

The Mandated Education and Referral Into Treatment (MERIT) Drug Court Program is designed to assist people with high risks, high needs and limited means who "merit" (are worthy of) the chance to take back control of their lives by addressing their drug and/or alcohol addiction and/or mental illness. The MERIT-V (Vivitrol) Drug Court is the medically assisted track within the Drug Court for individuals who require Vivitrol as part of their intervention for abuse of opiates and alcohol. MERIT/MERIT-V Drug Court program will improve your life by helping you achieve a clean, sober and healthier lifestyle; improve your family life; work to support yourself and your family; learn to prepare for better employment opportunities; and discover your full potential.

The MERIT/MERIT-V Drug Court program will provide you with substance abuse and mental health treatment and counseling; Vivitrol shots for the duration of the program; referral to medical, social, mental health and other service providers; assistance in obtaining your GED; community service to work off fines and court costs; help in obtaining a valid driver's license; relationships with people who care about you; incentives to recognize your accomplishments; and a structure necessary to form a foundation for your life after the program. The first step in achieving the future of your choice is committing yourself to changing for the better. The MERIT/MERIT-V Drug Court program offers you this opportunity. You will do the work with the tools the program gives you.

The MERIT/MERIT-V Drug Court Program is offered to a limited number of applicants who qualify for specialized drug treatment programming while on community control supervision. Persons eligible for community control supervision who qualify for the program will be supervised and will meet frequently with the program coordinator, probation officer, the Judge, counselors and other program participants to discuss and evaluate their progress, participation and achievements.