

FAMILY RECOVERY COURT

APPLICATION PROCESS: INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

BASIC ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for FRC your child(ren) must be in a dependency and you must have a substance use disorder. The dependency must be less than six months old and your child(ren) should not be placed out of your home for more than ten months.

Crimes/convictions including sexual abuse, serious violent offenses or some firearm charges are disqualifying crimes. If you are eligible for the program, your application can be fast-tracked for easy entry into Family Recovery Court.

Exceptions may be made to the eligibility requirements, which you and your attorney can address in your application.

Talk to your attorney about your eligibility and how to apply. You may also directly refer yourself to the program or have your social worker or your child(ren)'s GAL refer you for consideration.

BENEFITS OF FAMILY RECOVERY COURT

Family Recovery Court has a team of professionals dedicated to supporting you through your recovery with the goal of putting you in a position where you can reunify with your child(ren). The participants of FRC are supportive and encouraging of one another.

The team can provide referrals and additional financial resources to support you with basic needs, housing, transportation, healthy activities, and educational expenses. See your attorney for a complete list of the resources that can be provided to support you and your family through your recovery.

EXPECTATIONS

There are four phases you must complete to graduate from FRC. You will be given a notebook with more detailed information about each phase, expectations, and guidelines.

Some of the expectations are:

- *Attend all court-ordered services, including substance use disorder treatment and random UA testing*
- *No use of alcohol, marijuana, illegal substances, or other inappropriate substances*
- *Attend court on time and in person every FRC week and be respectful to all participants and providers. FRC is held every other week.*
- *Sign requested releases and waive confidentiality regarding certain communications.*
- *Keep other participants' information confidential.*
- *Bring your FRC notebook every week.*

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN ENTERING FRC?

We look forward to working with you!

There is a low barrier entry process for FRC. Here is what you can do:

1) Apply through your lawyer

If your dependency is less than six months old and your children have been out of your home for less than ten months, the application process is as simple as your lawyer just submitting a form to the team.

If your dependency is older, you will need to fill out a simple questionnaire with your lawyer. Your lawyer will send the questionnaire to the team for consideration in FRC.

2) Refer yourself to the program

Any dependency professional can refer you to FRC. The social worker(s) and/or guardian ad litem can refer you to the program.

You may also refer yourself to the program by emailing the Family Recovery Court Coordinator at: treatmentcourts@co.skagit.wa.us

Once referred to the program, your attorney will be in communication with the FRC team while your referral is considered by the team.

STILL THINKING ABOUT IT?

You are also welcome to observe any Family Recovery Court sessions to see if it seems like a good fit for you. We hold FRC every other week. The FRC calendar is posted on the Superior Court website at:

www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/SuperiorCourt/specialtycourts/FRCmain.htm

Your attorney or any social workers or GALs working on your case can also inform you when the next FRC session will be held.

WHAT TO EXPECT

If your application is approved, you will enter Pre-Phase. This gives us time for you to have a substance use disorder assessment with the provider and decide if the program is a good fit for you before formally signing in.

It might seem like a lot, but we will walk you through each step!