Deputy Undersecretary	225-342-6575	jebielk@corrections.state.la.us		Check	Debit Card		
Maryland	Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services	Randy Watson, Director Programs and Services	410-585-3303	RWatson@dpscs.state.md.us	Cash	Check			
Massachusetts	Massachusetts Department of Correction	Walter Stowe, Director of Support Services		wjstowe@doc.state.ma.us	Cash	Check			

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Michigan	Michigan Department of Corrections	Carol A. Wilson, Region Business Administrator	517-780-6076	wilsonc5@michigan.gov	Cash		Debit Card		
Minnesota	Minnesota Department of Corrections	Paula Baumeister, OAS Principal	651-361-7228	paula.baumeister@state.mn.us	Cash	Check			Offenders get a minimum of \$100 in cash and the remainder in a check. Facilities use their discretion in giving more, if the amount over \$100 is nominal they may choose to give all in cash.
Mississippi	Mississippi Dept of Corrections	Luticia Scott, Inmate Banking Supervisor	601-359-5668	lscott@mdoc.state.ms.us				Other	Western Union
Montana	Montana Department of Corrections	Rhonda Schaffer, Administrator	406-444-4939	rschaffer@mt.gov		Check			
Nebraska	Nebraska Department of Correctional Services	Inga Hookstra, Controller	402-479-5766	inga.hookstra@nebraska.gov		Check			
New Mexico	New Mexico Corrections Department	Gregg Marcantel, Secretary of Corrections	505-827-8884	Gregg.Marcantel@state.nm.us		Check			
New York	New York State Department of Corrections & Community Supervision	Sandra Downey, Director of Budget & Finance	518-457-5604	Sandra.Downey@doccs.ny.gov		Check			

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North Carolina	NC Dept of Public Safety	Melissa B. Earp, Asst Director for Admin Services	919-838-3766	melissa.earp@ncdps.gov			Debit Card	Other	Money orders are made payable to the inmate releasing for any amount above \$2,499, which is what can be loaded on the release debit card.
North Dakota	ND DOCR	Nora Jangula, Director of Finance	701-328-6101	njjangula@nd.gov	Cash	Check	Debit Card		
Ohio	Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction	Michelle Matheron, Data Admin Mgr	614-752-1306	michelle.matheron@odrc.state.oh.us	Cash	Check	Debit Card		Debit cards are provided by only one ODRC institution, which is actually managed by a private corporation, not by the State of Ohio / ODRC. Remaining responses are based on issuance of debit cards for release from that institution.

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Oklahoma	Oklahoma Dept of Corrections	Leon Wilson, Comptroller OBS	405-425-2786	leon.wilson@doc.state.ok.us		Check	Debit Card		
Oregon	Oregon Department of Corrections (ODOC)	Bob Culp, Trust Manager	503-378-5872	Bob.A.Culp@DOC.State.OR.US		Check	Debit Card		

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Tennessee	Tennessee Department of Correction	Joe Wolfe-Mazeres, Accounting Manager	615-253-8100	joe.wolfe-mazeres@tn.gov		Check	Debit Card		According to the vendor, Release Cards are not technically Debit Cards.
Texas	Texas Department of Criminal Justice	Stacie Tatom, Accountant VI	936-437-8115	stacie.tatom@tdcj.state.tx.us		Check			

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Utah	Utah Department of Corrections	Wendy Horlacher, Regional Administrator	801-239-2121	wendyhorlacher@utah.gov		Check			
Virginia	Virginia Department of Corrections	Stephen T. Seldon, Manager, Financial Systems and Reporting	804-887-7838 x77838	steve.seldon@vadoc.virginia.gov	Cash	Check	Debit Card		
West Virginia	WV Division of Corrections	Patti Withrow, Director of Admin.	304-558-2036	patti.j.withrow@wv.gov	Cash				We are currently in the bid proposal process to have debt cards.
33 Responses					11	26	17	3	

