

2026 Impaired Driving Treatment Court Foundational Workshop Application

Overview

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Office of Impaired Driving and Occupant Protection, Impaired Driving Division, is now accepting applications for 2026 Impaired Driving Treatment Court (e.g., DWI court) Foundational Workshops. This is a national training initiative designed to assist communities in developing impaired driving treatment courts (IDTCs) or IDTC tracks within their existing treatment court and is conducted in cooperation with Impaired Driving Solutions (IDS), a division of All Rise. Under this initiative, jurisdictions will be selected to participate in a facilitated planning process. Participating jurisdictions must identify a team of professionals to participate in the training. This program was developed as a team-oriented workshop; therefore, individual participation is not permitted.

Cost to Participate

A team consists of 7-10 people representing various professions, as discussed later in this document. It is recommended that the teams work with their State Highway Safety Office (SHSO) to determine potential funding to cover travel costs associated with the required team members' participation in this effort. However, this does not preclude teams from using other funding, which should be noted in the application. Travel costs include airfare, lodging, meals, and ground transportation. Jurisdictions may also send up to three additional team members beyond the seven required to attend; however, these costs will be at the jurisdiction's or funder's expense. NHTSA covers the cost of the training room and AV costs, along with faculty and material costs.

Note: The SHSO should know that the workshop will usually occur outside the team's home state. Workshops are held regionally around the country near IDS Academy Courts, with every effort made to keep each of the teams in or near their region.

Type of Training

This three-day foundational workshop is designed for teams not currently operating an IDTC or track, who have extensive staff turnover, or who have not previously attended an IDS training. The workshop is team-oriented, comprehensive, and critical to laying the foundation of an IDTC operating in accordance with the 10 Guiding Principles of DWI Courts and Adult Treatment Court Best Practice Standards.

These key issues addressed in the workshop include:

- Team building
- Recovery capital
- Target population and eligibility criteria
- Court model
- Identification, referral, screening, assessment, and entry process
- Phases, phase duration, and phase transition criteria
- Supervision and drug testing protocols for each phase
- Comprehensive treatment continuum of care

- Formation of commencement and termination criteria
- Court responses to client behavior through development of incentives, sanctions, and service adjustments
- Long-term sustainability plan that includes traditional and nontraditional funding, community mapping, resource development, evaluation, and monitoring

Although designed for new teams, this workshop may be open to teams with an operational IDTC but yet to receive official (NHTSA/IDS) workshop OR operational IDTC teams with significant staff turnover. However, this is a planning workshop and may not benefit all operational IDTCs.

Required Commitment and Participation

Offering training and targeted assistance through IDS, NHTSA and SHSOs demonstrate a commitment to working with local communities to prevent and reduce impaired driving, substance use disorder, and crime. NHTSA's investment in this training initiative must be met by the active participation of all approved team members.

Application Process

To participate in IDTC Foundational Workshop, each interested jurisdiction must complete the application by February 27, 2026, and submit it to their SHSO funding for consideration. Each jurisdiction must also submit a letter of commitment from the presiding judge. IDS expects each jurisdiction to honor its commitment to attend the workshop.

Team Composition

To participate in the IDTC Foundational Workshop, each jurisdiction must identify a planning team to include the following:

- Judge
- Prosecutor
- Defense counsel
- Treatment representative
- Court coordinator/planning coordinator
- Community supervision/probation
- Law enforcement

NHTSA and IDS expect to serve up to 10 communities/jurisdictions through two foundational workshops. Five teams can be accommodated at each workshop. Once the capacity of 10 teams has been met, a waitlist is initiated. Waitlisted teams are accepted into the workshop if/when space becomes available.

Review and Selection Process

Applications are reviewed by NHTSA and IDS staff. NHTSA and IDS staff review the application materials and determine whether a community's needs may be met through participation in this workshop. Final selections are based on the following:

- The extent of the identified need
- Past training experience
- Geographic diversity

- Status of existing community planning efforts
- Availability of alternative training and targeted assistance resources to meet training needs
- Completeness of application (e.g., whether required disciplines are identified)

All decisions regarding a jurisdiction's acceptance into IDTC Foundational Workshops are final and are at the sole discretion of NHTSA and IDS. A referral to other sponsored training and targeted assistance resources may be provided if a community is not selected to participate in this workshop. NHTSA and IDS generally assign accepted jurisdictions to workshops on a regional basis. Jurisdictions will be notified of the acceptance decision within 14 days and can expect to begin the initial groundwork in the months leading up to their workshop.

Communities unable or unwilling to participate in their assigned workshop will forfeit participation, and the vacated slot will be offered to the next jurisdiction on the waitlist.

