



# A guide to youth sentences

## Detention order

A court may sentence you to detention for up to a year. A higher court can send you to detention for up to five years, or longer if your offence was serious.

You will spend 50-70% of your sentence in a youth detention centre. You will spend the rest of the sentence in the community on a supervised release order.

## Other sentences

### Restitution and compensation

A court may order you to pay money as compensation or restitution for property loss or an injury suffered by a victim. You will be asked how long you need to pay the fine.

### Licence disqualification

A court can stop you from having or getting a driver's licence for a set amount of time.

### Drug assessment and education

A court may refer you to drug assessment and education. You must attend a meeting where your drug use will be discussed. If you do not attend you might have to go back to court and be given a different sentence.

## Reporting

If you are given an order, you must report to a Youth Justice officer within one business day unless you are told otherwise.

 Where \_\_\_\_\_

 When \_\_\_\_\_

 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

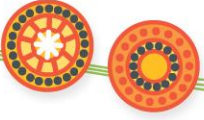
## Need more information?



**Web**

[www.qld.gov.au/youthjustice](http://www.qld.gov.au/youthjustice)

[www.cyjma.qld.gov.au](http://www.cyjma.qld.gov.au)



If you plead guilty or are found guilty of an offence, you will be sentenced by the court.

Every case is different and courts use a set of principles when they sentence you, including:

- the community should be protected from offences
- you should have the opportunity to be part of, and understand what is going on
- age, maturity and cultural background are relevant in any decisions about young people.

## Unsupervised sentences

### Reprimand

The court may give you a warning. This is also known as a reprimand.

### Good behaviour order

A court may order that you be of good behaviour for up to one year. This means that the court expects you to obey the law while you are on the order.

If you break the law while you are on a good behaviour order the court might decide to give you other consequences.

### Fine

A court may give you a fine and you will have to pay money to the court registry. The court will consider if you can pay within a certain amount of time.

## Supervised sentences

### Probation

A court may sentence you to a probation order. A Youth Justice officer will supervise you. You must do activities and programs that you are asked to and not break the law. You will be asked if you agree to follow the conditions of a probation order.

### Community service order

A court may sentence you to a community service order. This means you must do unpaid work that benefits the community.

The court will decide how many hours you must do. A Youth Justice officer will organise

this work. They will arrange for someone to supervise you while you do the work. You will be asked if you agree to perform community service.

### Graffiti removal order

The court will sentence you to a graffiti removal order if you are 12 years or older and you commit a graffiti offence. This means you will do graffiti removal work in the community. This might be removing graffiti or cleaning up the neighbourhood.

The court will decide how many hours you must do. A Youth Justice officer will organise this work. They will arrange for someone to supervise you while you do the work.

### Intensive supervision order

A court may sentence you to an intensive supervision order if you are between 10–12 years old. This order can be for up to six months.

Youth Justice officers will organise a program that can:

- help you to stop offending
- help you with education and family
- give you more supervision
- include other activities.

You will be asked if you agree to do the program.

### Conditional release order

A court may sentence you to detention. The court might then decide to release you on conditions for up to six months instead of making you go to a youth detention centre.

You will have to do a program with strict conditions that the court agrees to. Youth Justice officers will organise the program. The program may include:

- work
- school or study
- counselling
- community activities.

You will be asked if you agree to take part in the program. If you don't do what you agreed to, you may go back to court. The court can order that you be sent to detention.