

What Makes Our Drug Courts Unique?

New Jersey's Drug Court design is based on the 10 key components benchmarked by the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. These essential elements establish the foundation from which policies and operating procedures have formed.

A statewide Drug Court model has emerged in New Jersey that targets non-violent substance abusing defendants who, without Drug Courts, would be bound for state prison or county jail or subject to other sentences.

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The Facts Are In ...

DRUG COURTS WORK

New Jersey Judiciary
Administrative Office of the Courts
Statewide Adult Drug Court

New Jersey Courts

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Judiciary Adult Drug Court Programs

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Atlantic/Cape May Vicinage Drug Court
Atlantic County Criminal Courts Complex
4997 Unami Blvd.
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
(609) 909-8113

Bergen Vicinage Drug Court
Bergen County Courthouse
Hackensack, NJ 07601
(201) 527-2405

Burlington Vicinage Drug Court
49 Rancocas Rd.
Mt. Holly, NJ 08060
(609) 518-2559

Camden Vicinage Drug Court
101 S. Fifth St.
Camden, NJ 08103
(856) 379-2200 x 3358

Essex Vicinage Drug Court
New Courts Building
50 W. Market St.
Newark, NJ 07102
(973) 693-6598

Gloucester/Cumberland/Salem Vicinage Drug Court
Criminal Justice Complex, 1st fl.
Hunter and Euclid streets
Woodbury, NJ 08096
(856) 853-3753

Hudson Vicinage Drug Court
595 Newark Ave.
Jersey City, NJ 07306
(201) 795-6882

Mercer Vicinage Drug Court
209 South Broad St.
Trenton, NJ 08650
(609) 571-4067

Middlesex Vicinage Drug Court
1 Kennedy Square
New Brunswick, NJ 08903
(732) 565-5057

Monmouth Vicinage Drug Court
71 Monument Park, P.O. Box 1266
Freehold, NJ 07728-1266
(732) 677-4551

Morris/Sussex Vicinage Drug Court
Washington and Court streets
Morristown, NJ 07960
(973) 326-6997

Ocean Vicinage Drug Court
Ocean County Justice Complex; Room 240
Toms River, NJ 0875
(732) 929-2125

Passaic Vicinage Drug Court
77 Hamilton St, 2nd Floor
Paterson, NJ 07505
(973) 247-8343

Somerset/Hunterdon/Warren Vicinage Drug Court
Somerset County
North Bridge St.
Somerville, NJ 08876
(908) 203-6171

Hunterdon County—Main Location
65 Park Ave.
Flemington, NJ 08822
(908) 237-5839

Warren County
Second and Hardwick streets
Belvidere, NJ 07823
(908) 475-6990

Union Vicinage Drug Court
2 Broad St.
Elizabeth, NJ 07207
(908) 659-4680

WHAT ARE DRUG COURTS?

Drug Courts are a highly specialized team process that functions within the existing Superior Court structure to address non-violent, drug-related cases.

They are unique in the criminal justice environment because they build a close, collaborative relationship between criminal justice and drug treatment professionals.

Within a cooperative courtroom atmosphere, a judge heads a team of court staff, attorneys, probation officers, substance abuse evaluators and treatment counselors who work together to support and monitor a participant's recovery.

Drug Court programs are rigorous, requiring intensive supervision based on frequent drug testing and court appearances.

WHY DO WE NEED DRUG COURTS?

A revolution is underway in the criminal justice system. It began at the grassroots level with a few people who realized that the old approach – incarceration and more incarceration – wasn't working. As the numbers of accused drug offenders kept increasing, there were not enough jails and prisons to hold them.

In New Jersey, especially with the enactment of the Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1986, a major increase in the number of arrests occurred, including the number of arrests in drug cases and the percentage of those being sentenced to serve time in state institutions.

Drug Courts have been more successful in generating significant cost savings by replacing costly per inmate annual incarceration costs with less expensive treatment services. Drug Courts substantially reduce drug use and recidivism while offenders are in the program by closely supervising drug offenders in the community, placing and keeping drug offenders in treatment programs, and by providing treatment and related services to offenders soon after arrest. Drug Courts also have been successful in reducing racial disparity in the prison population.

HOW DO DRUG COURTS WORK?

Prospective Drug Court defendants come under the court's supervision soon after arrest. After acceptance to Drug Court, participants begin an individually structured treatment program that generally lasts from three to five years. Participants are required to attend treatment sessions, undergo random urinalysis, meet regularly with their probation officers and appear frequently before the Drug Court judge.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR DRUG COURT?

New Jersey's Drug Courts target substance abusing, non-violent adult defendants who have undergone a legal review and clinical assessment by Drug Court team members.

Persons excluded from participation in Drug Court include those who have previous convictions or pending charges for a violent offense.

Other eligibility criteria and exclusions apply. Visit njcourts.com or contact the Drug Court in your area for details. Contact information is included in this brochure.

WHAT DO DRUG COURTS OFFER?

New Jersey's Drug Courts include a multi-phased judicial process coupled with treatment services and intensive probation supervision.

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

- Regular court appearances
- Frequent, random drug testing
- Detoxification, if necessary
- Residential programs, if necessary
- Intensive outpatient programs
- Individual and group counseling
- 12-step, self-help groups
- Relapse prevention
- Sanctions and incentives
- Community service requirements
- Referrals to literacy volunteers,

DRUG COURTS ENCOURAGE

- Personal accountability on the part of the participant
- Payment of child support and other financial obligations
- Education and full-time employment
- Involvement with self-help and community organizations to support participant recovery after graduation from Drug Court