

Key Components of Drug Courts

Mississippi law defines "Drug court" as an immediate and highly structured intervention process for substance abuse treatment of eligible defendants or juveniles that brings together substance abuse professionals, local social programs and intensive judicial monitoring; and follows the **key components** of drug courts published by the Drug Court Program Office of the United States Department of Justice. The term "key components" refers to the current ten (10) key components of drug courts as published by the Drug Courts Program Office of the United States Department of Justice and are as follows:

1. Drug courts integrate alcohol and other drug treatment services with justice system case processing.
2. Using a non-adversarial approach, prosecution and defense counsel promote public safety while protecting participants' due process rights.
3. Eligible participants are identified early and placed promptly in the drug court program.
4. Drug courts provide access to a continuum of alcohol, drug, and other related treatment and rehabilitation services.
5. Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other drug testing.
6. A coordinated strategy governs drug court responses to participant compliance.
7. Ongoing judicial interaction with each drug court participant is essential.
8. Monitoring and evaluation measure the achievement of program goals and gauge effectiveness.
9. Continuing interdisciplinary education promotes effective drug court planning, implementation and operations.
10. Forging partnerships among drug courts, public agencies, and community-based organizations generates local support and enhances drug court effectiveness.