Montana Judicial Branch
Administrative Policies

Subject: Drug Treatment Court Funding	**Policy No.: 880**
Chapter: House Bill No. 2, 2025 Session	**Number of Pages: 4**
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Effective Date:	

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide for the allocation and expenditure of funds appropriated by the 2025 Legislature for the operation of drug treatment courts.

2.0 COURTS TO RECEIVE ALLOCATION IN FISCAL YEAR 2027

The FY2027 general fund appropriation for drug treatment courts will be allocated to the following courts:

2.1 Cascade County Veterans Court

2.2 Butte-Silver Bow Family Drug Court

2.3 Custer County Treatment Court

2.4 Eighth Judicial District Adult Drug Treatment Court

2.5 Eighth Judicial District Juvenile Drug Treatment Court

2.6 Gallatin County Treatment Court

2.7 Fourth Judicial District Youth Drug Court

2.8 Seventh Judicial District DUI Treatment Court (limited to 14 participants with additional funding from another source)

2.9 Yellowstone County Family Drug Treatment Court

2.10 Fourth Judicial District Family Drug Court

2.11 Missoula Drug Court Co-Occurring Docket

2.12 Ninth Judicial District Chemical Dependency Court

2.13 Seventh Judicial District Adult Felony Drug Court

2.14 Thirteenth Judicial District Adult Felony Drug Court

2.15 Thirteenth Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court

2.16 First Judicial District Drug Treatment Court

2.17 First Judicial District Mental Health Treatment Court

2.18 Twentieth Judicial District Adult Treatment Court

2.19 Eleventh Judicial District Family Drug Court

2.20 Thirteenth Judicial District SOAR Court

2.21 Fourth Judicial District Veterans Court

2.22 Fourth Judicial District Adult Felony Court

2.23 Sixth Judicial District Adult Felony Court

2.24 Nineteenth Judicial District Adult Felony Court

2.25 Twelfth Judicial District Adult Felony Court

2.26 Thirteenth Judicial District ICWA Court

2.27 Twenty-first Judicial District Adult Felony Court

3.0 ALLOCATION OF FUNDS FOR FY2027

The FY2027 general fund appropriation for drug treatment courts will be allocated as follows:

3.1 An amount will be allocated for reasonable operating expenses for the statewide drug court coordinator.

3.2 Each court that was allocated funds for a drug court coordinator or for contracted coordination services will receive an amount equal to the FY2027 allocation for that purpose plus funding for salary and insurance increases as determined by the OCA.

3.3 After deducting the amounts provided for in subsections 3.1 and 3.2, the remainder initially will be allocated to each court, based on the average number of active drug court participants reported from May 2024 through April 2026.

3.4 In order to avoid capturing and funding participant census numbers supported by federal enhancement grants, participant numbers will be capped at the highest number for an adult drug court without an enhancement grant and separately, for a family drug treatment court. For FY2027 the general fund participant number is capped at 28 for adult courts and 30 for family courts.

3.5 A weight factor of 1.5 will be applied to each participant in a family drug court (as listed in subsections 2.2, 2.9, 2.10, 2.19, and 2.26).

3.6 After the initial allocation is made under subsection 3.4 and 3.5, each court's percentage of the FY2027 appropriation, minus the amount allocated for statewide operating expenses under subsection 3.1, will be calculated.

4.0 ALLOWABLE AND PROHIBITED EXPENSES

4.1 A drug court may spend its allocation on any of the following:

4.1.1 salary, benefits, and operating expenses for a drug court coordinator or contracted coordination services;

4.1.2 drug and alcohol testing;

4.1.3 treatment services for participants, including medical and dental care and evaluations;

4.1.4 wrap-around services for participants;

4.1.5. transportation for participants to receive treatment services and attend drug court;

4.1.6 process evaluations;

4.1.7 participant surveillance;

4.1.8 participant education;

4.1.9 expenses associated with court operations (e.g., office supplies);

4.1.10 in-state training for drug court team members; and

4.1.11 other expenses upon prior approval from the OCA.

4.2 A drug court may not spend its allocation on any of the following:

4.2.1 participant incentives;

4.2.2 vehicles;

4.2.3 construction;

4.2.4 out-of-state travel or training; or

4.2.5 political or lobbying activities.

4.3 If there is any question about whether an expenditure is allowable, the drug court is strongly encouraged to contact the Office of Court Administrator (OCA) before making the expenditure.

4.4 Allowable expenditures must be made in accordance with Judicial Branch policies, State of Montana administrative policies, and state law.

5.0 STATEWIDE DATABASE

A drug court receiving an allocation must regularly report required data to the statewide database maintained by the OCA.

6.0 REALLOCATION OF FUNDING

6.1 The OCA shall monitor general fund expenditures and caseloads for those courts receiving allocations.

6.2 If budget projections and caseload trends indicate that a court will be unable to expend its allocation, the OCA may reallocate all or part of the allocation to a court listed in section 2.0 that has demonstrated a need for additional funding.

7.0 CLOSING

Questions about this policy should be directed to the OCA at the following address:

Montana Supreme Court
Office of Court Administrator
Room 315, Justice Building
.O. Box 203002
Helena, Montana 59620-3002
Phone: (406) 444-2621