

## **SUSPENDED DISPOSITION ALTERNATIVE – OPTION B**

The Suspended Disposition Alternative, commonly referred to as Option B, provides an alternative disposition for youth who are facing a standard range commitment at a juvenile institution. Youth are assessed to determine their motivation in following through with programming and risk to the community. If the youth is eligible and deemed appropriate, they can be granted an Option B sentence.

- In these cases, the commitment is suspended and the youth is placed on probation. If the youth completes all of their court requirements during the probation period, the suspended commitment time is dismissed.
- If the youth reoffends or violates his court conditions, then probation may be revoked and the youth is required to serve their commitment time at a juvenile institution.
- Youth who are granted an Option B are required to participate in Functional Family Therapy (FFT) and/or the Aggression Replacement Training (ART) program.

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### **What are the eligibility requirements for Option B?**

- Per RCW 13.40.0357, a youth is not eligible for Option B if they are:
  - (a) Adjudicated of an A+ offense;
  - (b) Fourteen years of age or older and is adjudicated of one or more of the following offenses:
    - (i) A class A offense, or an attempt, conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a class A offense
    - (ii) Manslaughter in the first degree; or
    - (iii) Assault in the second degree, extortion in the first degree, kidnapping in the second degree, robbery in the second degree, drive-by shooting, vehicular homicide, hit and run death, violation of the uniform controlled substances act, when the offense includes infliction of bodily harm to another or when during the commission or immediate withdrawal from the offense the respondent was armed with a deadly weapon;
    - (iv) Ordered to serve a disposition for a firearm violation; or
    - (v) Adjudicated of a sex offense.

#### **What can I do as a parent to help my child be successful on Option B?**

- There are many requirements youth must complete in the Option B program. They can include involvement in a school program, Aggression Replacement Training (ART), Functional Family Therapy (FFT), drug/alcohol treatment, individual counseling, etc. If a youth does not participate in and complete the programming recommended by the court and probation department, he/she could be revoked and sentenced to serve their commitment time. In general, the youth who are most successful in the Option B program have support at home to help schedule appointments, provide transportation to services, and maintain open communication with the probation officer.

## How long is the Option B program?

- Typically Option B requires nine months of community supervision unless a special exception is made by the court.

## CONTACT US

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