

ALTERNATIVE SENTENCING PROGRAMS

MANAGED BY

Maine Pretrial Services, Inc.

SERVING

District 6 – Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo and Knox Counties

&

Penobscot County

Program Mission

Comprehensive Community Service, Substance Abuse and Criminal Thinking Education

The Alternative Sentencing Program is a jail diversion program where sentenced offenders (most often first- and second-time non-violent offenders with OUI charges) serve the equivalent of their sentence at a safe, non-jail location. A judge must sentence a defendant to the program, often upon request by the defendant or their attorney, or recommendation by the district attorney. The program is open to any Maine resident, regardless of where in the state they were convicted, or non-residents who would otherwise be serving time in Maine. The program cost is paid by the defendant.

Inmates/Participants stay on-site, under supervision by staff 24/7, perform 8 hours of community service per day and attend 2-3 hours of substance abuse education each night. The program is operated under a contract with the county sheriff, and under Department of Correction standards. The program runs 2 days for first-time offenders, and 7 days for second-time offenders.

The program is designed to meet several objectives:

- Hold individuals accountable for their previous criminal actions;
- Provide service to the community;
- Reduce costs to the community for housing inmates;
- Provide participants an opportunity to learn about the impact of their behavior on others;
- Provide participants an opportunity to review their own lives and needs regarding the use or abuse of alcohol or other drugs;
- Improve participants' self-esteem;
- Strengthen participants' decision-making skills.

Eligibility Criteria

Participants must meet all of the following requirements:

- 18 years of age or older;
- Resident of Maine and/or have a conviction in Maine;
- First or second time offender of non-violent crimes;
- No violent criminal history;
- Physically, medically, mentally and emotionally capable of handling up to a week of sobriety and community service, and living in shared camp cabins. Doctor's approval may be required.
- Order by sentencing judge.

Application, Screening & Check-in Process

- Contact Kathleen Miller at 207-266-9213 or kathleen.miller@mainepretrial.org to register and get a packet of information about the program, including the Application Form, and specific information about the program you will attend (location, directions, times, what to bring/not bring etc.).
- Return the Application Form with payment to secure participation.
 - \$300 for First Offenders (sentenced for 48-72 hours)
 - \$500 for Second Offenders (sentenced for 7-14 days)
- Do a screening interview by phone. Some may be required to meet in person with a Maine Pretrial staff person for screening prior to attending the program.
- For Penobscot ASP, may need to complete booking with Penobscot County Jail on any Saturday between 9AM – 5PM. Photos and fingerprints are needed.
- If necessary, provide approval from doctors or counselors certifying your ability to safely complete the program.
- Bring photo ID to the in-person screening and at check in to the program (driver's license, state photo ID, passport, college ID are all acceptable).
- All fees are non-refundable. Payment arrangements are accepted as long as payment is complete by program start date. **We cannot accept cash, personal checks or credit cards; Bank checks or Money Orders only.**
- At check-in, participants will surrender car keys and telephones, all belongings will be checked for prohibited items, and participants must pass a breathalyzer and/or drug test.
- Violations of the program rules and expectations will result in offenders being turned over to the local Jail and/or returned to their own county jail at personal expense.

What to Bring (partial list)

- Enough clothes for your stay including work and outer-wear.
- Work boots and gloves
- Warm Bedding, Towels, and Toiletries
- Medications – prescription or over-the-counter – in the original bottles.
- Cell phone, flashlight, book
- Bug spray, sun screen
- Nicotine patches or gum (*if needed due to no/ limited smoking opportunities*)
- Empty water bottle (*can fill on site*)

What NOT to Bring (partial list)

- Electronics (computer, iPod, e-cigarettes)
- Curling irons or hair dryers
- Makeup, Mouthwash, or cologne
- Snack food, gum, drinks, candy
- Water or other liquids
- Anything containing alcohol

Frequently Asked Questions

Can I smoke at the Program? Yes, at weeklong programs, No at weekend programs. Smoke breaks will be designated and supervised. You must bring enough cigarettes for the entire week; there is no way to get more if you run out. If you roll your own, you must roll enough for the week; loose tobacco is not allowed.

What about food? The Program provides three meals per day plus snacks, coffee and juice/water throughout the day. There will also be a canteen where you can purchase soda, chips, and candy.

Where do I sleep? The Program provides sleeping space in cabins for weeklong programs at camps or on cots for weekend programs at schools. Rooms will have same-gender people in each room.

Can I shower? Yes! Participants are required to shower once a day. Shower opportunities are before breakfast and before dinner.

What happens to my meds? Staff will collect all medications at check-in, log them, lock them up, and distribute them at set times each day, generally around meal times and before bed.

I take non-prescription meds. Is that a problem? No, but you need to tell Staff during screening or upon arrival. The Program will have some antacids, non-narcotic pain relievers such as aspirin available for use. Any over-the-counter medications, vitamins, etc. that you bring with you will be treated like prescription medication and will be kept under lock and key, distributed at set times.

Can I use my cell phone? Yes, on a limited basis. Cell phones should be fully charged and turned off upon arrival. Staff will collect phones at check-in and keep them locked until designated phone times. Please be advised that reception may be poor at some locations.

2017 Dates

	Program	Start Time	Location	ASP County
2017				
April 7-14	1 st & 2 nd Offenders	4:00 pm	Wavus Camp, Jefferson	District 6
April 14-16	1 st Offenders	5:00 pm	Central High School, Corinth	Penobscot
April 28-May 5	1 st & 2 nd Offenders	8:00 am	Camp Roosevelt, Eddington	Penobscot
June 23-25	1 st Offenders	5:00 pm	Hampden Academy, Hampden	Penobscot
September 8-15	1 st & 2 nd Offenders	8:00 am	Camp Roosevelt, Eddington	Penobscot
October 27-Nov 3	1 st & 2 nd Offenders	4:00 pm	Wavus Camp, Jefferson	District 6

Contact Info

Kathleen Miller
207-266-9213
kathleen.miller@mainepretrial.org
Maine Pretrial Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 600
Mount Desert, Maine 04660