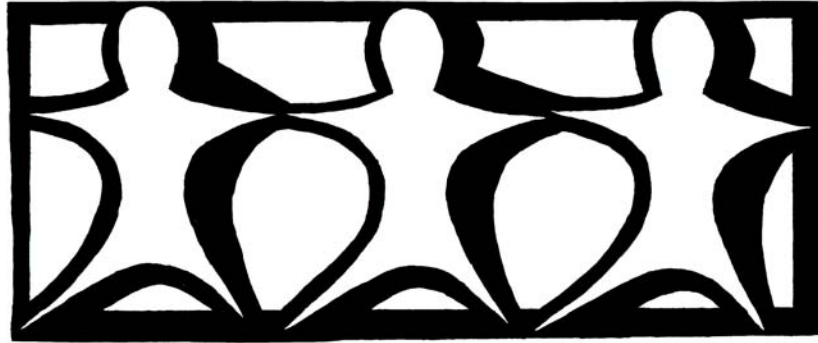


Pierce County



DRUG COURT

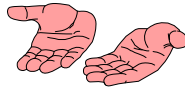
Sobriety Checkpoint

PARTICIPANT HANDBOOK

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WELCOME



Welcome to the Pierce County Adult Drug Court. This *Handbook* is designed to answer your questions and provide overall information about the Drug Court Program. As a participant, you will be expected to follow the instructions given in Drug Court by the Judge and comply with the treatment plan developed for you by the coordinator and treatment team.

This *Handbook* will detail what is expected of you as a Drug Court participant. It will review general program information. If you are reading this *Handbook* it means that you have been accepted into Drug Court based on your history of drug/alcohol use and other encounters with law enforcement. It also means that we are confident that Drug Court will help you to learn how to make successful choices free of the influence of drugs or



alcohol.

OVERVIEW

Pierce County Drug Court is a three-phase intervention program for adults who have pled guilty to one or more non-violent crimes related to drug or alcohol addiction and who are having difficulty staying clean and sober. It is a collaborative effort between the Pierce County criminal justice system and our drug treatment community. Treatment intervention is structured around the authority and personal involvement of the Drug Court Judge. By working together, we seek to provide a variety of programs and supervision that support and help you maintain a drug-free life.

Drug Court involves frequent court appearances, random drug testing, community supervision, and alcohol and drug counseling both in individual and group sessions. The Court rewards you for sober behavior and imposes sanctions for drug use behavior. If you do not comply with the rules then you may be placed in short-term custody, moved back to a previous phase of Drug Court or a variety of other sanctions. All of the staff working with Drug Court will assist you to be sure you understand what is expected of you.

THE DRUG COURT TEAM



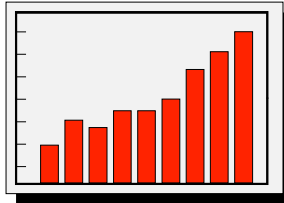
The Drug Court Judge will make all decisions regarding your participation in the Drug Court Program with input from the Drug Court Team. In addition to the Judge, the Drug Court Team consists of the following members:

- Public Defender
- District Attorney
- Drug Court Coordinator
- Treatment Provider

Prior to each Drug Court hearing, the Drug Court Team members familiarize themselves with your progress and may discuss that progress with you during the Drug Court hearing.

PROGRESS REPORTS

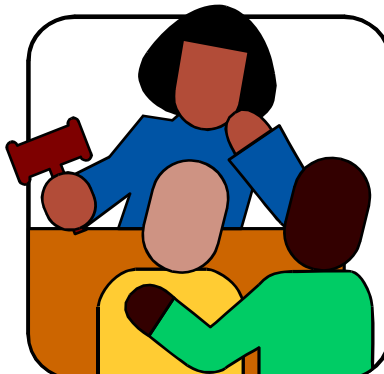
Before your Drug Court hearing, the judge will be given a progress report presented by the Drug Court Coordinator or your treatment provider. The progress report will discuss your drug testing results, attendance, participation and cooperation in the treatment program, employment or other requirements that may have been imposed. The Judge may ask and discuss any problems you may well you may be rewarded with requirements or, at times, other reports show that you are not doing well, the Judge will discuss this with you and determine future action, which could include a sanction in order to help you remember your goals in the program. Sanctions can be anything from increased program requirements to jail custody.



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DRUG COURT HEARINGS

As a Drug Court participant, you will be required to appear in Drug Court on a regular basis. The number of times you must appear depends upon the phase of Drug Court you are currently in. Failure to appear will result in a warrant being issued for your arrest and detention in jail until you can appear before the court. If you have questions about your court appearance contact the Drug Court Coordinator, or your attorney. The phases of Drug Court are listed on the next page.



PHASES OF DRUG COURT

PHASE ONE

Attend weekly Drug Court session. Complete all assignments as directed by the Judge. Attend all sessions, classes, groups, etc., as directed by the Judge.

There will be a Minimum of 30 days of negative drug tests and compliance with your treatment program and minimum of 3 months in Phase One.

PHASE TWO

Attend Drug Court sessions every two to three weeks, as directed by the Judge. Complete all assignments as directed by the Judge. Attend all sessions, classes, groups, etc., as directed by the Judge.

Minimum of sixty days of negative drug tests and compliance with your treatment program and minimum of 4 months in Phase Two

PHASE THREE

Attend monthly Drug Court session. Complete all assignments as directed by the Judge. Attend all sessions, classes, groups, etc., as directed by the Judge.

Pay all fees and fines. Complete treatment program. Minimum of ninety days of negative drug tests and compliance with your treatment program and a minimum of 6 months in Phase Three

You should expect your Drug Court Program to last at least 13-18 months.

