



Fact Sheet:



An Overview of California's Driving Under the Influence Program

Overview

The Department of Health Care Services administers the Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Program through its DUI Program Branch. The DUI Program Branch licenses and monitors all DUI programs statewide; establishes regulations, approves participant fees and fee schedules, and provides DUI information and technical assistance.

The objective of DUI programs is to: (1) reduce the number of repeat DUI offenses by persons who complete a state-licensed DUI program; and (2) provide participants an opportunity to address problems related to the use of alcohol and/or other drugs.

The Department currently licenses 254 first-offender, 200 eighteen-month, and 34 thirty-month multiple offender programs.

In fiscal year 2009-2010, 154,834 DUI offenders enrolled in California's licensed DUI programs. Of that number, 130,665 offenders successfully completed all aspects of their programs.

Licensure

Although the Department is responsible for licensing all DUI programs statewide, the licensing process begins with the county board of supervisors, in concert with the county alcohol and drug program administrator, by recommending applicants to the State for licensure.

Applicants must demonstrate administrative, fiscal, and operational capabilities to operate a DUI program; provide programs clean, safe, and free of alcohol or illicit drug use; and adherence to all applicable statutes and regulations.

Following the review and approval process a license is issued for the provision of DUI services.

Offender Programs

Wet Reckless Program

Persons convicted of reckless driving with a measurable amount of alcohol in their blood complete a 12-hour DUI education program.

First Offender Program

Persons convicted of a first DUI offense complete a three-month, 30-hour alcohol and drug education and counseling program. However, first offenders with a blood alcohol content of 0.20 or higher complete a nine-month, 60-hour alcohol and drug education and counseling program.

18-Month Program

Second and subsequent DUI offenders complete 18-month multiple offender programs with 52 hours of group counseling, 12 hours of alcohol and drug education, 6 hours of community reentry monitoring, and biweekly individual interviews during the first 12 months of the program.

30-Month Program

A county may elect to provide 30-month DUI programs for third and subsequent DUI offenders. Butte, Los Angeles, Mendocino, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus Counties are currently the only counties with these services available. Program requirements are: 78 hours of group counseling, 12 hours of alcohol and drug education, 120-300 hours of community service, and close and regular individual interviews.

Resources

For applicable statutes and regulations, other information, please visit our website at <http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/Pages/SUD-ProvPartners.aspx>, or contact us at the phone number below.