

Family Treatment Court Certification

Application Instructions

December 2, 2016



Why Certify?

- State funding
 - Certification is Required by O.C.G.A. § 15-11-70 to receive state funding.
- Improve court functioning and outcomes
 - Certification requirements are based on standards and best practices developed from national research.

Certification Application

- The application is designed to follow the *Georgia Standards for Accountability Courts*.
- The next several slides cover each section in depth. The section being discussed will be yellow.

Key Components Adopted Standards Certification Requirement	Suggested Location, if any	Documentation	Mandatory Requirement OR Best Practice
Key Component #5: Abstinence is monitored by frequent alcohol and other testing.			
Adopted Standards Benchmark 5.1: Participants shall be administered a drug test a minimum of twice per week during the first two phases of the program; a standardized system of drug testing shall continue through the entirety of the program.			Mandatory Requirement
Certification Requirement 5.1: Drug screening policy lays out specimen collection guidelines (same-sex observed) and staff responsibilities.	Policy and Procedure Manual, Drug Testing Schedule	Does your court meet this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Is there an attachment(s) to support this requirement? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Title(s) of the attachment(s) _____ Relevant Page Number(s) _____	

Key Components

- The key components are taken from national research on best practices.
- There are ten that guide *Georgia's Standards* and the certification application.

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Adopted Standards Benchmarks

- The Standards Benchmarks flow from the key components and provide a more specific goal.
- The numbering matches the *Georgia Standards* for easy reference.

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Mandatory Requirement OR Best Practice

- This box shows whether the Standard Benchmark is required or considered a best practice.
- Your court should focus on mandatory requirements but strive to meet best practices.

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Certification Requirements

- The Certification Requirements prescribe what your court should be doing to meet the associated standard.
- You should be able to show that your court meets the requirement or is working towards it.

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Suggested Location

- The Suggested Location provides an option where forms, lists, or documents from the Requirement might be kept.
- In most instances, your court can keep the information stored in another location.

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Documentation

- Use the Documentation section to mark whether or not your court meets the Requirement.
- If you mark Yes, please attach supporting documentation and list an appropriate page number.

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Documentation

- If your court does not meet the Requirement, mark No and attach an explanation or a plan for meeting the Requirement in the future.
- Again, please include an attachment title and page number.

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Application Notes

- Please remember that not meeting a requirement will not automatically disqualify you from receiving funding.
- Be sure to complete the entire Application and ensure all attachments are clearly marked and easily identified.
- Work with your Family Treatment Court team to complete the Certification Application.

Submitting Your Application

- Upload the Application and supporting documents to <http://www.gaaccountabilitycourts.org/cacj-certification>.
- Failure to submit the Certification Application on time will compromise the ability to review your submission and provide timely recommendations on certification eligibility.

Need Help?

- Contact Joshua Becker, Council of Accountability Court Judges
- 404-463-6298
- josh.becker@georgiacourts.gov