

Alcohol/Drug Awareness Programs (For Alcoholic Beverage Code § 106.115 Requirement)

- DADAP: Online drug and alcohol awareness program approved by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (\$50): http://www.dadaponline.com/state_approval.html
- Alive at 25 Texas: Online and in person courses on alcohol, texting, and traffic: <http://aliveat25texas.com/>
- More information and resources: <https://www.tabc.state.tx.us/education/>
- Live database to search for approved programs throughout the state (note that this link may be temporarily or permanently down): <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/court-ordered/oep/oep.htm>

Community Service Options for Alcohol/Drug Cases or Issues

When ordering community service for an Alcoholic Beverage Code offense or a public intoxication by a minor offense, the court will have to determine if a particular community service option is “related to education about or prevention of misuse of alcohol/drugs” as required for those offenses. If such an option is not available, then for all of the alcohol offenses except DUI by a Minor, the court may instead order community service that it determines is “appropriate for rehabilitative purposes”. (ABC § 106.041, 106.071)

Even when there are no specific requirements for the type of community service that must be ordered, rehabilitative options are always a good idea when community service is ordered in any alcohol/drug case or other type of case where alcohol/drugs were clearly an issue.

Some Creative Community Service Ideas:

- Tutorial/community service/education program at the minor’s school
 - Related in some way to drug/alcohol prevention or at least the fostering of positive behaviors
 - During lunch or after school (reduces off-campus and/or unsupervised time)
- Teen Leadership program
 - 12 week class run by Juvenile Case Managers
 - Life/coping skills; Parent component
- Write letters based on hypothetical scenarios and potentially read them in open court:
 - You were killed in an alcohol/drug related accident. Write a letter to your parents and read it to them.
 - You caused an accident while using alcohol/drugs and the other driver is paralyzed. Write an apology letter to that person.
 - Your parents are killed by a drunk driver. Write a statement about how this will impact you and what you think the sentence should be for the drunk driver.
- Watch an assigned documentary or do research on an assigned topic and then write an essay regarding the dangers of misuse of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Attend an AA Open Meeting and write an essay.

Examples Where Some of the Above Ideas Have Been Implemented:

- City of Cedar Park: <http://www.cedarparktexas.gov/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=410>
- Community Service Project Options – Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (Dallas): <http://dallascouncil.org/programs/community-service-project-options/>