

Admission Policy for Mental Health Court Program

In order to qualify for admission to the Mental Health Court Program (the “Program”), a person must:

1. Be 18 years of age or older.
2. Be charged with a criminal offence(s) that is within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Court.
3. Live in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) and have substantial ties to that community which must include health care providers.
4. Must be fit and criminally responsible.
5. Acknowledge responsibility and, in most instances, enter guilty pleas for the offences they are charged with.
6. Have the consent of the Crown Attorney in the Program to participate.
7. Must have a qualifying mental health disorder. See ***Mental Health Disorder Eligibility Criteria Guidelines***.
8. The qualifying mental health disorder must be clearly and substantially connected to the commission of the offence(s) (the “nexus”).
9. Have a level of risk that is manageable and able to be monitored by the Program Team.
10. Waive delay.
11. Be likely to gain some benefit from participation in the Program.