

Montana Department of Corrections: Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment

Substance Use Disorders: Occur when the recurrent use of alcohol and/or drugs causes clinically significant impairment, including health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home.

65%

The estimated percentage of inmates in U.S. prisons with SUDs (National Institute on Drug Abuse)

Continuum of care/level of care

Level 0.5	Early intervention services
Level I	Outpatient services
Level II	Intensive outpatient (II.1) and partial hospitalization services (Level II.5)
Level III	Residential/Inpatient services (subdivided into levels III.1, III. 3, III.5, III.7)
Level IV	Medically managed intensive inpatient services

Process:

DOC facilities including Montana State Prison, Montana Women's Prison, Pine Hills Correctional Facility, and Crossroads Correctional Center (contract facility) provide SUD programming.

Inmates are screened by licensed addiction counselors for SUDs upon intake at all DOC prisons to determine level of care required.

SUD treatment is available in all DOC facilities, and inmates may choose to receive treatment at a contract facility (if accepted). Treatment provided by the DOC includes: 3.5 Level of Care at Montana State Prison, 1.0 Level of Care at Montana Women's Prison, 3.5 and 3.1 Levels Of Care at Pine Hills.

Treatment groups are broken down into low and moderate/high.

Inmates may be reassessed following treatment or prior to appearing before the Montana Board of Pardons and Parole.

Risk Assessments

In addition to screening for level of care, two risk assessment can be performed: Montana Offender Reentry Risk Assessment (MORRA) or Women's Risk and Needs Assessment (WRNA)

MORRA is an automated tool that provide low, moderate, high, or very high rating based on the assessment.

Assessments include five categories:

- Criminal attitudes and behavior
- Criminal history
- Education, employment and financial
- Family and social support
- Substance use and mental health

Inmates are prioritized for treatment as follows:

Priority 1	Parole upon completion
Priority 2	Reappear at Parole Board upon completion
Priority 3	Discharge date within one year
Priority 4	Court ordered treatment
Priority 5	Board of Pardons and Parole ordered treatment
Priority 6	Interstate compact ordered treatment
Priority 9	Discharge date greater than one year
Priority 99	Life without parole

**New groups started at MSP
in January 2022:**

Low: 2 groups, 18 offenders
total
Moderate/High Risk: 1 group,
17 offenders

Current Status

Montana State Prison:

- Employs five full-time licensed addiction counselors (LACs) for about 1,600 male offenders.
- LACs perform chemical dependency screenings at intake. Assessments are completed after treatment or when needed.
- Conduct treatment groups (two low risk and one high risk) of 10-12 offenders each and one-on-one counseling.

Montana Women's Prison:

- Employs one full-time LAC for about 200 female offenders.
- LACs perform chemical dependency screenings at inmate intake.
- Conducts treatment groups and one-on-one counseling.
- Prepares chemical dependency assessments for the Montana Board of Pardons and Parole.

Needs

Montana State Prison, Montana Women's Prison:

- Hire three additional full-time licensed addiction counselors at MSP, one at MWP.
- This would allow opportunity for more treatment groups, one-on-one counseling, and chemical dependency screenings and assessments to be conducted.

Challenges:

- Many private treatment companies offer better pay than DOC.
- The DOC often loses employees (hired as interns) once they get licensed.
- Starting wage for LACs at MSP/MWP is \$24/hr. While starting wages at facilities in close proximity range from \$25-\$26.49.