

Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities (TASC)

Authority: 65D-30.012, 65E-14.021 Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)

Frequency: Monthly

Due Date: 8th 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. Target Populations

- Individuals 5 to 18 years of age;
- Children at risk of substance use (Prevention);
- Children with substance use;
- Children at risk of residential services;
- Children with juvenile justice involvement;
- Children with HIV; and
- Children with co-occurring mental health conditions.

III. Eligibility

- At risk of criminal involvement;
- At risk of substance use;
- Have been arrested or convicted of a crime;
- Or referred by the criminal or juvenile justice system.

IV. Evidence-Based Services

- Screening/Interviewing
- Assessment/Evaluation
- Intervention Services
- Linkage to referral services

V. Referral Agencies

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

- The Department of Juvenile Justice
- Other Corrections Entities
- Health Care Systems

VI. Provider Responsibilities

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

1. Establish standardized and effective intake protocols requiring that individuals referred meet eligibility criteria provided in section III.
2. Initiate a referral agreement 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 input from all entities involved.
4. Identify if the individual served is a Medicaid recipient or Medicaid eligible.
5. Provide supportive counseling, document progress and create an intervention plan in accordance with 65D-30.0044, F.A.C.
6. Document any unsuccessful attempts to contact or develop an intervention plan.

Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities (TASC) will be administered according to DCF Guidance 44, which can be found at following link using the applicable fiscal year:
<https://www.myflfamilies.com/services/samh/samh-providers/managing-entities>.