

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How are individuals referred to Juvenile Drug Court?
 - Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC): If a juvenile is arrested and has substance use issues, JDC recommendation can be made to state attorney.
 - Juvenile Arbitration Program (JAP): If unsuccessful in completing this program, a juvenile can enter through a JAP recommendation.
 - Juvenile Division Transfer: Can be court-ordered by a juvenile court judge.
 - Hillsborough County Schools: Students are recommended if they are arrested on campus for drug related offense(s). School can hold a change of placement hearing to determine if student can attend a Hillsborough county school.
2. What is the program length?
 - Length is determined by treatment need, treatment participation, and compliance with court orders/ program guidelines. By law, juvenile court may retain jurisdiction until youth's 19th birthday.

3. Are there costs associated with this program?
 - Yes, depending on the following criteria (please contact your treatment provider directly):
 - a. Insurance
 - b. Income verification
 - c. Public assistance
 - d. Other community and/or grant-related funds
4. Does my child have to plead to charges?
 - Yes, once all conditions are successfully completed, the charges are dismissed by the judge.

For More Information:

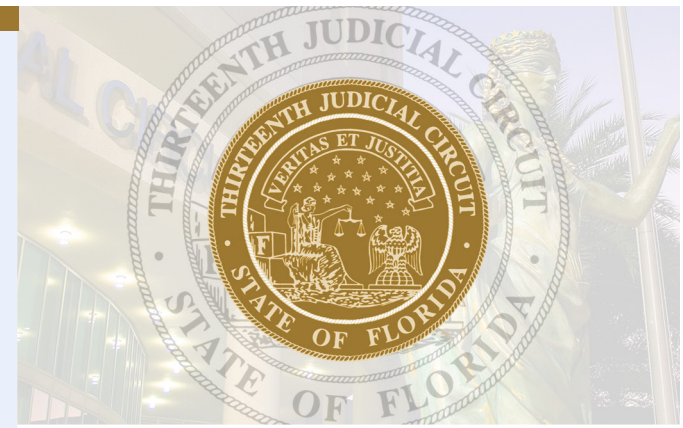
Administrative Office of the Courts
Drug Court Programs Office

Juvenile Drug Court Specialists/ School Liaison:

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Learn more about the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit at:

[www.fljud13.org/CourtPrograms/
DrugCourtPrograms/
JuvenileDrugCourt.aspx](http://www.fljud13.org/CourtPrograms/DrugCourtPrograms/JuvenileDrugCourt.aspx)



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
OF THE COURTS

Juvenile Drug Court (JDC)



Program Overview

The Juvenile Drug Court is a Court diversion and intervention program. The program targets youth who have committed drug-related offenses or acknowledge a history of substance abuse upon arrest for nonviolent offenses. The program is typically offered to juveniles who are first or second time offenders.

The purpose of this program is to reduce substance use and recidivism among nonviolent juveniles by providing intense but constructive court supervision, treatment, educational, and employment services to maximize the juvenile's opportunities for successes into adulthood.

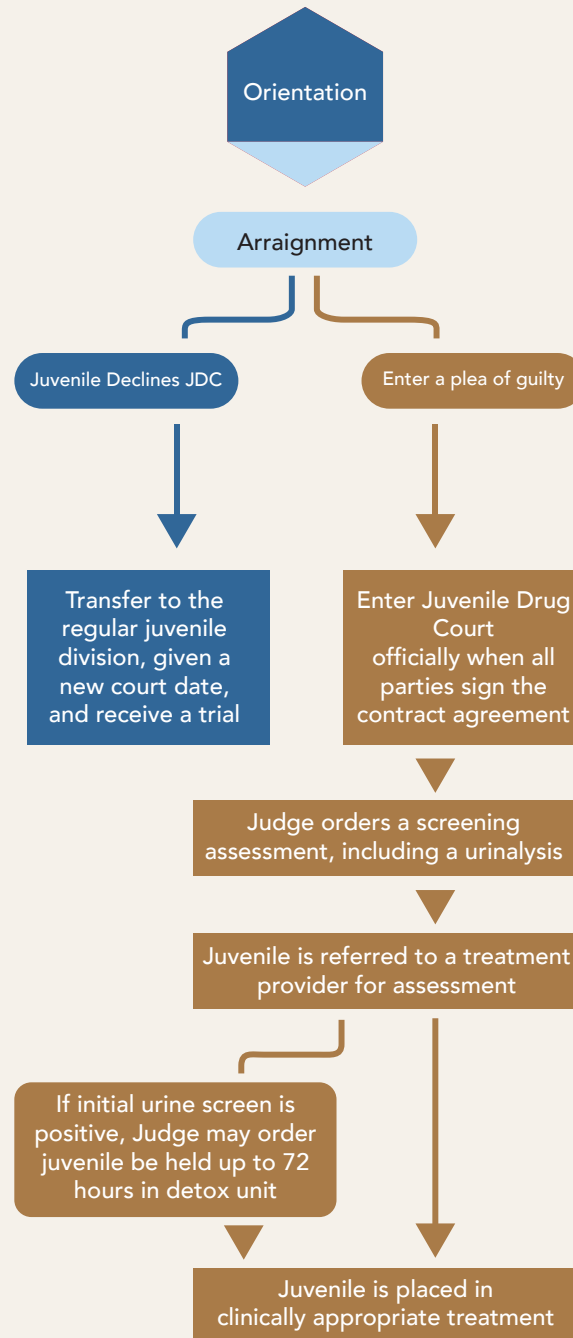
If a Juvenile successfully completes all requirements of the program, the charges against him or her are **DISMISSED**. This means the youth is **NOT** convicted of the crime or delinquent act.

Program Eligibility

Juveniles should meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Arrested for a drug offense or admitted substance abuse issue at time of arrest of a non-violent offense.
2. Be considered a juvenile (17 and under) at the time of arrest. Can be 18 when entering the drug court program.
3. Willingness to participate in the program.
4. All juveniles will be screened by the State Attorney's office to determine if the juvenile qualifies to participate in the program.

Court Process



Court Requirements

Include but are not limited to:

- Random drug screens
- Attend weekly individual and/or group counseling sessions
- Abstain from use of drugs and alcohol
- Attend regular court appearances
- Attend school, pursue a GED, or be employed full-time
- Parent or another responsible adult must agree to participate in the program

Treatment Description

A multidisciplinary team of court and treatment staff work together to develop an individualized treatment plan that could include these elements:

- Outpatient Counseling
- Intensive Outpatient Counseling
- Detox Facility
- Residential Treatment

**Length of treatment and level of care is determined by what is clinically appropriate.*