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Jurisdiction	If your agency uses debit cards to provide inmate release funds, what vendor/bank provides this service?	If your agency uses a debit card to provide inmate release funds, is there a fee charged to the inmate to use this service?		If your agency uses a debit card for inmate release funds, is there a minimum amount that can be loaded on the debit card?		If your agency uses a debit card for inmate release funds, is there a maximum amount that can be loaded on the debit card?		If your agency uses debit cards for inmate release funds, does your agency have written policy for releasing funds through debit cards?	If your agency has a written policy for releasing funds through debit cards, how long has it been in place?
	Open-Ended Response	Response	If yes, what is the fee to the inmate	Response	If yes, what is the minimum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	If yes, what is the maximum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	Response
Alabama	Keefe Commissary	Yes	Inmate has 5 days after activation to remove the funds from the card before the weekly maintenance fee starts. Inmate can get funds free of charge by requesting cash back during a purchase.	No		Yes	\$5,000	No	Six months to one year
Arizona	Bank of America	Yes	ADC does not charge. See Bank of America fee schedule.	No		Yes	\$20,000	Yes	Two to three years
Arkansas	US Bank		Not from the Arkansas Department of Correction. However, if the Inmate wants a cash advance, the bank will charge \$3.00, ATM-.99 cents and signature or debit is free.	No		Yes	\$3,000	No	Three to four years
Colorado	JPAY	Yes	\$2.00 at ATM; \$.70 per transaction swipe	Yes	\$25.00	Yes	\$2,500	Yes	More than five years

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	Open-Ended Response	Response	If yes, what is the fee to the inmate	Response	If yes, what is the minimum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	If yes, what is the maximum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	Response
Florida	JPay, Inc. is the Vendor.	No	Note, for ATM Withdrawals as long as the inmate uses ATM's with MoneyPass they will not be charged a fee. If they use an ATM without MoneyPass they will be charged a transaction fee.	Yes	\$1.00	Yes	\$2,499.99, this amount is set by the Credit Card Company.	N/A	Six months to one year
Georgia	J Pay	Yes	There is a transaction fee. When the card is swiped as a credit card it charges .70. If used as an ATM there is a \$2.00 fee charged.	No		Yes	\$500	No	More than five years
Idaho	Idaho issues checks, no debit cards at this time.								
Illinois									
Indiana	JPay	No		Yes	IDOC policy is minimum \$5	No	\$2,500	Yes	More than five years

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Kansas	Skylight Financial, Inc.	Yes	The Kansas Department of Corrections charges the offender a \$3.00 fee, which is our cost for the debit card pack. The contract between the Kansas Department of Corrections and Skylight Financial, Inc. establishes the rates the vendor may charge the offender for each type of service.			No			More than five years
Kentucky	Chase	No		No		Yes	\$5,000	Yes	More than five years
Louisiana	JPay and Whitney Bank	Yes	12.95	Yes	\$20.00	Yes	\$1,000	Yes	Two to three years
Maryland	N/A								
Massachusetts									

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Michigan	JPAY	No	Initially there is no fee to withdraw funds but if the inmate elects to keep the card certain fees are applied.	Yes	\$15.00	No		Yes	Four to five years
Minnesota	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A	N/A	
Mississippi	MDOC does not use debit cards.		N/A		N/A		N/A	N/A	
Montana	Debit Cards are not used at this time.							N/A	
Nebraska				No					
New Mexico								N/A	
New York									

