

2013-14 Program Review
Best Practices Form

Instructions: *Submit this form as a separate attachment with your completed Program Review.* Programs often do something particularly well; usually they have learned through assessment—sometimes trial and error—what solves a problem or makes their programs work so well. These are often called **Best Practices** and can help others. Please share the practices your program has found to be effective. The contact information lets others know whom to contact for more information. This part of Program Review is linked to the Student Success Strategic Goal: “Become an exemplary model of student success by developing and implementing best practices.” For examples of Best Practices visit the [Program Review Committee’s website](#).

Program/Department: *Human Services/Behavioral Science*

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Best Practice(s):

The ‘Best Practice’ for the Bakersfield College Human Services program is the **combination** of on-site internship coupled with classroom instruction/discussion.

The Human Services program currently has approx. 20 community agencies that provide an on-site intern experience for our Human Services majors. Students shadow after a human services professional for the length of a full semester. The supervisors at the agencies submit a detailed evaluation of the intern they have mentored. The final grade is a combination of classroom requirements and the agency evaluation.

The class component of HMSV B5 has proven **invaluable**. The success of the BC Human Services program depends not only on the intern site experience, but also what takes place in the classroom. Unlike internships at other universities, our students have a “base” to find support and encouragement in the classroom environment. Challenges, successes, problems and concerns that students may experience at their site, are confidentially addressed during weekly class sessions as well as having a Human Services program office where the coordinator offers guidance.

The supervisors from our partnering agencies express gratitude that our students have a class component. Every semester, I receive more than a few phone calls/emails stating that BC Human Services interns are the “best” compared to interns who have no classroom component. Our students as well as our community partners have benefitted from this ‘best practice.’