

What are the first steps I need to take?

The first thing you need to do is complete the Drug Court Packet. This packet is full of forms that the court, treatment services providers, probation, and the State need in order to guide your participation in the program.

At the time you fill out the Drug Court packet, Your parents/guardians will be given a letter to take to one of the treatment providers to have an evaluation completed. If you have private insurance, your evaluation should be scheduled with an in-network provider. If you do not have private insurance, your parents/guardians should contact one of the providers listed in the packet. Your parents/guardians should call the treatment provider within two (2) days of completing the forms to schedule a time for you and your parents/guardians to complete the evaluation with a health care professional.

Your parents/guardians will be given a letter from the Court telling them when you are scheduled for entry into Drug Court. At the entry hearing, there will be discussion about your goals and a plan will be created for treatment and school, drug testing, and behavioral expectations for the next several months. The Judge will write all this information into an order, meaning that you are legally required to follow this plan.

Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services (PBH)

Wilmington (302) 633-2600

Newark (302) 368-6726

Dover (302) 739-4194

Milford (302) 422-1425

Georgetown (302) 856-4684

To Schedule An Evaluation

Contact:

Aquila of Delaware

Wilmington (302) 999-1106

Georgetown (302) 856-9746

Crossroads

Wilmington (302) 652-1405

Dover (302) 744-9999

Brandywine Counseling and Community Services

Wilmington (302) 504-5920

Dover (302) 346-5080

If you are 17 1/2 or older you may be instructed to contact:

SODAT

Wilmington, Dover & Seaford (302) 656-4044



The Basics of what you need to know about participating in the Family Court Adjudicated Youth Drug Court Program

Family Court

New Castle County (302) 255-0300

Kent County (302) 672-1000

Sussex County (302) 855-7400

What is Drug Court?

The Family Court Adjudicated Youth Drug Court Program (“Drug Court”) is a program that was created by law in 2002. In Drug Court, the Judge, case manager, family, and treatment providers work together with the participants to help them to stop using drugs and alcohol. It is also the goal of Drug Court that participants learn to make better decisions to avoid additional contact with the police and be more successful in school and at home.

Why Participate in Drug Court?

If you are considering entering into Drug Court, then you have either a drug related charge or it is believed that your delinquent behavior is related to your involvement with drugs and/or alcohol. The Drug Court Program is an opportunity for you to being or continue any appropriate treatment and possibly have your charges dismissed. When you enter Drug Court, you will be adjudicated Delinquent for your charges. To qualify for dismissal of your charges, you must not receive any new charges for a period of six (6) months after your graduation from Drug Court.

What should I expect Drug Court to be like?

You and your family will be expected to follow the treatment plan and attend all of your scheduled appointments. Your treatment plan and number of appointments will completely depend on your personal needs. Some participants may need to attend counseling with their parents a couple of times a week, while others may need to attend a treatment program during the day where they can get extra help with their treatment needs.

You and your parents/guardians will also be scheduled to come back to Court regularly and meet with the Judge to discuss how you are doing with your plan. Your treatment provider will be sending reports to the Judge often, and the Judge will know how well you have been doing with your plan.

If you are doing well, the Judge may reward you by removing certain requirements from your plan. If you have not been following your plan, the judge may sanction you by adding extra requirements to your plan. If you continue to not follow the plan, you may be terminated from Drug Court. A termination hearing will be scheduled, at which time you will be sentenced on your original charges.

You will come to Drug Court at the same time as other participants and you may hear private information about other Drug Court participants and their families. You and your family are expected to keep this information confidential and not share it with anyone.

If you are following your plan as ordered, you should expect to be in Drug Court for about six (6) months. When the Judge feels you have met all your goals and you have followed your plan, you will be scheduled to graduate from Drug Court.

Who will be my Case Manager?

As a participant in Drug Court, you will have a Case Manager at the Division of Prevention and Behavioral Health Services (PBH) who will check in with you and your family regularly and report back to the Judge. If you do not have private insurance, PBH will play a bigger role in your plan, helping you get the treatment and counseling you need. If your needs for treatment increase or decrease, your treatment plan will be adjusted and PBH may become more involved with your plan.

When will my charges be dismissed?

Graduating from Drug Court shows that you have completed your plan. However, the Court still wants you to make good choices even after you have graduated. Therefore, you must not get arrested or receive any new charges for six (6) months after you graduate from Drug Court. After six (6) months, the Judge and Attorney General will review your file, and if you qualify, the Judge will dismiss your charge(s).