

**COURT OF QUÉBEC ADDICTION TREATMENT
PROGRAM – MONTRÉAL**

CQATP

1. THE COURT OF QUÉBEC ADDICTION TREATMENT PROGRAM CQATP

1.1 Philosophy of the court-supervised addiction treatment program

The court-supervised addiction treatment program is in keeping with Québec's judicial tradition, which has always placed great importance on the social reintegration and rehabilitation of offenders. By favouring the imposition of sentences that take into account the treatment of offenders, the criminal justice system targets an important source of crime while making a lasting change for the offender, to prevent relapse, and for harm reduction. The system thus prevents recidivism with a broad view to public safety.

The offender and other stakeholders are engaged in a non-adversarial process that is respectful of the participants, the purpose of which is to effectively rehabilitate and reintegrate the offender into the community through court supervision and through the imposition of a fair sentence that takes into account the success and benefits of the treatment.

1.2 Mission

The program's goal is to reduce the number of offences committed due to drug or alcohol dependence by offering a structured treatment to offenders dealing with substance abuse.

By promoting the rehabilitation of offenders who are dependent on one or more psychoactive substances, the program promotes their social reintegration congruent with other sentencing principles and objectives.

The program connects the partners of the CQATP in a spirit of joint action. The goal is to establish an individualized treatment program, to report on accomplishments and to assess the success of the treatment when determining sentences.

1.3 The partners

The program was developed and is implemented with the participation of the following partners:

- the Court of Québec
- the ministère de la Justice du Québec
- the ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux
- the ministère de la Sécurité publique du Québec
- the ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale
- the Centre intégré universitaire de santé et de services sociaux du centre sud de l'île de Montréal through its Direction des programmes santé mentale et dépendance (DPSMD) - (formerly known as the Centre Dollard-Cormier)
- the Association des avocats de la défense de Montréal
- the Centre communautaire juridique de Montréal - Le Bureau d'aide juridique en Droit criminel et pénal de Montréal
- the Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions

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- the Direction des services professionnels correctionnels, Clientèle féminine et activités spécialisées (DSPC CFAS).

1.4 The participants

Court of Québec judges

A group of designated judges of the Court of Québec who have received specific training in court-supervised addiction treatment.

Director of Criminal and Penal Prosecutions (DCPP)

A team of criminal and penal prosecution prosecutors (CPPPs), also trained in addiction treatment. This team processes most of the cases of offenders who wish to participate in an addiction treatment program.

Defence counsel

Defence counsel from private practice or from the Bureau d'aide juridique Droit criminel et pénal represent offenders who wish to treat their addiction.

Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux (MSSS)

In accordance with its mission, the MSSS must coordinate the putting in place of health services and social services in its regions. Among its main responsibilities, the MSSS must allocate budgets and grants to establishments, including the CIUSSS Centre sud de l'Île de Montréal, and to community organizations. It must support them in organizing services and promote joint action and partnership. The MSSS is also responsible for issuing certificates of compliance to addiction resources.

CIUSSS du Centre-Sud-de-l'île-de-Montréal / Direction des programmes en santé mentale et dépendance (DPSMD)

The main task of the addiction program worker assigned to the CQATP is to assess and guide offenders wanting to take part in the CQATP. At the assessment meeting, the addiction program worker conducts a specialized addiction assessment with the offender. He or she informs the offender, through a cautionary notice, of the limits of professional secrecy, which applies only as part and for the purposes of a clinical or therapeutic intervention, and may be lifted in order to prevent an act of violence, including suicide, where there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury to a person or an identifiable group of persons. The worker recommends directing the individual, considering his or her needs, to different private inpatient therapies or to outpatient rehabilitation services assumed by the Direction des programmes en santé mentale et dépendance. The worker cannot make a specific referral to one private therapy centre over another, so as to preserve the offender's freedom of choice. However, the worker may make a recommendation with respect to the level of service (inpatient or outpatient) required.

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The addiction program worker is also mandated to liaise with the various CQATP partners. The worker provides the offender with the results of the specialized addiction assessment and the resulting recommendations and shares them with the therapy centre, as required. The addiction program worker confirms with the CPPP and the defence counsel the offender's dependence problems, specific needs and level of motivation justifying his or her acceptance into the program, as well as the associated treatment recommendations.

