

## **WC TAD: Pretrial Diversion Program for Individuals with an Opioid Use Disorder**

The Washington County TAD Program is a pre-trial, Deferred Prosecution Agreement, diversion program for individuals charged with a first offense Possession of Narcotic Drugs. The program length is 1 year but may include up to a 6-month extension based on client participation. The main requirements of the program are that clients maintain sobriety, engage in the recommended AODA treatment, attend weekly individual appointments with their case manager, and submit to regular alcohol and drug testing. Clients who complete the program are expected to have the charge of possession of narcotics dismissed, and clients who are terminated from the program will simply return to the traditional criminal justice system.

### **Eligibility Requirements:**

- Client must be 18 years old.
- Client must be a Washington County resident with a charge of possession of narcotics in Washington County.
- The client must not be a “violent offender” as described in the WI TAD Program statute.
- The client must not have a currently pending charge or previous conviction for manufacturing or delivery of any drug/narcotic.
- The client must meet the diagnostic criteria for an opioid use disorder as determined by the assessor.

### **Referral & Admission:**

- Clients can be referred to the program at any point prior to conviction and encourage clients to speak with a defense attorney about their legal options and participation in the program.
- A client, their attorney, or the District Attorney’s Office can refer clients to the program, however, the client must be the one to contact Elevate to set up the initial assessment.
- There will be a standard program referral form that can be requested, or clients can provide the necessary information to Elevate when they call.
- The initial assessment will be approximately 90 minutes.
- Following the assessment, Elevate will send a letter to the District Attorney’s Office and to the client’s attorney notifying them of the client’s eligibility for and plan to engage in the program.
- If a client does not complete an assessment at Elevate they will not be accepted into the program.
- At the time of the assessment clients will be fully informed of all program requirements and may take additional time to consider whether or not they wish to participate.
- Clients are expected to contact Elevate and notify them of their intention to engage in the program prior to signing the Deferred Prosecution Agreement so that they can start program services.

### **Program Requirements:**

- Maintain absolute sobriety other than prescribed medications which must be verified by the client’s case manager
- Engage in the recommended AODA treatment throughout the program or until treatment completion
- Meet weekly with their case manager and demonstrate progress in meeting the goals of their Diversion Case Plan
- Submit to alcohol and drug testing two to three times per week either at Elevate or at the client’s treatment provider
- Maintain compliance with all conditions of their Deferred Prosecution Agreement

**Costs:**

- There will be a standard monthly program fee in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_/month.
- Clients are responsible for the costs associated with the recommended AODA treatment
- Clients experiencing financial hardship should speak with their case manager to ensure they are able to continue in the program and receiving services
- Clients are responsible for the cost of only POSITIVE alcohol and drug tests. Positive preliminary breath tests will cost \$5.00 per positive test, and urine drug screens will cost \$35.00 per each point of service test with positive results to cover the cost of lab confirmation
- Elevate does not bill client insurance for any services
- Clients are expected to pay all program fees prior to completing the program

**Program Completion:**

- Clients that meet all of the program requirements during the 1 year of the Deferred Prosecution Agreement will successfully complete and are expected to have their charge(s) dismissed
- Clients may have the program extended up to an additional 6 months if that time is required to meet program requirements such as completion of treatment or to demonstrate a period of maintained sobriety
- Elevate will provide the client with a letter regarding program completion and fax a letter to the client's attorney and the District Attorney's Office following successful program completion

**Non-Compliance and Termination:**

- Non-compliance will be managed on a case by case basis, however, continued instances of non-compliance will result in termination from the program
- A client will always be given an explanation of their non-compliance with a plan to improve
- A client with multiple instances of non-compliance may be placed on a behavioral contract, that if they violate, will result in termination from the program
- If a client is placed on a behavioral contract or facing termination, the client's case manager may contact the client's defense attorney and will encourage the client to speak with their attorney as well
- Clients terminated from the program will be given a written explanation of the reasons for their termination and have the right to challenge that decision with Elevate's Executive Director and Washington County Human Services

Above all the program encourages clients to engage in treatment and work on making behavior changes supportive of a healthy and drug free life style. We encourage clients to be honest about any struggles they have during the program with the goal of helping clients complete, not to punish them. We hope that by staying sober and working on developing a healthy lifestyle, clients can maintain long-term recovery and avoid any future involvement in the criminal justice system. We appreciate any feedback, communication, or support you may be able to offer to improve the program so that it may continue to function and benefit clients and Washington County as a whole.