



**D·B·H·D·D**

Georgia  
Department of  
Behavioral Health  
& Developmental  
Disabilities

### Why do I have to participate in this competency restoration program?

The judge in your case has decided that you are “not competent to stand trial,” which means you are not ready to continue with your case at this time. This decision is made for many reasons. It is important to remember the judge wants you to be prepared to take part in your own defense and have a clear understanding of the court proceedings.

### What is Outpatient Restoration?

Outpatient Restoration is an education program that helps you learn and understand:

- The court process
- The roles of people involved in your court case
- How to communicate with your attorney
- Skills to assist you with making good decisions regarding your case
- How you can best participate in your own defense

## Outpatient Restoration

Email:  
[forensics@dbhdd.ga.gov](mailto:forensics@dbhdd.ga.gov)

Forensic Services Website:  
[dbhdd.georgia.gov/forensic-services](http://dbhdd.georgia.gov/forensic-services)

## Preparing for your Program

Being prepared for your program is important. Below are a few things to remember:

- You or your guardian will receive a call from a Forensic Community Coordinator in the next week. ***Please make sure your attorney has your current contact information.***
- Appointments will be scheduled at agreed upon places in the community, such as your attorney's office, the courthouse, a local library, or via WebEx (virtual). Appointments will NOT be scheduled at a residence.
- Follow all the rules that your Forensic Community Coordinator and the Court has given to you regarding attendance, participation, and behavioral expectations.
- Plan ahead to ensure you attend all appointments and are on time.
- Refrain from drugs or alcohol while you are in this program.
- Continue all treatment you are currently participating in, including behavioral health counseling and taking medications prescribed to you by your doctor.

**If in crisis, call or text 9-8-8**



### Do I need to participate in this program?

Yes. Your participation is required by the court. However, participation has several benefits including:

- Giving yourself the opportunity to learn what you need to know in order to participate fully in your court case.
- Having the ability to participate in services in the least restrictive setting.
- Being in the least restrictive setting allows you to have minimal disruption to your daily life.

### How long do I have to be in this program?

Outpatient Restoration varies in time from person to person. Many people will finish in about 90 days. However, some people may take longer. The effort you make can directly affect your time in the program. Going to all scheduled appointments and participating is very important!

# Participant Brochure