



2026 Academy Court Solicitation and Application



Academy Court Solicitation

Impaired Driving Solutions Academy Courts

Impaired Driving Solutions (IDS), a division of All Rise, is proud to announce the continuation of the Academy Court Network. Developed in conjunction with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), U.S. Department of Transportation, academy courts function as the leaders in impaired driving treatment court training and research. We invite operational impaired driving treatment courts to apply to become IDS Academy Courts for the 2026-2028 term.

What is an impaired driving treatment court?

An impaired driving treatment court— also called a hybrid court or DWI/DUI court—is a distinct court docket dedicated to changing the behavior of individuals arrested for impaired driving who have been diagnosed with moderate to severe substance use disorder. The goal of impaired driving treatment courts is to increase public safety by using the treatment court model to address the root cause of substance use disorders that result in impaired driving. These courts follow the principles outlined in [The 10 Guiding Principles of DWI Courts](#) and the [Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards](#). In addition:

- Impaired driving treatment courts operate as a post-conviction model and are not used to avoid a record of conviction or license sanctions.
- The target population for impaired driving treatment courts is high-risk/high-need individuals.
- Impaired driving is a polysubstance issue; therefore, impaired driving treatment courts should not differentiate eligibility by substance involved in the arrest or focus solely on alcohol-impaired driving.

What is an academy court?

Since its inception, All Rise has been committed to working with treatment court programs that exhibit exemplary treatment court practices to serve as educational and training sites for the treatment court field. Continuing in this tradition, IDS Academy Courts serve as model court program mentors for the provision of educational and training services and serve as research sites for the development, identification, and testing of improved impaired driving treatment court practices. IDS Academy Courts are located throughout the country and serve as primary IDS training locations, hosting training and mentor sessions, and demonstrating best practices for visiting impaired driving treatment court professionals.

Benefits of Being an Academy Court

IDS Academy Courts are nationally recognized by NHTSA and IDS as programs demonstrating exemplary practices. Once selected, they are provided with training and materials to assist program officials in hosting visits to their program. Academy courts are also eligible to receive training and targeted assistance to allow them to be readily available for research leading to the development of new evidence-based practices.

Each IDS Academy Court receives two scholarships to cover travel costs of team members to attend RISE, the annual All Rise conference. IDS Academy Courts also receive a \$1,000 stipend to be used for ongoing training of staff, implementing improved program practices, and for costs associated with hosting visitors to their court.

Responsibilities of Academy Courts

IDS Academy Courts commit to serving as an academy court for three years. To serve in their capacity as a training site, programs are required to maintain operations at an exemplary level. IDS assists in this process through the provision of targeted assistance, training, and periodic site visits to the program. Academy courts are required to participate in at least one training or targeted assistance delivered by IDS during their term. Additionally, academy courts may be asked to take part in research projects seeking to identify and develop improved program practices that can then be disseminated to the field.

How will academy courts be selected?

The IDS Academy Court selection process is two-tiered. Interested impaired driving treatment courts must complete the application process by the specified deadline. Applications are reviewed and rated based on objective criteria by a group of peer reviewers. The highest-ranked programs are eligible for the second step of the selection process, which involves a detailed review of the program operations through a site visit.

Applicants are evaluated in a variety of areas, including but not limited to:

- Length of court operation—programs must have been in operation for at least three years and had at least two commencements
- Current program operations
- Current client selection and eligibility practices
- Use of effective treatment practices
- Overall adherence to the 10 Guiding Principles and Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards

- Overall program effectiveness
- Unique attributes of the program
- Suitability as an IDS training site (e.g., ability to host training, local training resources, technological capabilities)

Application Process

Applicant Information Page

The first page of the program application must include the following information in the order listed. This page does not count toward the 10-page limit for the program application. Applicant contact information must include:

- Impaired driving treatment court name
- Impaired driving treatment court location (city, county, state)
- Name and job title of the person submitting the application (the point of contact)
- Agency of point of contact
- Court address
- Point of contact phone
- Point of contact e-mail

Program Application and Supporting Materials

The program application submission must be double-spaced, using a standard 12-point font (Times New Roman) with 1-inch margins in Microsoft Word, and must not exceed 10 pages. Please number pages "1 of 10," "2 of 10," etc. Submissions that do not adhere to the format will be ineligible.