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	Open-Ended Response	Response	If yes, what is the fee to the inmate	Response	If yes, what is the minimum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	If yes, what is the maximum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	Response
North Carolina	The vendor used is JPay.	Yes	There is a \$3 activation fee, a monthly fee of \$6 and a replacement card fee of \$5. All other services are free (such as purchases, customer service, inactivity, ATM withdraw, balance inquiry, etc.)	Yes	The minimum amount is \$25, but that was determined by our agency and not the vendor.	Yes	\$2,499. Larger amounts can be loaded if we can provide the inmate's SS# to the vendor in time for the release to happen.	No	Six months or less
North Dakota	US Bank	No		Yes	\$10.00	Yes	\$40,000	Yes	Three to four years
Ohio	ReleasePay.com, which is part of Rapid Financial Solutions, which is part of Cache Valley Bank.	Yes	Unless the funds are used within 36 hours of issuance, there are fees associated with use of the card. Please see the fee rate schedule at www.releasepay.com .	Yes	Per ODRC policy, \$25.01. Per ReleasePay, \$0.01.	Yes	Per ODRC policy, \$500.00. Per ReleasePay, \$9,700.00.	Yes	Six months to one year

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	Open-Ended Response	Response	If yes, what is the fee to the inmate	Response	If yes, what is the minimum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	If yes, what is the maximum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	Response
Oklahoma	JPay	Yes	3	No	Oklahoma state law dictates that offenders discharge with \$50	Yes	\$7,500	Yes	Six months to one year
Oregon	ODOC has an agreement with Department of Human Services (DHS) who owns the data base that is used for the Oregon Trail card. ODOC staff have access to upload data into the system. This card is also used by DHS to provide food stamps or other assistance once the inmate has released.	Yes	There is a .85 cent charge for each time if you withdraw cash more than two times a month in addition to ATM fees. there is no charge for purchasing food or other items	Yes	only even dollars are placed on the account, .99 cents or less is collected as a service fee.	Yes	15,000 a check will be provided for additional funds.	No	More than five years

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Tennessee	JPay (Praxell is the subcontractor used by JPAY)	Yes	IDOC does not charge fees. Depending upon the method of access/use bank or card fees may apply. See below for a list of fees charged by our vendor. Fees are customizable per agency, but the attached shows the current fees for Tennessee inmates. Administrative Fees Monthly Account Maintenance \$0.50 Paper Statement \$1.50 Card, Materials, Initial Load & Activation FREE Inactivity (applied after 90 days) \$2.99 Cancellation \$9.95 Replacement Card \$5.00 Spending and Getting Cash PIN POS Purchase \$0.70 PIN POS Purchase - International \$3.00 POS Signature \$0.70 POS Signature - International \$3.00 Decline of Transaction \$0.50 Decline of Transaction - International \$1.50 ATM (MoneyPass) (Surcharge FREE ATM) Yes ATM \$2.00 - Additional ATM surcharge fee may apply. ATM-International \$4.00 - Additional ATM surcharge fee may apply. ATM-Balance Inquiry \$0.50 ATM-Balance Inquiry International \$1.50 Declined ATM Transaction \$0.50 Cash Back at POS FREE - subject to \$0.70 PIN fee Card to Bank Funds Sharing FREE Bank Cash Advance \$9.95 Foreign Transaction Fee 1%	Yes	\$5.00 is the total minimum for a release card.	Yes	\$2,500 is the maximum that can be loaded.	Yes	One to two years
Texas	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A	N/A	

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	Open-Ended Response	Response	If yes, what is the fee to the inmate	Response	If yes, what is the minimum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	If yes, what is the maximum amount that can be loaded on the card?	Response	Response		
Utah											
Virginia	Two pilot sites: One utilizing GTL (RapidReleasePay) and the other J-Pay (Prepaid MasterCard).	No		No		Yes		Yes	Six months or less		
West Virginia											
33 Responses		Yes - 11		Yes - 10		Yes - 15		Yes - 6	Six months or less - 2		
		No - 6		No - 8		No - 3		No - 11	6 - 12 months - 4		

