



New South Wales

Drug Court Regulation 1999

under the
Drug Court Act 1998

His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has made the following Regulation under the *Drug Court Act 1998*.

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Attorney General

Explanatory note

The object of this Regulation is to make provisions with respect to the operation of the *Drug Court Act 1998*. The Regulation deals with the following matters:

- (a) the criteria to be satisfied before a person is eligible to be considered for a Drug Court program (clause 5),
- (b) the courts and proceedings from which a person may be referred to the Drug Court for consideration for a Drug Court program (clause 6),
- (c) the guidelines to be observed in determining the availability and allocation of facilities in connection with Drug Court programs (clause 7),
- (d) the modification of section 33H of the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986* so as to enable certain obligations under that section to be suspended for the purpose of expediting proceedings before the Drug Court (clause 8),
- (e) the persons to be required to furnish information to the Drug Court in relation to the administration of Drug Court programs (clause 9),
- (f) the forms to be used for the purposes of the Act (clause 10),
- (g) the fees to be charged for the purposes of the Act (clause 11),

1999 No 56

Drug Court Regulation 1999

Explanatory note

(h) other formal matters (clauses 1, 2, 3 and 4).

The provisions of clause 6 (prescribing courts and proceedings for the purposes of section 6 of the Act) and clause 5 (a) (prescribing place of residence as a criterion to be satisfied for a person to be considered an “eligible person” under section 5 of the Act) are transitional provisions designed to initiate the Drug Court programs contemplated by the *Drug Court Act 1998*.

This Regulation is made under the *Drug Court Act 1998*, including section 32 (the general regulation-making power) and sections 5, 6, 7, 18 and 31.

This Regulation comprises or relates to matters of a machinery or transitional nature.

Contents

| | Page |
|--|------|
| 1 Name of Regulation | 3 |
| 2 Commencement | 3 |
| 3 Definitions | 3 |
| 4 Notes | 3 |
| 5 Eligible persons: section 5 | 3 |
| 6 Referring courts: section 6 | 3 |
| 7 Guidelines for facilities for the supervision and control of persons participating in Drug Court programs: section 7 | 4 |
| 8 Application of Criminal Procedure Act 1986: section 18 | 4 |
| 9 Provision of information to Drug Court: section 31 | 5 |
| 10 Forms | 6 |
| 11 Fees | 6 |

Drug Court Regulation 1999

1 Name of Regulation

This Regulation is the *Drug Court Regulation 1999*.

2 Commencement

This Regulation commences on 5 February 1999.

3 Definitions

In this Regulation:

the Act means the *Drug Court Act 1998*.

4 Notes

The explanatory note and table of contents do not form part of this Regulation.

5 Eligible persons: section 5

For the purposes of section 5 (1) (e) of the Act, the following criteria are prescribed as criteria that a person must satisfy in order to be an eligible person within the meaning of the Act:

- (a) the person's usual place of residence must be within one of the following local government areas, namely, Auburn, Bankstown, Baulkham Hills, Blacktown, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Hawkesbury, Holroyd, Liverpool, Parramatta or Penrith,
- (b) the person must not be suffering from any mental condition that could prevent or restrict the person's active participation in a program under the Act,
the person must be of or above the age of 18 years,
- (c) criminal proceedings against the person for the offence with which the person is charged must not be criminal proceedings that are within the Children's Court's jurisdiction to hear and determine.

6 Referring courts: section 6

The following courts and proceedings are prescribed for the purposes of section 6 (1) of the Act:

- (a) the District Court, in respect of all criminal proceedings brought before it in its sittings at Campbelltown, Liverpool, Parramatta or Penrith,
- (b) the Local Courts at Bankstown, Blacktown, Burwood, Campbelltown, Fairfield, Liverpool, Parramatta, Penrith, Richmond, Ryde and Windsor, in respect of all criminal proceedings brought before them.