In addition, applicants must submit a copy of the program's operations manual and participant handbook. If the phase structure is not included in the operations manual, applicants must include a separate attachment with that information.

All documents must be submitted electronically. Faxed or mailed applications or supporting materials will not be accepted.

Submission Deadline

Applications for the Impaired Driving Treatment Court Academy Court Solicitation are **due by 5:00 p.m. EST on Friday, December 19, 2025**. This deadline is firm and will not be extended. Please e-mail the completed application to IDS project director Jessica Lange at jlange@allrise.org.

For questions, contact Jessica via email or phone at 763-250-0468.

IDS Academy Court Application

Your application must include responses to the following inquiries and must highlight how the program adheres to the 10 Guiding Principles and Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards,

Court Operation

- 1) How long has the program been in operation?
- 2) Does the program have an operations manual reflective of current practices? When was the manual last updated?
- 3) Does the program have a participant handbook reflective of current practices? When was the handbook last updated?
- 4) Who are the court team members and what agencies do they represent? What are their roles and responsibilities? How long has each team member been with the program?

Program Operations

- 1) How many participants are currently in the program?
- 2) Does the program accept impaired drivers exclusively?
- 3) What is the program capacity?
- 4) What is the average length of program participation for graduates?
- 5) Please describe the phase structure of the program, including participant goals, requirements, and benchmarks to advance/progress in each phase.
- 6) When and how often does the program hold precourt staff meetings (day, time)? How much time is scheduled for the meeting? Which members of the team participate?
- 7) When does the program hold status hearings? How much time is scheduled for hearings? Who attends the hearings? Are there separate calendars for different populations?

Client Selection and Eligibility Practices

- 1) Please describe the target population and eligibility criteria for the program.
- 2) Describe the entry process, including legal and clinical screening requirements, risk and need assessments used, team member responsibilities, and a timeline.
- 3) Does the program allow/prohibit any of the following characteristics of individuals or offenses? Please provide an explanation for each:
 - Drug or polysubstance involved
 - Mental health issues
 - Participants taking validly prescribed medication
 - Other unique characteristics
- 4) What stage in the judicial process does the participant enter the program? Does the program use deferrals or dismissals as enticements for entry or successful completion?
- 5) What is the completion rate of the program?
 - Commencement
 - Termination
 - Neutral discharge

Treatment and Supervision Practices

- 1) Please describe in detail the program's treatment protocol and services.
- 2) Please describe the clinical assessment tool(s) used and include which evidence-based programs are used by the agency(ies).
- 3) Please describe the program's policy and procedure for medications for addiction treatment (MAT) and how many participants are currently on MAT.
- 4) Please describe the program's process for individualized treatment planning, case management, and how progress is measured.
- 5) Are the treatment services provided by credentialed and trained personnel? Please describe.

- 6) Please describe how the program includes recovery capital/recovery support for participants.
- 7) Please describe in detail the program's supervision protocol, including whether case management is provided.
- 8) Please describe how the program responds to behavior, to include at a minimum: responding to substance use, use of incentives, and the use of jail as a sanction.

Program Effectiveness

- 1) Please describe the process of collecting and analyzing data including examples of data elements that the program collects regularly.
- 2) Has the program been evaluated? By whom, when, and/or is the evaluation ongoing? What were the results of the latest evaluation? Please submit a copy of your latest evaluation as a separate attachment; this does not count as part of the 10-page application.
- 3) Please describe any unique community linkages and sustainability strategies currently in place.

Training Suitability

- 1) Is the program close to a major airport? What is the estimated travel time from the airport to your program?
- 2) List hotels that are within walking distance of the program. Do they have facilities to handle a general session room, four breakout rooms, and hotel rooms for 60 people?
- 3) How many visitors can the program accommodate at precourt staff meetings?
- 4) How many visitors can the program accommodate at status hearings?
- 5) Please describe the program's ability to provide audio/visual (AV) services to remote locations. Is the program equipped with the necessary AV equipment to link to a remote location to virtually observe precourt staff meetings and court hearings? Are there any legal issues or requirements that must be met to provide this service?