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Jurisdiction	Agency uses a debit card for inmate funds, how long has the agency used debit cards?	If your agency uses debit cards for release of inmate funds, is the process managed by agency staff or a third party vendor?		If your agency uses a debit card for inmate release funds, is there a fee charged for the inmate to use the card to get cash from a bank teller?	If your agency uses a debit card for inmate release funds, can all the funds be withdrawn from the debit card at one time or only in increments?		Please provide any other information about your agency's experience using debit cards for inmate release funds.
	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Alabama		Other	Funds are loaded and cards are distributed by our department's business managers. All other processing is handled by Rapid Financial a subcontractor of Keefe.	Yes	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		The program has worked well for ADOC. I would recommend you pick your most capable business office and start the program at one facility until you are sure the vendor has adapted the system to your individual needs. It is interesting to note that we have not received one complaint.
Arizona		Managed by agency employees		Yes	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		Bank of America fee schedule being provided in an e-mail to jfenton@asca.net
Arkansas		Managed by a third party vendor		Yes	Other	The Inmate can withdraw all the funds down unless the bank has a limit.	The use of debit cards has been a cost savings tool for our agency; also, the Inmate has the benefits of avoiding check cashing fees; the Inmate has easier access to their funds as well as it broadens the Inmate's purchasing power.
Colorado		Managed by agency employees		Yes	Funds must be withdrawn in increments	Funds have to be withdrawn in increments at ATM	Call me with any questions.

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	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Florida	We are presently in a Pilot Program. One Correctional Institution and One Work Release Center is presently using Debit Cards.	Managed by agency employees		No	Funds must be withdrawn in increments		We are presently in a Pilot Program with began in January 2014. One Correctional Institution Jefferson CI and one Work Release Center, Tallahassee WRC presently use debit cards. We had a few issues when we started, which is normal but we have resolved and will begin bringing the rest of Correctional Facilities on board in the next few months. We have found that the use of Debit Cards is huge time saver for the staff at Jefferson CI and TWRC.
Georgia		Managed by agency employees		No	N/A		Question #10: Answered as "No", however, it is not applicable. The card can only be used at an ATM.
Idaho							
Illinois							
Indiana		Managed by agency employees		Yes	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		

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	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Kansas		Other	The current process used is that agency employees are responsible for uploading the data and wiring the funds to Skylight Financial, Inc. From that point in time, the banking relationship is between the offender and Skylight Financial.	Yes	Other	The offender may use a Skylight Financial check to withdraw all the funds. If an ATM is used, then there may be incremental limits.	The Kansas Department of Corrections implemented debit cards when we moved from decentralized to centralized inmate banking. Debit cards allow the offenders quicker access to their funds, which helps them, be more successful in the early days of their release. In addition, the Kansas Department of Corrections viewed debit cards as a means to reduce fraud associated with the inmate trust fund checks.
Kentucky		Managed by agency employees		No	Funds must be withdrawn in increments		
Louisiana		Managed by agency employees		No	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		The experience has been great and allows offenders to get their funds faster and with less hassle than using a check.
Maryland							
Massachusetts							

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	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Michigan		Managed by a third party vendor		Yes	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		
Minnesota	N/A	N/A - do not use debit cards			N/A		
Mississippi	N/A	N/A - do not use debit cards			N/A		
Montana		N/A - do not use debit cards			N/A		The department is currently participating in the purchasing process to acquire debit card services.
Nebraska							Use of debit cards for release was included in a State of Nebraska contract. The vendor awarded this contract provides debit cards to Nebraska state agencies for various uses. The bank would have to develop a process for this to be implemented and would require changes to our Inmate Accounting System which have not been completed.
New Mexico		N/A - do not use debit cards			N/A		
New York							NYS DOCCS released an RFP for Commissary and Banking services in December 2013. In the RFP, we requested slotions for debit cards upon release, debit cards for Work Release as Day Reporting.