7 Guidelines for facilities for the supervision and control of persons participating in Drug Court programs: section 7

- (1) For the purposes of section 7 (2) (c) of the Act, the following guidelines are to be observed in determining the availability and allocation of facilities for the supervision and control of a referred person's participation in a program under the Act:
 - (a) facilities are taken to be available in relation to a referred person:
 - (i) if the person or body providing those facilities is willing to accept the referred person, and
 - (ii) if it is reasonably likely that those facilities will be available to the referred person when they are needed, and
 - (iii) if the registrar has received advice as to the treatment proposed to be provided to the referred person by means of those facilities,
 - (b) facilities are to be allocated to referred persons in accordance with policies determined from time to time by the Drug Court.
- (2) In subclause (1), *referred person* means a person who has been referred to the Drug Court under section 6 of the Act.

8 Application of Criminal Procedure Act 1986: section 18

- (1) The provisions of section 33H (1) and (2) of the *Criminal Procedure Act 1986* are modified so as to provide that, in proceedings before the Drug Court under section 7 of the Act, the obligations of the Drug Court and prosecuting authority under those provisions are suspended in relation to a person charged if the person charged consents to their suspension.

- (2) The suspension of those obligations ceases to have effect:
- (a) on the person withdrawing consent under subclause (1), or
 - (b) on the person consenting to being dealt with by the Drug Court under section 8 of the Act, or
 - (c) on the Drug Court referring the person back to the referring court under section 8 of the Act.

9 Provision of information to Drug Court: section 31

- (1) For the purposes of section 31 (1) of the Act, the following persons are prescribed, but only if they are involved in the administration of, or provide services in connection with, a drug offender's program:
- (a) persons acting for or on behalf of the South Western Sydney, Wentworth or Western Sydney Area Health Service,
 - (b) persons acting for or on behalf of the toxicology unit of Pacific Laboratory Medicine Services (an administrative unit of the Northern Sydney Area Health Service),
 - (c) persons acting for or on behalf of Access Correctional Services (an administrative unit of the Department of Education and Training),
 - (d) persons acting for or on behalf of the following organisations:
 - (i) "We Help Ourselves" (WHOs),
 - (ii) "Guthrie House Co-operative Inc",
 - (iii) "Jarrah House Women's Alcohol and Drug Centre",
 - (iv) "Kamira Farm Inc",
 - (v) "Wayback Committee Ltd",
 - (vi) "West Mount Co-operative Ltd",
 - (e) persons acting for or on behalf of the McGrath Foundation in connection with its "Odyssey House program",
 - (f) persons acting for or on behalf of the William Booth Institute in connection with its "Bridge program".
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1999 No 56

Clause 9 Drug Court Regulation 1999

- (2) An organisation is referred to in subclause (1) by the name under which it is incorporated (in the case of a body corporate), the name under which it is constituted (in the case of an unincorporated body) or the name under which it trades (in either case).
- (3) For the purposes of section 31 (2) of the Act:
 - (a) information may be provided to the registrar:
 - (i) personally, or
 - (ii) by letter sent by post to the registrar or delivered to the offices of the registrar, or
 - (iii) by letter sent to the registrar by means of document exchange facilities, or
 - (iv) by message sent by facsimile or other electronic transmission, and
 - (b) information provided to the registrar otherwise than in writing must be confirmed in writing within 24 hours unless the registrar indicates otherwise.

10 Forms

- (1) Any form that may be used in respect of criminal proceedings before the District Court may also be used in respect of criminal proceedings before the Drug Court in its exercise of the criminal jurisdiction of the District Court.
- (2) Any form that may be used in respect of criminal proceedings before a Local Court may also be used in respect of criminal proceedings before the Drug Court in its exercise of the criminal jurisdiction of a Local Court.

11 Fees

- (1) Any fee that may be charged in respect of criminal proceedings before the District Court may also be charged in respect of criminal proceedings before the Drug Court in its exercise of the criminal jurisdiction of the District Court.

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- (2) Any fee that may be charged in respect of criminal proceedings before a Local Court may also be charged in respect of criminal proceedings before the Drug Court in its exercise of the criminal jurisdiction of a Local Court.
 - (3) The Drug Court may postpone, waive or remit any fee that may be charged under the Act, either unconditionally or subject to conditions.
 - (4) The Drug Court's function under subclause (3) may be exercised by the registrar.