

Guidance 44
Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities (TASC)

Contract Reference: *Exhibit F.3,*
Authority: *65D-30.012, 65E-14.021 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)*
Frequency: *Monthly*
Requirement: *The 20th of each month*

Purpose: This document provides guidance for Managing Entities, Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities (TASC) providers, Department of Juvenile Justice and other referring agencies. The Managing Entities shall require that Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities Service providers adhere to the service delivery and reporting requirements herein.

I. Service Goal and Description

The Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act creates the federal initiative “Treatment Alternatives to Street Crime” to advocate for alternative options for substance-abusing criminal offenders. The purpose of this initiative is to reduce recidivism among individuals with criminal justice involvement with substance use issues and to reduce criminal behaviors by diverting these individuals out of the criminal justice system into voluntary treatment programs, at a cost-effective rate. In Florida, the Treatment Alternatives for Street Crime initiative is operationalized under the name Treatment Alternatives for Safer Communities.

Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities is a general intervention service that involves single session or multiple sessions of motivational discussion focused on increasing insight and awareness regarding substance use and motivation toward behavioral change. Intervention can either be tailored to fit a specific population or setting and can be used as a stand-alone service for those at risk or individuals who meet intervention level care.

II. Eligibility

- At risk of criminal involvement or have been arrested or convicted of a crime.
- At risk of substance use.
- At risk or in need of residential services.

III. Evidence-Based Services

- Screening/Interviewing
- Assessment/Evaluation
- Intervention
- Linkage and referral

IV. Referral Agencies

The following referral sources are responsible for utilizing a standardized tool to determine individual eligibility:

- The Department of Juvenile Justice
- Other legal or corrections entities
- Health care systems
- Courts

V. Managing Entity Responsibilities

The Managing Entity is responsible for the following:

1. Subcontract with at least one network service provider to provide services in designated regions that are actively providing Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities services or receiving ongoing referrals.
2. Submit any expenditures related to Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities Services in Template 12 and 13 to the Department monthly and in accordance with 65E-14, F.A.C., by the 20th of each month.
3. Conduct annual quality assurance reviews and review findings for improvement.

In addition to the following in accordance with 65D-30.012:

4. Monitor service performance and effectiveness.
5. Provide technical assistance.
6. Ensure employees are trained to understand the purpose of the service.

VI. Provider Responsibilities

Provider responsibilities include the following in accordance with 65D-30.012, F.A.C:

1. Establish standardized and effective intake protocols that ensure individuals referred, meet eligibility criteria provided in section II.
2. Initiate referral agreements to ensure all parties involved are aware of roles, expectations, provisions for reporting information, and consequences of individuals who fail to complete an intervention plan.
3. Schedule consultations with the referral agency to provide status updates on service completion. If individuals do not meet service goals, the provider may update or revise the plan as necessary, with information from all parties involved.
4. Identify if the individual served is a Medicaid recipient or Medicaid eligible.
5. Provide supportive counseling.
6. Document progress.
7. Create an intervention plan in accordance with 65D-30.0044, F.A.C.
8. Document any unsuccessful attempts to contact or develop an intervention plan.