

For more information about the Veterans Diversion Program, visit the following websites:

New Jersey Office of the Attorney General
www.nj.gov/oag/vdp

County Prosecutors Offices
<https://www.state.nj.us/oag/dcj/county-prosecutor.html>

New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
<https://www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/diversion-program/index.html>

State of New Jersey Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
https://www.nj.gov/military/veterans/docs/GCADA_Veterans_Guide.pdf

REMINDER:

Keep copies of all court documents.

NOTICE

This brochure provides general information about the Veterans Diversion Program in the Superior Court and municipal courts. Contact the local county or municipal prosecutor's office for information on a specific case.



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What is the Veterans Diversion Program?

The Veterans Diversion Program is a statewide program for eligible service members who are charged with certain offenses in the Superior Court or the municipal court and who suffer from mental illness. The prosecutor decides who is admitted into the program. An eligible service member is a veteran, enlisted person or officer of the U.S. Armed Forces. This includes members of the reserves and the New Jersey National Guard.

Veterans Diversion Program





How can this program help?

If eligible, you could be matched with support services such as mental health counseling, job placement and addiction services.

Who is eligible?

You must be an eligible service member who is charged with a non-violent petty disorderly persons offense, a disorderly persons offense, or a crime of the third- or fourth-degree. You also must have a mental illness. An eligible service member is a veteran, enlisted person or officer of the U.S. Armed Forces. This includes members of the reserves and the New Jersey National Guard.

Who is not eligible?

You are not eligible for the program if you are charged with a first- or second-degree crime, have been convicted of a crime under the No Early Release Act, or are charged with a crime that involves violence or the threat of violence. If you were charged with domestic violence, you could be admitted to the program if the prosecutor agrees.

How long is the program?

The judge could admit you into the program for at least six months and up to two years.

What happens when you successfully complete the program?

The judge could dismiss the charges and could order an expungement of the case. An expungement is a legal process available for certain criminal and disorderly persons convictions that can help people clear their criminal records.

How do I apply?

You and your attorney should speak to the prosecutor assigned to your case. It is strongly recommended that you speak with your attorney before applying.