Participants time in Drug Court does not count toward Phase Advancement while serving a jail sentence longer than 14 days or while in Inpatient Treatment longer than 10 days. Phase Advancement time will begin if or when a participant who is serving a jail sentence is released on Home Monitoring.

Before a participant can be released on Home Monitoring they must have their Drug Court fee paid in full.

CONFIDENTIALITY

State and Federal laws require that your identity and privacy be protected. In response to these regulations, Drug Court has developed policies and procedures that guard your privacy. You will be asked to sign Consent for Disclosure of Confidential Information. This disclosure of information is for the sole purpose of hearings and reports concerning your specific Drug Court case.

DRUG COURT PROGRAM RULES

As a participant you will be required to abide by the rules outlined in the participant contract, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Totally abstain from the use of illegal drugs and alcohol.
2. Inform you're treating physicians that you are a recovering addict and may not take narcotic or addictive medications or drugs.
3. Attend court sessions and treatment sessions as scheduled and on time.
4. Submit to random, observed alcohol and drug testing, remain clean and sober and law abiding.
5. Do not associate with people who use or possess drugs.
6. Do not possess any weapons while in the Drug Court program.
7. Keep the Drug Court team, including the Coordinator and any Probation officer informed of your current address and phone number at all times.

8. Comply with community supervision by the Drug Court team members. Supervision may include curfew restrictions or home visits by law enforcement officers. Remember to not give them any reason to search your body, home, or vehicle for the presence of drugs or alcohol.
9. Dress appropriately for court and treatment sessions. Clothes should be clean and look nice. Hats must be removed during court. Ask the coordinator if you have any questions about appropriate clothing.
10. Participants are not allowed to start any new romantic/sexual relationships while in Drug Court without the approval of the Drug Court Team.
11. Entering a bar or tavern is prohibited unless special permission is given from the Drug Court Team.
12. Pay the \$750 Drug Court Fee.
13. Pay all outstanding fines/fees. Community Service can be used to pay down all fines/fees owing.
14. Attend the weekly Drug Court Support Group unless given permission ahead of time to be absent.
15. Abide by all other rules and regulations imposed by the Drug Court and its members.

SANCTIONS AND INCENTIVES

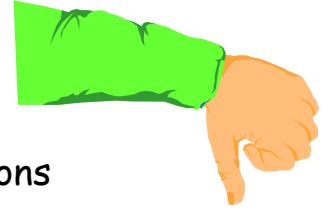
Sanctions are the imposition of consequences, perceived as negative by the receiver, as a direct result of a prohibited activity. Sanctions in Pierce County Drug Court may include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ Verbal warning or admonishment by the Judge
- ◆ An essay writing assignment or workbook
- ◆ Increased drug testing
- ◆ Increased attendance at Drug Court sessions
- ◆ Placement in an earlier Drug Court phase or repetition of a phase
- ◆ Community service assignments
- ◆ Curfew restrictions
- ◆ Loss of privileges; for example, driver's license, fishing license, etc.
- ◆ Imposition of suspended court fees
- ◆ Warrant for arrest
- ◆ Electronic home monitoring
- ◆ Jail time
- ◆ Dismissal from the Drug Court program

Incentives are responses to compliance, perceived as positive, by the receiver. Incentives in Pierce County Drug Court may include but are not limited to:

- ◆ Recognition by the Judge
- ◆ "Praise Points" or tokens of progress
- ◆ Certificates of recognition and/or completion
- ◆ Recreational activities
- ◆ Advancement to the next Drug Court phase
- ◆ Decrease in drug testing
- ◆ Decrease mandatory attendance at support groups and/or meetings
- ◆ Curfew reductions
- ◆ Gain of privileges; for example, driver's license or fishing license.
- ◆ Decrease attendance at Drug Court sessions
- ◆ Reduction in court fees
- ◆ Dismissal or reduction of charges
- ◆ Program recognition ceremony and membership in Alumni Group
- ◆ Sobriety and drug free living

TERMINATION FROM DRUG COURT



Regardless of the method by which you enter the Pierce County Drug Court, termination may occur for various reasons including, but not limited to:

- Noncompliance with rules and procedures.
- Arrest and/or conviction on new charges. In general, assaultive or violent crimes or behaviors will result in termination. However, a new arrest and/or conviction will be determined on a case-by-case basis, staffed by the Drug Court team with the ultimate decision made by the Judge.
- Any issue or behavior that would have disqualified you from original eligibility.
- Not showing up for Drug Court session or treatment.

CHEMICAL TESTING

You will be drug tested randomly throughout your entire Drug Court Program. **Remember:**



- You will be observed to ensure freedom from errors.
- If you miss a test, it will count as a positive (dirty) test.
- If you have a positive test in any Drug Court phase, the Judge, based on team recommendations, will apply immediate sanctions. This could include time in jail to help you stop your drug-using behavior.

GRADUATION

Upon your successful completion of a treatment program and satisfaction of all other court requirements including continued sobriety, you will graduate from Drug Court and be eligible for promotion to the Continuing Care Phase of the Drug Court Program. All fines and fees must be paid prior to graduation unless other arrangements are approved by the drug court team.



Graduation from the Drug Court Program is recognized as a very important event. Your loved ones will be invited to join you at a special ceremony as the Drug Court Team congratulates you for successfully completing all Phases of the Drug Court Program and achieving your goal to establish a drug-free life.



CONCLUSION

The goal of the Pierce County Adult Drug Court Program is to help you achieve a life free of dependence on mind-altering substances. The Judge, court staff and the Drug Court Team are here to guide and assist you, but the final responsibility is yours. To succeed, you must be motivated to make this commitment to a drug free life.