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	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
North Carolina	We started this as a pilot program in January 2014 and have expanded to 2 more facilities since January giving us a total of only 4 facilities using this feature at this time	Managed by agency employees		No	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		This has been a good experience for us and we would recommend it to other states.
North Dakota		Managed by agency employees		Yes	Funds must be withdrawn in increments	Amounts less than \$300 can be withdrawn at one time and amounts over \$300 must be withdrawn in increments which may vary by each individual bank.	The use of the debit release cards has gone very well. Once the inmate leaves with the debit release card any questions they may have are addressed by calling the 1-800 number on the back of their debit release card.
Ohio	Current use started mid-December 2013. Pilot program in 2008 ran for 15 months.	Other	Process is managed by staff at one privately-managed institution. ODRC staff is not involved.	Yes	Other	Per ReleasePay, up to \$3,500.00 may be withdrawn in one day (max of 10 ATM withdrawals). However, entire balance may be requested by check or transferred to a checking account in a US financial institution (fee applies).	RE #10 - per ReleasePay, there is no fee if the bank is a "Principle MasterCard Member Institution"; other banks may impose fees. ODRC ran a 15-month pilot in 2008-09; at that time, release debit cards were not pursued as a viable option due to the duplicate data entry required. Updates to systems reduced the amount of duplicate data entry, and the one institution now issuing release debit cards is pleased with the process.

Use of Debit Card for Inmate Release Funds

Jurisdiction	Agency uses a debit card for inmate funds, how long has the agency used debit cards?	If your agency uses debit cards for release of inmate funds, is the process managed by agency staff or a third party vendor?		If your agency uses a debit card for inmate release funds, is there a fee charged for the inmate to use the card to get cash from a bank teller?	If your agency uses a debit card for inmate release funds, can all the funds be withdrawn from the debit card at one time or only in increments?		Please provide any other information about your agency's experience using debit cards for inmate release funds.
	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Oklahoma	We just past 6 months and are loving it.	Managed by agency employees	We load the cards ourselves and anything more difficult is handled by the vendor.	No	Other	ATM's are limited to the amount that can be withdrawn at one time or per day (differing amounts). A teller can remove all the funds at once.	We love the JPay cards. We had reservations at first because changes cause fear. We have to discharge all offenders who are going to the street with \$50. Our process for getting the funds to bring offenders up to \$50 if they did not have it was difficult and time consuming at best. To get a discharge check signed involves a lot of walking or waiting and sometimes both. JPay's process lessened our work load. We setup our offender banking system so that once we discharge an offender, it sets up an accounts payable to wait for the monthly bill from JPay. We cut two checks per month the way we have it set up for the whole agency. One check is for the amount from the offender's accounts and the other is for any gate money we give the offender and bus tickets.
Oregon		Managed by agency employees	DHS owns the data system, DOC staff upload information on it.	Yes	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		A charge of .85 cents each time a cash withdraw more than two times per month.

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	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Tennessee		Managed by agency employees	Agency staff load, reload/modify cards and are responsible for reconciling all transactions. JPAY handles funds transfer and card administration through a subcontractor (Praxell).	No	Other	Funds can be withdrawn all at once or in increments. Additionally the card may be activated and additional funds added for continuous use.	Overall our experience has been positive. We have greatly reduced the issuance of checks and the resulting processing involved in issuing, canceling, and accounting for unclaimed funds. We currently only use Release cards for Inmate Trust Account balances, but we are exploring using the cards for distribution of Gate Money (i.e money provided to certain inmates by statute). Our vendor serves as customer service for released inmates with card issues (lost cards, etc.) which reduces workload for prison staff. Additional Note Question 10: Our vendor indicates that it is not currently possible to get cash from a teller using the release card, but this feature may be available in the coming months. There may be a fee associated with this, but this has not been determined yet.
Texas	N/A	N/A - do not use debit cards			N/A		N/A

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	Comment:	Response	Other (please specify)/Comment:	Response	Response	Other (please specify)	Open-Ended Response
Utah							We talked several years ago about having debit cards but for some reason it just never happened in Utah.
Virginia		Managed by agency employees		Yes	All funds can be withdrawn at one time		
West Virginia		N/A - do not use debit cards			N/A		
33 Responses		N/A - 6		Yes - 11	N/A - 7		
		Agency - 13		No - 7	All funds can be withdrawn at one time - 8		
		Third Party - 2			Funds must be withdrawn in increments - 4		
		Other - 3					