

Use of Electronic Monitoring

Juvenile Rehabilitation Parole Aftercare



A young person's future success depends on ongoing access to opportunity, work connections, school, treatment, and family.

Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) Parole Aftercare is an important step in successful community reentry for the young people who qualify for this service, which is approximately 50% of individuals who release from residential care. Using the skills they learn in residence, young people transitioning back into their communities are provided therapeutic staff support while participating in needed community-based treatment services and reentry programs. As part of this process, a set of graduated responses provide positive reinforcement towards pro-social behaviors and therapeutic interventions designed to minimize risky activities and promote positive choices. This approach is grounded in a risk, needs, and responsibility model.

One important graduated response is the use of an electronic monitoring tool as an alternative to detention stays or a return "revocation" to a JR secure residential facility. The Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) has used this tool for several years to address statutory parole violations (RCW 13.40.210) while limiting the use of secure confinement and maintaining community transition service supports for JR youth. In addition, legislation expanded JR use of electronic monitoring for young adults with a Department of Corrections (DOC) sentence. This option allows for electronic monitoring in lieu of transfer to DOC secure confinement.

Possible considerations for the use of electronic monitoring as an alternative to secure confinement include:

- Continued treatment, education, employment, or housing

AND

- Violation of one or more parole conditions, or mandatory parole revocation

A graduated response that keeps a young person in their community and connected to positive reentry activities like education, employment, safe and stable housing, and mental health or substance use resources is essential for positive youth development. The ability for young people to live at home serves to strengthen close ties to family and community, and practice learned skills while remaining safe and accountable.

There is no cost to the participant or their family while participating on electronic monitoring. JR staff provide electronic monitoring oversight. These staff work collaboratively with the young person to support their successful participation in this graduated response while reinforcing positive community involvement. On average, about 10% of JR young people on parole aftercare will participate in electronic monitoring as a graduated response for a duration of up to 30 days.

JR maintains its commitment to providing as many tools and resources available to help guide, nurture, and assist young people as they reenter their communities and work towards building a positive future.

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