

13th Judicial District Recovery Courts

Drug Court Program · Veterans Treatment Court Program

Referral Process: Participants are referred to the 13th Judicial District Recovery Courts (Drug Treatment Court or Veterans Treatment Court) through the court system, either in open court or by an attorney. Whoever is making the referral must contact the Recovery Courts Director and fill out an application (Drug Treatment Court or Veterans Treatment Court Application). Should you need an application, please contact the Recovery Courts Office and one will be provided to you.

The attorney completes the *Application for Admission Form* and sends the original application to the Recovery Courts Director. The Director will then provide the application to the District Attorney's office for them to run an NCIC. The DA reviews the criminal history and determines if the candidate is statutorily eligible. The DA's office will send the *Application for Admission Form* back to the Recovery Courts Director with results of the applicant's eligibility and the Recovery Courts Director will update the attorney/referral source as to client's eligibility.

If the candidate has been determined to be statutorily eligible by the DA, and there is an agreement with the DA's Office, the Recovery Courts Director will meet with the candidate in jail and complete the Initial Screening Form and the candidate will be given a *Participant Handbook*. All rules, requirements, and merits of the program will be explained to the candidate.

If all the criteria for eligibility are met, the Recovery Courts Director will refer the candidate to a qualified professional who will complete the clinical assessment utilizing the Addiction Severity Index (ASI-R). The results of the assessment will be reviewed in collaboration with the Recovery Court Director who will report to the 13th Judicial District Recovery Court Team.

Once all assessments and interviews are complete, the application is taken before the Recovery Courts (Drug Court Team or Veterans Treatment Court Team) Team for approval.

If approved and accepted into one of the programs of the Recovery Courts, the participant will be placed into the appropriate level of care based on the clinical assessment.

The attorney and/or the candidate are notified by the Recovery Courts Director of the Recovery Courts Team decision.

If accepted into the program, the Recovery Courts Director prepares an *Order* placing them in the Recovery Court and has the sentencing Judge sign the *Order* in open court so a record is made authorizing admittance into the 13th Judicial District Recovery Court.

Process to enter the Drug Court Program: Criminal Court Only

- The participant must enter the program post-plea. The participant's sentence is revoked to serve, and the Drug Court completes a Furlough Order bringing the participant into the program and out of TDOC custody when a bed becomes available at one of the inpatient treatment facilities the program uses

Process to enter the Veterans Treatment Program: General Sessions and Criminal Court

- The participant must enter the program post-plea. The participant's sentence is revoked to serve, and the VTC completes a Furlough Order bringing the participant into the program and out of TDOC custody when a bed becomes available at one of the inpatient treatment facilities the program uses

Once the participant is accepted into the Program, he/she will meet with the Recovery Courts Case Manager/Community Supervisor and complete the Intake Packet. If the participant is eligible for inpatient or residential treatment, that is arranged and the participant will go straight from to jail to residential/inpatient treatment. If the participant completes residential/inpatient or residential treatment he/she will transition back to their home community and begin IOP upon discharge and continue to be monitored by the Recovery Courts Case Manager/Community Supervisor.

If the participant is not in jail, or is going straight to Intensive Outpatient (IOP) treatment, he/she will start IOP on the next day IOP is offered.

Appointments will be made with the Case Manager/Community Supervisor to begin supervision services.

Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible participants are typically identified by the Public Defender, private attorney, or referred out of Criminal Court in the 13th Judicial District.

- Participation in the 13th Judicial District Recovery Courts is voluntary. There must be an agreement among sentencing Judge, District Attorney's office and Counsel for the accused that Recovery Courts would be an appropriate option. This will be available to persons who:
- Have felony/misdemeanor (misdemeanor offenders can only apply for VTC if they are a veteran) charges that are alcohol and drug related in one of the seven (7) counties of the 13th Judicial District
- Are addicted or dependent based on clinical assessment (Use of ASI-R qualified them for IOP or inpatient or residential treatment)
- Do not have pending charges for sex offenses or have not been adjudicated for sex offenses
- Have no prior or pending violent offenses
- Are able to actively participate in intervention activities, and have the approval from the qualified treatment professional completing the assessment
- Voluntarily agree to participate
- Are residents of a county within the 13th Judicial District which they are being considered for Recovery Courts
- Do not have charges from Federal Court
- May be on Community Corrections Probation or State Probation and has violated, but cannot be on parole, or Federal supervised release.
- Applicants can NOT have pending charges from any county outside the 13th Judicial District

Violent offenses as defined by federal regulations:

Is currently charged with or convicted of a violent offense during the course of which: (a) The person carried, possessed, or used a firearm or other dangerous weapon; or (b) There occurred the use of force against a person of another; or (c) There occurred the death of, or serious bodily injury to, any person; without regard to whether proof of any elements described herein is required to convict; or has previously been convicted of a felony crime of violence involving the use or attempted use of force against a person with the intent to cause death or serious bodily harm. 28 C.F.R 93.3 (1996).

Statement of Non-Discrimination

The 13th Judicial District Recovery Courts does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, sex, age, culture, religion, ethnicity, and/or sexual orientation in admission to, access to, or operations of its program.