

- Complete written “Relapse Prevention Plan,” and have it signed by counselor, probation officer and sponsor
- Maintain full-time employment or full-time school
- Maintain a stable residence
- Stay current with fees for counseling and probation services
- Complete 50 hours of any community service ordered by the court

Path 3 – For at least 20 weeks, each participant focuses on “aftercare” in preparation of graduation. To complete this path, the individual is required to:

- Attend court once every 8 weeks
- Report to probation officer once every 8 weeks
- Submit to random drug tests
- Have 20 consecutive weeks of sobriety
- Submit to random drug tests
- Complete “Aftercare” and any other services that may include classes on such things as anger management, parenting, job skills, budgeting, behavior
- Maintain fulltime employment or fulltime education
- Have all probation service fees and counseling fees paid in full
- Complete all community service ordered by the court one week prior to graduation

GRADUATION SUCCESS!

“Drug courts are demonstrably effective. According to a decade of research, drug courts significantly improve substance abuse treatment outcomes, substantially reduce crime, reunite families and produce greater cost benefits than any other justice strategy.”

Drug courts transform over 120,000 addicts yearly in the adult, juvenile and family court systems in to drug-free, productive citizens.

Drug courts should serve as the model of how to address the broadest population of substance abusers involved in the justice system. Short of this, we fail to provide the best solution to America’s greatest problem – addiction.”

~ National Association of Drug Court Professionals ~

“Drug courts are a vital, essential element of our National Drug Control Strategy. While offering incentives to stay off drugs, they hold individuals accountable and simultaneously deal with the deadly disease of addiction. America is better off because of drug courts.”

John Walters - Director

Office of National Drug Control Policy
The National Association of Drug Court Professionals

MARICOPA COUNTY DRUG COURT MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of Drug Court is to reduce substance abuse and recidivism of the offender. We accomplish this by effectively assessing the risk and needs of the individual offender and providing a continuum of treatment, services, supervision, rewards and sanctions via a non-adversarial partnership between the court, probation officers, counselors and attorneys.

“Committed to the Timely, Fair and Impartial Administration of Justice.”

www.superiorcourt.maricopa.gov

Drug Court

**A SPECIALTY COURT OF
SUPERIOR COURT IN
MARICOPA COUNTY**

*Enhancing public safety
through offender
accountability*



Drug Court: A Specialty Court of Superior Court in Maricopa County

DRUG COURT – A Specialty Court of Superior Court in Maricopa County

Substance abuse and drug addiction are common traits among people who commit crime. Assault, sexual and physical abuse, robbery, theft, home invasion and other felonious behavior may be fueled by illicit drugs.

U.S. Department of Justice statistics and a variety of criminal justice studies indicate that half of convicted inmates admit they were under the influence of drugs or alcohol when they committed their crimes and 75 percent of them were under the influence of drugs or alcohol when arrested for the crimes that sent them to jail or prison.

In the late 1980s, courts responded to this reality by creating innovative drug courts as an effective way to actively intervene and break the cycle of substance abuse, addiction and crime.

When Maricopa County's Drug Court was created in 1992, only four other drug courts existed around the country. Criminal justice experts watched these new courts with interest, monitoring their successes and improvements. Other court systems adopted the program, using the same principles and customizing the process to meet the unique dynamics of their community. The snowball effect of the successful program has resulted in remarkable growth. There are now over 2,000 drug courts across the United States.

DRUG COURT – Not for Every Criminal Defendant

Drug courts focus on helping individuals - who have non-violent criminal backgrounds - overcome their substance abuse issues. Through this

court-directed rehabilitation process, thousands of individuals have broken their downward spiral of criminal activity.

Participation is available to an individual who has been found guilty, sentenced and assigned to Drug Court as a term of probation. Each participant:

- Has been found guilty of a non-violent felony offense
- Has no prior conviction of a violent crime
- Has not used a dangerous weapon while committing a crime
- Has not previously participated in a Drug Court program
- Needs drug treatment

DRUG COURT – Keys to Success: Hard Work and Motivated Defendant

Drug Courts attack the problem with enforced treatment, rewards, sanctions and behavior accountability. The Drug Court team - consisting of the judge, prosecutor, public defender, probation officers and treatment experts – work together to help participants stay on track to reach their goals. The team monitors each participant's progress, checking drug test results, group counseling attendance, community service and other requirements of the program.

Participants must:

- Attend all court hearings
- Submit to random drug tests/remain drug free
- Meet regularly with probation officer
- Perform community service
- Follow treatment regimen
- Participate in a support group
- Work or attend school fulltime
- Complete programs ordered by the court, such as training in anger management, parenting, job skills, budgeting

DRUG COURT – Success Within Reach

Each participant takes personal responsibility for his or her success or failure.

The Drug Court team provides each participant with the tools for success. Each individual goes through an orientation with the court and the probation office, learning the requirements and expectations. The minimum amount of time to complete the Drug Court program is one year. Over the months, the participants progress through three separate "paths."

Path 1 – This is considered the time for "primary treatment" and requires a minimum of 20 weeks to complete. Requirements include:

- Attend court at least once every 4 weeks
- Report to probation officer once a month
- Complete primary treatment
- Remain sober for 8 consecutive weeks
- Submit to random drug tests
- Maintain a full-time job or be a full-time student
- Maintain stable residence
- Complete at least 20 hours of community service, if ordered at sentencing
- Participate in a support group at least once a week
- Keep current on payment of probation service fees and counseling fees

Path 2 – During this portion of the program, the participant focuses on "relapse prevention." For at least 12 weeks, each individual must:

- Attend court once every four weeks
- Report to probation officer once a month
- Remain sober for minimum of 12 consecutive weeks
- Submit to random drug tests
- Complete "Relapse Prevention"