

## Drug Court Goals

- Reduce criminal recidivism of participants with a diagnosis of substance abuse disorder who are at high-risk to fail on standard probation and reoffend;
- Reduce illegal drug use; and
- Improve community functioning of participants in the areas of employment, education/training and housing.

## Drug Court Services

- One-on-one judicial supervision
- Intensive probation supervision
- Chemical dependency treatment and mental health, family, and other counseling
- Random drug testing
- Restorative Justice Program
- Reduce illegal drug use; and
- Improve community functioning in the areas of employment, education/training and housing.

## Who is Eligible for Drug Court?

Eligibility is evaluated by the Drug Court team applying detailed criteria. General requirements include:

- Being charged with a non-violent felony property or drug offense;
- Being a Hennepin County resident and being 18 years of age or older;
- Being at high risk to re-offend and fail on standard probation and having a chemical dependency problem; and
- Violent offenders are not eligible.

## Drug Court Contacts

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## Drug Court Partnership

- Fourth Judicial District Court
- Hennepin County Attorney's Office
- Hennepin County Community Corrections & Rehabilitation Department
- Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health Department
- Hennepin County Public Defender's Office
- Minneapolis Police Department
- First Nations Recovery Center
- Huss Center for Recovery
- Park Avenue Center
- RS Eden Programs
- Salvation Army Beacon Program
- Wayside House
- Restorative Justice Community Action



# Hennepin County Drug Court

A court-supervised treatment program for non-violent property and drug offenders



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## What is Drug Court?

The Hennepin County Drug Court is a voluntary, twelve-month minimum program available after a defendant enters a guilty plea. It is designed as an alternative to traditional criminal prosecution for chemically dependent offenders who want to change their lifestyle by maintaining a sober, crime-free existence.

**Drug Court aims to reduce repeat offenses, reduce illegal drug use, and improve quality of life.**

Drug Court participants make regular appearances before the Drug Court Judge and are subject to intensive probation supervision with input from a multi-disciplinary team of professionals. Program participants receive long-term treatment (six months or longer), which includes breath and urine testing, individual and group counseling, and attendance at community-based support groups.

Entry into the Drug Court program is strictly voluntary on the part of the defendant. Participants are required to pay a Correctional Service Fee, a Training and Employment Fee, and possibly restitution. Fines may also be imposed.

Drug Court participants are offered every opportunity to succeed in the program. Successful completion results in a discharge from active probation. However, participants who fail to comply with treatment and other program requirements will be subject to sanctions, including: increased drug testing and alcohol monitoring, increased courtroom appearances, more intensive probation supervision, and periods of incarceration. A participant who fails in Drug Court will be sent to jail or prison.

## Requirements for all phases

- Attend court as ordered
- Report to probation as ordered
- Submit urine tests as directed
- Remain crime free
- Follow medication requirements

## Primary Treatment Phase

- Complete orientation.
- Complete psychological and/or cultural screening/evaluation if appropriate and follow recommendations.
- Complete primary treatment.
- Complete Introduction to Recovery.
- Attend at least one community-based support group per week, identify a home group, and obtain a sponsor.
- Attend one Drug Court sponsored support group per week.
- Complete a continuing care plan, including participation of family members, with your primary counselor and probation officer.
- Attend Court at least every two weeks.
- Complete the petition for advancement and provide it to the team.

## Cognitive Skills/Stable Housing Phase

- Continue to follow the recommendations of psychological/cultural evaluation, including, where appropriate, regular therapy and medication reviews.
- Follow and update the continuing care plan developed with your probation officer and treatment counselor.
- Find safe, stable, long-term housing.
- Complete appropriate cognitive behavioral programming.
- Attend at least two community-based support groups per week, including your home group, and have weekly contact with your sponsor.
- Attend Court at least every three weeks.
- Complete the petition for advancement and present it to the team.

## Employment/Education/Community Involvement Phase

- Continue to follow the recommendations of psychological/cultural evaluation, including, where appropriate, regular therapy and medication reviews.
- Engage in employment/school/volunteer work/child care a minimum of 20 hours per week.
- Follow and update the continuing care plan developed with your probation officer and treatment counselor.
- Complete Newcomers Group or extended Study and Action.
- Complete aftercare.
- Attend at least two community-based support groups per week, including your home group, and have weekly contact with your sponsor.
- Attend Court at least every four weeks.
- Complete the petition for advancement and present it to the team.

## Service and Sobriety Phase

- Continue to follow the recommendations of psychological/cultural evaluation, including, where appropriate, regular therapy and medication reviews.
- Follow and update the continuing care plan developed with your probation officer and treatment counselor.
- Follow through on your plan for service to Drug Court and/or recovery community.
- Complete Restorative Justice.
- Demonstrate at least 120 days of sobriety in this phase.
- Attend at least two community-based support groups per week, including your home group, and have weekly contact with your sponsor.
- Resolve all pending criminal matters.
- Attend Court at least every five weeks.
- Pay all program fees.
- Complete the pre-commencement packet and present it to the team.