Additional Team Members

Additional team members (e.g., mental health professionals, peer recovery support specialists) may attend the workshop as long as they are participating team members or have a role in providing services to participants. Communities with a team of more than 10 members must contact IDS staff to ensure the training space is large enough to accommodate these additional attendees.

Team Member Roles and Responsibilities

Each participating team member must:

- Attend all training sessions
- Actively participate in all discussions and training breakouts
- Identify an appropriate substitute if the need arises
- Complete all homework assignments and respond to all requests for information from IDS staff and representatives

Each team's court coordinator or planning coordinator must serve as the point of contact for all workshop-related activities. This duty will include ensuring that all relevant information is disseminated to team members in a timely manner, responding to requests for information from NHTSA or IDS, and coordinating with SHSOs.

For More Information

For more information on the IDTC Foundational Training program, visit <https://allrise.org/trainings/impaired-driving-treatment-court-foundational-workshop/> or contact IDS project director Jessica Lange at jlange@allrise.org.

Email applications to Impaired Driving Solutions project director Jessica Lange at jlange@allrise.org

Application deadline:
February 27, 2026

Application for NHTSA/IDS

2026 Impaired Driving Treatment Court Foundational Workshop

Please indicate preference of first choice and second choice for dates. The workshops will be three full weekdays during these weeks; specific dates and locations will be determined at a later time.

_____ June 8-12, 2026: Academy Court site TBD

_____ September 21-25, 2026: Academy Court site TBD

I. Contact Information

Jurisdiction/Court Name:

State:

Team Point of Contact:

Title:

Organization:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Telephone:

Email:

II. Statement of Intent

All interested jurisdictions must respond to the following questions. Please attach your narrative response. NHTSA and IDS will assess the answers and determine the ability of the workshop to meet your jurisdiction's needs.

- 1) Describe your target population and describe the nature and scope of alcohol/drug misuse within that population. Narrative response required – attach as a separate document. Be sure to include jurisdiction/state in the narrative.
- 2) Describe the challenges your current court/case processing system faces and how an impaired driving treatment court can help resolve these issues. Narrative response required – attach as a separate document. Be sure to include jurisdiction/state in the narrative.
- 3) Has your community previously participated in NHTSA training, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Drug Court Planning Initiative (DCPI), or similar training?
☐ Yes. If yes, please list relevant training(s).
☐ No
- 4) Indicate your team's experience in any treatment court planning or exposure.
☐ No experience or exposure

- ☐ Limited experience and exposure (e.g., attended annual treatment court conferences and/or read articles)
 - ☐ Moderate experience and exposure (e.g., visited an operational treatment court).
 - ☐ Extensive experience and exposure (e.g., visited an operational treatment court, researched the topic extensively, and are ready to implement a pilot program)
 - ☐ Completed planning and implemented a pilot program or full docket.
- 5) If you indicated having any experience with the treatment court concept, briefly describe the extent of this exposure. For example, have you identified a steering committee and/or team, held weekly or monthly meetings, and started taking justice-involved individuals? Narrative response required – attach as a separate document. Be sure to include jurisdiction/state in the narrative.
- 6) Which best describes your jurisdiction?
- ☐ Rural (less than 50,000 people)
 - ☐ Urban
 - ☐ Suburban
 - ☐ Mixed (please specify):

III. Letter of Commitment

Each participating judge must write and submit a letter of commitment that includes the information listed below. This letter should be included with the application submitted to your State Highway Safety Office.

- An expression of the community's commitment to developing and implementing your impaired driving treatment court (IDTC).
- An expression that the community will seek the resources necessary to sustain an operational IDTC that may result from the community's planning efforts.
- Identification of the agencies participating in the planning process.
- The expected responsibilities and resources the participating team member agencies will dedicate once the IDTC is operational.
- A clearly stated commitment that approved team members will attend all required training-related activities in their entirety.

IV. Team Roster

Enter contact information for each member/agency participating on your team:

Judge

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Defense Counsel

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Community Supervision

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Court/Planning Coordinator

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Additional Team Member

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Prosecutor

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Treatment Provider

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Law Enforcement

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Additional Team Member

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

Additional Team Member

Name _____
Email _____
Organization _____

FOR STATE HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICES ONLY

State Highway Safety Office staff will review the funding requests for their respective state, noting which teams will receive funding from the State Highway Safety Office should they be selected for the training.

State Highway Safety Office Use

- ☐ Application received – Date: _____
- ☐ Approval: _____ (initials)
- ☐ Forwarded to NHTSA by: _____ Date: _____