

HOW DO I ACCESS CREDIT?

You can refer yourself to the program at any stage before you enter your plea of guilty or not guilty in your court matter. You can do this by contacting a CREDIT caseworker. The CREDIT caseworker's contact details are listed below.

A magistrate can refer you to the program at any time if they think it may help you.

You can also be referred to the program by:

- NSW Police
- your solicitor
- court staff
- staff from other programs
- support workers
- family and friends.

WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

CREDIT caseworker
Burwood Local Court
7-9 Belmore Street
Burwood 2134
Phone (02) 9744 4021
Fax (02) 9744 4011
Mobile 0421 183 953

CREDIT caseworker
Tamworth Local Court
Cnr Marius & Fitzroy Street
Tamworth 2340
Phone (02) 6764 5772
Fax (02) 6764 5773
Mobile 0421 183 775

www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au/cpd



For alternative formats such as braille, audiotape, large print, computer disk or other languages please contact Crime Prevention Division.
Phone (02) 8688 3277
Fax (02) 8688 9627
Email cpd_unit@agd.nsw.gov.au

TTY (02) 8688 7733
(for people who are deaf or have a speech impairment).

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(TIS) 131 450

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Justice &
Attorney General

CREDIT

Court Referral of Eligible Defendants Into Treatment



Working together to break the cycle of crime through support services for defendants.



WHAT IS THE CREDIT PROGRAM?

CREDIT stands for the Court Referral of Eligible Defendants into Treatment.

It is a new crime prevention initiative by the NSW Government being trialled at Tamworth and Burwood Local Courts.

CREDIT aims to give Local Court defendants the support they need to access a wide range of treatment, programs and services to assist them and reduce their chance of reoffending.

CREDIT is a voluntary program and defendants do not have to plead guilty to access the program.

HOW DOES CREDIT WORK?

If you are a defendant a CREDIT caseworker will sit down with you to identify areas where you might benefit from assistance. The caseworker will then help you to access appropriate services in these areas.

This may include:

- accommodation
- financial counselling
- mental health assessment
- suicide counselling
- income support
- domestic violence or sexual assault support
- drug assessment and treatment
- alcohol misuse and treatment
- education, training or employment support
- disability services.

Prior to sentencing the CREDIT caseworker will prepare a report that advises the magistrate about what you did to address the areas that were identified.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

The length of the program will be different for different people, but it is usually two to six months.

The length of the program will depend on the type and number of issues you need to address, the time it takes to access the services you need or any other issues going on in your life.

The magistrate could ask you to come back to court to see how you are progressing on the program.



AM I ELIGIBLE?

You could be eligible for CREDIT if you:

- are an adult who has been charged with a Local Court offence
- have issues that you want to address that relate to your current situation.

You will not be eligible if you:

- have been refused bail for the current charge(s) you are facing
- are charged with a sexual offence
- have been convicted of a sexual offence in the last five years
- are currently being supervised by the Department of Corrective Services.