The DPSMD provides outpatient rehabilitation services that are tied to the objectives of instrumentation and consolidation of the consumption-related change process. The priority treatment objectives are relapse prevention and reintegration into the community. Outpatient rehabilitation services are offered at the CIUSSS / DPSMD points of service.

The addiction program worker assigned to the CQATP has an additional liaison mandate to act as a bridge between the addiction rehabilitation services received by the offender at a point of service and the court supervision. During the period of court supervision, the CQATP addiction worker may advise his or her colleague at the point of service concerning the intervention plan and the duration of monitoring. The worker is responsible for notifying the Court of any major changes concerning the offender and his or her dependence monitoring, which could have an impact on the court supervision.

At the end of the program, the addiction worker conducts another specialized addiction assessment with the offender. This makes it possible to document the impact of the treatment on the offender. The results are used, along with different indicators, to measure the attainment or not of the CQATP objectives.

The addiction program worker assigned to the CQATP works at the courthouse, where an office is reserved for the worker to conduct his or her activities and functions.

Correctional services of the ministère de la Sécurité publique

The Direction des services professionnels correctionnels - Clientèle féminine et activités spécialisées (DSPC CFAS), in collaboration with the Montréal select committee, has developed a standard report and a report drafting guide that therapy centres need to use to report to the Court on the progress and monitoring of offenders in their care. The information will thereby be standardized for all centres involved in the program. The drafting guide and standard report have been validated by a discussion group.

A probation officer is designated as a resource person for the program. He or she meets with the offenders when they are admitted and provides them with all the information about the program.

The probation officer is involved in developing and monitoring the offender's individualized treatment plan throughout the program. He or she coordinates the follow-up of offenders' files with the Court's activities. In other words, the probation officer is the program's liaison officer between the stakeholders, such as the therapy centres, the offender, the CPPP, defence counsel, the probation office and the Court. Finally, the probation officer coordinates the annual offer of service commitments of the addiction therapy centres.

Probation services prepare a specific standardized pre-sentence report for the CQATP in connection with the data collected during the stay at the therapy centre, which will be produced

during the court supervision phase. Note that this report deals with the risk of recidivism and the potential for the offender's reintegration into the community, taking into account his or her therapeutic process.

Therapy centres

In accordance with current practice, therapy centres assess offenders who wish to stay at their establishment. The centres may be required to justify their acceptance of the candidate. Only therapy centres that agree to meet the mandatory conditions of the program are able to receive clients from the Court.¹ These centres take on a central role with respect to treating offenders during the first phase of their treatment. They gather relevant information on the offender's progress throughout his or her stay and report on it using standardized progress reports. In order to implement the second treatment phase, the centre and the offender prepare a release plan adapted to his or her needs.

Community organizations and support groups

Community organizations offer complementary services based on their mandate and the offender's needs.

Ministère du Travail, de l'Emploi et de la Solidarité sociale

Based on its existing programs, the Ministère participates in financially supporting offenders who stay at a centre offering addiction services, by granting special benefits for the payment of living expenses to social assistance recipients eligible for last-resort assistance. In addition, where applicable, the department pays the expenses of the dwelling occupied by the individual before his or her admission to a centre offering addiction services. The department collaborates in the program through local employment centres (LECs) and offices of Services Québec by giving offenders access to an interview to determine their needs and the availability of employment or educational programs needed for their reintegration into the community.

1.5 Premises

Program-related hearings are held in room 4.07 of the Montréal courthouse on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons and on monitoring report days provided for that purpose.

Offices of the CPPP, located in 4.10, are used for meetings prior to court hearings.

The office of the DPSMD worker and the probation service's liaison officer is located in 5.164.

1.6 Target clientele

To be admitted to the program, the offender must have the CPPP's consent to present an application to the Court. Consent is given after the offender undergoes an assessment conducted by the DPSMD worker. The offender's admission is conditional on his or her agreement to follow the

¹ All of the conditions to be met are stated in paragraph 6.

rules of the program and those of the therapy centre admitting the offender. Lastly, the offender must have the Court's approval.

The offender may be detained or released, with the latter situation being understood as an individual who, at the time of presenting his or her request to the Court, is released with or without conditions, regardless of how the offender was summoned before the Court.

