

Admission Policy for Substance Use Disorder Court Program

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

1. Be 19 years of age or older. This reflects the minimum age of participants in the Nova Scotia Health Authority Opioid Treatment Program (OTP).
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. Applicants must also be engaged in work, education, or volunteer work in the HRM.
4. Acknowledge responsibility for the offences they are charged with and enter guilty pleas voluntarily.
5. Have the consent of the Crown Attorney for the Program to participate.
6. Have an opioid dependency that is substantially connected to the charges.
7. Be assessed to have an opioid dependency, which can be treated with methadone or suboxone.
8. Have a level of risk that is manageable and able to be monitored by the Program Team.
9. Waive delay.
10. Be likely to gain some benefit from participation in the Program.