

Updates to internet/DOC on DUI Home Confinement Program:

Effective February 14, 2012 the Department of Correction (DOC) began assessing inmates for the Driving under the Influence Home Confinement Program (DUI HC Program). The first inmates were released to home supervision in March of 2012. Inmates who qualify for this program are those who are sentenced for Driving under the Influence (DUI) charges or for Driving a Motor Vehicle after Suspension.

The criteria for participation are strict. An inmate may be "eligible" for the program but he or she may not be "suitable" to be released on home confinement. The program is designed for those inmates who have a history directly related to DUI or Driving after Suspension. Those inmates who have a long criminal history, a history of violence or disciplinary problems may be "eligible" for the program but not "suitable" for release into the community on this type of supervision. Inmates who are admitted with minor concurrent charges may be considered for the program if the concurrent charges will be satisfied before the sentence for DUI or Driving after Suspension is satisfied.

There are generally three levels of programming and intervention offered to inmates incarcerated on the two charges. The first level of intervention is a 15 session alcohol education class. It can take 2-3 months from when the inmate enters the system to the time he or she is able to complete the program. Classification Counselors process the community release paperwork for the DUI/Driving after Suspension inmate and the facility Warden makes the final determination to approve or deny community release.

The second level of intervention is for inmates who have a longer history of substance abuse and need more education before being considered for release on home confinement. Generally the inmate will participate in The Department of Correction Tier 2 Substance Abuse Program. This is a 31 session outpatient drug and alcohol program. The substance abuse counselor may also recommend other programs to the inmate to address other needs.

The highest level of intervention is to recommend the inmate participate in The Department of Correction Tier 4 substance abuse program. This program is for inmates with severe substance abuse histories. This is a six month in-patient program. There is a high chance that an inmate recommended to the Tier 4 program may not be suitable for release on home confinement due to his or her criminal or substance abuse history. Our substance abuse counselors have an ethical responsibility to insure treatment is offered to all inmates and in this case, especially to those with severe substance abuse problems.

Once an inmate completes the program he or she is reviewed for release on HC by the Warden. If approved, the Parole Manager of the DUI HC Unit will be notified and her staff will begin the release process. Supervision on DUI HC release is strict. The inmate is restricted to his or her home except for work and pre-approved treatment related programs. Spot checks are conducted regularly by Parole Officers. If an inmate on HC drinks or uses illegal substances he or she is remanded back to prison and will have no further opportunity for release until the sentence imposed by the courts is completed.

An inmate with a lengthy sentence for DUI will remain in the facility and do programs until he or she is closer to their discharge date. The program allows offenders to be supervised in their homes in the later portion of their sentence. Inmates with a substantial sentence will not be released to the HC Program until they are approximately 6 months from their Voted to Parole date or their maximum release date. Inmates with sentences of over two years will need to have a decision rendered by The Board of Pardons and Paroles before being considered for the HC Program.

If there are further questions about the DUI HC Program please contact one of the following staff members in the Program and Treatment Unit at Central Office.

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