

What is the Referral Process?

Youth are referred to KPAC after being charged with an offense by the prosecutor. After consultation with a defense attorney youth are referred for an assessment to determine eligibility for the program.

Opt-Out Period: KPAC is voluntary. During the first month trial period of the program, also known as the “opt-out” period, participants may choose to have their case returned to the Juvenile Court. All their rights will be restored except for the right to a timely adjudication which will start at the next court hearing following the youth’s decision to voluntarily withdraw from the program. Once participants have completed the opt-out period, they will sign a final order and can only withdraw from the program after a request is made to the judge. If a withdrawal is approved, participants do not have a right to trial and the judge will determine guilt based on the facts presented in the police report(s).



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Kitsap County Juvenile and Family Court Services

Kitsap
Pre-Adjudication
Court
(KPAC)



Superior Court of
Kitsap County

Committed to providing
compassionate and effective
services to youth, their families,
and our community.

What is KPAC?

KPAC is a voluntary pre-adjudication court designed for youth charged with an offense and incorporates therapeutic court principles. The program integrates adolescent development and effective behavior management into probation services. A combination of rewards and sanctions are used to motivate participants in the program. Individualized probation services are incentive based, goal oriented, and include risk assessments, rapport building and case planning for all clients. KPAC is a minimum of twelve (12) months for felony level offenses and nine (9) months for misdemeanor offenses. The program must be completed within two (2) years.



Who makes up KPAC?

Committed supportive adults including:

- Judge
- Probation Counselor
- Defense and Prosecuting Attorneys
- Therapist
- Partnerships with community organizations.

When is KPAC?

KPAC is held once a month to review the progress of the participants and their compliance with program conditions. Youth will also attend monthly activities arranged by KPAC staff that include skill building and positive group engagement. Parents are strongly encouraged to attend their youth's hearings and activities to help support their progress throughout the program.



Benefits of KPAC:

- Supportive relationships and team approach.
- Needs based referrals to community services.
- Reward based programming.
- Upon completion of the program there will be a graduation and the charge(s) referred to KPAC will be dismissed.



Basic Requirements of KPAC:

- Mandatory court and activity appearances monthly or as determined by the team.
- Parent/Guardian participation and support.
- Weekly contact with probation officer.
- School attendance and participation or employment (if education requirements are completed).
- Follow the rules of the home/placement.
- Attend and participate with counseling and services as recommended.

Engaging youth and families.

The KPAC team work with participants to create individualized case plans and set goals. Case plans will be created with youth and their family, focusing on risk level, areas of need and identifying appropriate services. Conversations with the youth and families start at the initial intake process and continues through the program.