2. ELIGIBILITY

The Court of Québec Addiction Treatment Program in Montréal is part of the program approved by the province under subsection 720(2) of the *Criminal Code* (Cr.C.), authorized by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Québec.

2.1 Consent of the DCP

The DCP deems it appropriate to use the treatment program and, for that purpose, agrees to postpone sentencing. In order to do so, he or she takes into account the public interest and considers, in particular:

- public safety and the sentence sought
- the safety, rights and needs of the victim
- the facts that gave rise to the offence, revealed by the evidence, admitted by the offender
- the substance use problem related to the commission of the offence
- the offender's needs and situation
- the offender's criminal history, pending charges, previous relations with the Court
- the treatment recommended by the addiction program worker and availability of treatment
- the objectives and criteria of the CQATP program.

Eligibility for the program is conditional upon the DCP's consent and the Court's agreement.

2.2 Eligibility criteria related to the offender

Offenders who intend to participate in a treatment program must meet the following criteria:

- have a problem with the use of or dependence on substances related to the offence they are charged with
- are not a threat to public safety
- show a firm intention to meet the requirements of the court-supervised treatment program and undertake in writing to respect them
- agree to have their sentencing postponed to participate in the treatment program
- waive the right to claim a delay in sentencing attributable to the treatment for their substance use or dependence problem

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- agree to the disclosure, to the parties and the Court, of information concerning them and the treatment process
- plead guilty to the offence they are charged with
- have no criminal record of serious violence
- are not associated with any organized crime in order to be involved in criminal activity for the sole purpose of profit or financial gain.

2.3 Criteria related to the alleged offence

The offence likely to give rise to court-supervised treatment:

- was caused or motivated by the offender's substance use or dependence problem
- is punishable by a non-custodial sentence, or a minimum sentence that may be reduced in accordance with the law or a sentence for which imprisonment with a conditional sentence is not excluded by the law (section 742.1 Cr. C.)
- An offence not eligible for a conditional sentence may also give rise to court-supervised treatment if the CPPP deems it appropriate.

3. PROGRAM LENGTH AND PHASES

A treatment program offered to an offender, regardless of its success, ends with sentencing. The maximum length of a CQATP-related treatment program is 24 months, with the duration of the offender's therapeutic process being tailored to his or her needs.

A CQATP-related treatment program generally consists of two phases.

For offenders who have met the eligibility criteria, the following two paths may be proposed to the Court following the specialized addiction assessment: (1) integrate into the first, then the second, treatment phases or (2) integrate directly into the second treatment phase.

Under no circumstances may therapy that had begun or was terminated prior to the alleged offence make it possible to forego a new therapy or to request a reduction in monitoring or court supervision.

3.1 First treatment phase: Treatment under the responsibility of a therapy centre and supervised by the Court of Québec

The program begins when the guilty plea is accepted and the Court agrees to send the offender to a therapy centre under conditions of release or under a moral commitment contracted by the offender before the Court.

For offenders in the program, therapy is usually divided into three periods. However, the frequency and pace of hearings are determined by the Court. It may delay them in order to take the appropriate measure to ensure the supervision needed for the offender to attain the objectives set by him or her.

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The first period provides for the conditional release of the offender or release under moral commitment, with the offender being at the therapy centre 24 hours a day. In the case of a six-month therapy program, this period usually lasts two months but can be longer, depending on the offender's knowledge and pace of learning.

The second period enables the offender, who is making positive progress in the program, to be temporarily absent from the therapy centre with permission and in accordance with the centre's rules. The offender must convince the Court to modify his or her conditions of release.

The third period allows the offender to progressively become re-established in his or her living environment.

At the end of inpatient therapy, completed with the treatment objectives having been attained, the offender appears before the judge, who authorizes him or her to live outside the centre.

3.2 Second treatment phase: Court observation of the offender's reintegration into the community

The court observation phase is a testing and knowledge consolidation phase.

The offender who takes part in this phase is actively involved in his or her therapeutic process with the addiction rehabilitation centre, the duration of which is adapted to his or her needs.

During the first few months, the offender appears in court when required to report on his or her achievements. He or she provides the relevant documentation based on his or her specific needs identified in the end-of-stay report by the therapy centre.

The offender visits the local employment centre (LEC), if required by the Court, to take advantage of educational and employability measures to prepare and to anchor the offender in activities that are developmental for the offender and the community.

