

Alcohol/Substance Misuse Programs (For Alcoholic Beverage Code § 106.115 Requirement)

- Alive at 25 Texas: Online and in person courses on alcohol, texting, and traffic: <https://texasaliveteam.org/>
- More information and resources: <https://www.tabc.texas.gov/public-safety/alcohol-education-resources/>
- Live database to search for approved programs throughout the state: <https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/court-ordered/oep/oep.htm>

Community Service Options for Alcohol/Substance Misuse Cases or Issues

When ordering community service for an Alcoholic Beverage Code offense or a public intoxication by a minor offense, the court will have to determine if a particular community service option is “related to education about or prevention of misuse of alcohol or drugs” as required for those offenses. If such an option is not available, then for all of the alcohol offenses except DUI by a Minor, the court may instead order community service that it determines is “appropriate for rehabilitative purposes”. (ABC § 106.041, 106.071)

Even when there are no specific requirements for the type of community service that must be ordered, rehabilitative options are always a good idea when community service is ordered in any alcohol/substance misuse case or other type of case where alcohol/substances were clearly an issue.

Some Creative Community Service Ideas:

- Tutorial/community service/education program at the minor’s school
 - Related in some way to substance/alcohol misuse prevention or at least the fostering of positive behaviors
 - During lunch or after school (reduces off-campus and/or unsupervised time)
- Teen Leadership program
 - 12-week class run by Juvenile Case Managers
 - Life/coping skills; Parent component
- Write letters based on hypothetical scenarios and potentially read them in open court:
 - You were killed in an alcohol/substance related accident. Write a letter to your parents and read it to them.
 - You caused an accident while using alcohol/substances and the other driver is paralyzed. Write an apology letter to that person.
 - Your parents are killed by a drunk driver. Write a statement about how this will impact you and what you think the sentence should be for the drunk driver.
- Watch an assigned documentary or do research on an assigned topic and then write an essay regarding the dangers of misuse of alcohol and/or substances.
- Attend an AA Open Meeting and write an essay.

Example Where Some of the Above Ideas Have Been Implemented:

- City of Cedar Park: <https://www.cedarparktexas.gov/DocumentCenter/View/413/Alcohol-Related-Community-Service-PDF>