

Mental Health Disorder Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration into the Mental Health Court Program (the “Program”), Applicants must have a diagnosed major mental health disorder. The Program defines a mental health disorder as a clinically significant disturbance in an individual’s cognition, emotional regulation and/or behaviour (World Health Organization). Examples include, but are not limited to: Psychosis, Schizophrenia, PTSD, Bipolar Disorder, and other Mood Disorders. The Program may also consider individuals with neurocognitive disorders or brain injury on a case-by-case basis.

Applicants with a Substance Use Disorder substantially connected to their offence may be considered for the Substance Use Disorder Court Program. ***See Substance Use Disorder Eligibility Guidelines.***

The Program may review cases in which the sole diagnosis does not clearly fit these criteria in exceptional circumstances, where there is a clear nexus (substantial connection), the individual would benefit from the Program’s intervention, and it would not be contrary to public safety.

The Program **will not** consider individuals whose sole diagnosis is Antisocial Personality Disorder or individuals whose sole diagnosis falls within the spectrum of Paraphilic Disorders (e.g. Pedophilia or Exhibitionism).

In all cases, an individual’s acceptance to the Program will be considered with respect to the Program’s ability to support the individual and manage any risk in the community.