



More information

Contact us for more information about community service and how your agency can become an approved community service provider.

Centre _____

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Need more information?



Web

www.qld.gov.au/youthjustice

www.cyjma.qld.gov.au

Community service orders

Information for agencies and providers of community service

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When a court finds a young person guilty of an offence, it may order the young person to perform unpaid community service.

A community service order provides a clear consequence for significant and/or repeated offending behaviour.

The order requires a young person to perform unpaid work as directed by Youth Justice.

Aims and objectives

Community service orders provide a consequence for offending. They also provide young people with the opportunity to:

- make amends to the community
- develop in responsible, beneficial and socially accepted ways
- gain new skills, knowledge and experience through work activities
- access culturally appropriate programs and services
- gain maturity and responsibility for organising their own life by attending scheduled work activities
- positively engage with members of their community and receive ongoing support
- be recognised for performing a valued and worthwhile service to the community.

Activities a young person can perform on community service

Young people must perform activities that meet certain criteria, including that:

- the activity is unpaid work
- the activity will benefit members of the community in some way
- the young person's placement at the agency will not disrupt another person's opportunity to gain paid employment or attend education
- the activity is meaningful and has a clear purpose
- the activity does not expose the young person to adult offenders
- the activity is consistent with workplace health and safety requirements
- the activity provided by the agency will not place the young person in conflict with their cultural or religious beliefs.

Where possible work activities:

- are goal-oriented
- are interesting
- offer young people an opportunity to learn new skills.

Youth Justice officers try to ensure that the work activity has some relationship to the young person's offending behaviour.

This provides the young person with a consequence that clearly links to their offending behaviour.

Examples of work activities include:

- landscaping local agency/church grounds
- painting community agency buildings
- making toys/equipment for charities.

Community service agencies

Community service agencies are engaged to supervise young people subject to community service orders.

Youth Justice assesses agencies to determine their capacity to provide suitable work activities for young people.

An agreement is made between the agency and the department if the agency is appropriate.

Agreements are reviewed every two years.

Under these agreements, the community service agency may provide:

- the work activity
- supervision for young people performing community service.