

# What can I do to be successful during my Probation or Commitment to DJJ?

Work with your assigned DJJ staff to develop and carry out an effective treatment plan. This plan will be developed to meet your individual needs. Talk to your counselor or treatment team about any concerns or situations that arise. Department staff will promote positive social and personal growth so that every youth can become a self-reliant, contributing member of society.

## Reassessments

Reassessment of the needed services will take place for all youth at regular intervals. Probated and committed youth will also be reassessed if they have

- Violated a condition of probation or a condition of supervised placement
- Been adjudicated for a new offense
- Been involved in a critical incident

The reassessment could result in a recommendation for out-of-home placement if the youth's supervised placement has been revoked and they are found to need additional services provided in an out-of-home placement.

Placement decisions will be made with consideration of the treatment needs of the youth, community safety, and consideration of the least restrictive available placement which is closest to the youth's place of residence.

## Continuum of Care



The Department of Juvenile Justice operates or contracts with various Day Treatment Centers, Group Homes, Residential programs, Independent Living programs, foster homes (both traditional and therapeutic), psychiatric treatment centers, and community agencies to provide a continuum of services for youth committed or probated to the Department.

## Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice

## Differences Between Probation and Commitment



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# Individualized Approach

Once a youth is adjudicated of a public offense and the court orders the Department of Juvenile Justice to complete a predisposition investigation, the DJJ worker will begin the process of assessing which services would be most appropriate for the youth. The worker will assess the youth and his or her family, the youth's school records, any mental or physical health records, and prior criminal and social service records. Dispositional recommendations made to the court can include:

- Monitoring by the court
- Community service
- Supervision by the worker for a set time
- Individual, group, and family counseling
- Structured after-school programs
- Different school or classes
- Time in detention
- Removal of the youth from the home and community for in-patient treatment
- Residential placement
- Or other options

# Probation Services

One of the court's options for disposition is probation to the Department of Juvenile Justice. The youth may be supervised by Department staff in the community. Typical probation services may include:

- Individualized conditions of probation for each youth
- Regular contact by a DJJ case worker with youth and family which may include:
  - \* Home visits
  - \* School contacts
  - \* Treatment provider referrals and contacts
  - \* Office visits
  - \* Curfew calls
- Support for youth and family
- Random drug screening
- Juvenile Intensive Supervision Team (JIST) in some communities, which includes:
  - \* After hours monitoring
  - \* Curfew checks
  - \* Intensified contacts
  - \* Drug Testing
  - \* Immediate sanctions



# Commitment to DJJ



Commitment is a legal status given to a state agency by the District or Circuit Court and enables the state to act in a custodial role. In this role, DJJ exercises custody and control or supervision of the youth in the community or in an out-of-home placement.

Youth who are committed to DJJ receive similar services provided to youth on probation, which may include the following:

- Individualized conditions of supervised placement if placed in the community
- Community placement
- Out-of-home placement when warranted
- Aftercare service upon return to the community.

When youth who have been placed in an out-of-home placement completes treatment, he or she will be returned to the community. DJJ staff will work with the youth, family, schools, and local agencies to assist the youth in making a successful transition into the community.