At the mere request of the person designated to do so as part of the program, the offender goes to the pre-determined place to give the samples needed for screening tests.

The sentencing hearing is postponed to make it possible to verify the evidence submitted and to validate the offender's progress. As needed, the Court requests that a specific pre-sentence report be prepared.

The offender undergoes the specialized addiction assessment one more time.

At the last hearing, the Court observes, based on the evidence, whether or not the offender has been successful in the treatment program.

If the offender has been successful in the program, a certificate may be issued to him or her.

Lastly, the Court hands down a sentence that is appropriate to the circumstances.

4. CONDITIONS TO BE RESPECTED BY THE OFFENDER ADMITTED TO THE PROGRAM

- Undergo a specialized addiction assessment to determine his or her needs with regard to withdrawal and substance-use disorder profile
- Actively participate in the treatment
- Appear in court when required
- Maintain abstinence and undergo random screening tests, when required
- Respect all the program rules, including those of the therapy centre, where applicable, and those of the addiction rehabilitation centre
- Abide by the court-imposed conditions of release or the moral commitment contracted by the offender before the Court
- Accept the imposition of sanctions by the Court
- Agree to the saving and sharing of treatment-related information collected by the program partners
- Optional condition: agree to participate in a criminological study

The list of release conditions adapted to the program can be found in Appendix II (Commitment or promise).

5. RANDOM SCREENING TESTS

During the inpatient therapy, the therapy centre where the offender is staying submits him or her to a minimum of three random screening tests. Then, during the second treatment phase, the Court requires that the offender undergo a minimum of three additional tests.

6. CONDITIONS TO BE MET BY THERAPY CENTRES

The therapy centres undertake to comply with the following rules:

- hold and maintain certification for therapy centres from the Ministère de la Santé et des Services sociaux and meet the correctional criteria published by the correctional services of the Ministère de la Sécurité publique
- take offenders to each court appearance and ensure that they are accompanied by a representative of the centre for the entire duration of the program
- prepare CQATP standardized progress reports and send them to the Court, to the program liaison officer and to all parties involved, at least three working days before the court hearing
- administer random screening tests to ensure compliance with the conditions and that the offender is staying sober. A minimum of three tests will be administered during treatment at the centre. Test results must be included in the progress reports.
- inform the offender, through a cautionary notice, of the limits of professional secrecy, which applies only as part and for the purposes of a clinical or therapeutic intervention and may be lifted in order to prevent an act of violence, including suicide, where there is a reasonable cause to believe that there is an imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury to a person or an identifiable group of persons

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- share with the program stakeholders, including the liaison officer, the CPPP, defence counsel and the Court, information about the offender related to his or her therapy
- take part in the program's criminological study
- immediately inform the liaison officer, defence counsel and the CPPP of any breach by the offender of conditions of his or her participation in the program
- prepare the offender's release plan at the end of therapy and send it to the liaison officer, defence counsel and the CPPP at least three working days before the court hearing
- accept offenders' freedom of choice with regard to therapy centres
- recognize that only the Court can:
 - ✚ admit the offender to the CQATP
 - ✚ impose or modify the conditions of release or supervision
 - ✚ remove the offender from the therapy centre should, among other things, it lose its MSSS certification, no longer meet correctional criteria or not meet the offender's therapeutic needs.

Service proposals are renewable each year with the Court of Québec.

7. CONSEQUENCES OF A RELAPSE OR REPEAT OFFENCE ON KEEPING THE OFFENDER IN THE PROGRAM

7.1 Relapse

- If a relapse occurs, the Court is informed by the therapy centre, the addiction rehabilitation centre, the liaison officer or by the offender as soon as possible.
- The Court holds a hearing to determine whether it is appropriate to keep the offender in the program.
- If the Court concludes that the offender should remain in the program, it invites the parties to present their evidence and appropriate observations to determine whether it should impose a sanction.
- If the Court finds that the offender has failed and terminates the program, it begins the sentencing hearing. It invites the parties to submit their evidence and relevant observations and hands down the sentence. It may take the offender's efforts into account.

7.2 Recidivism

- Recidivism is the commission of another offence by the offender during the program, but does not necessarily end the offender's participation in it.
- In the case of a repeat offence, the CPPP uses his or her discretion with regard to laying new charges and to requesting that bail be revoked in any pending file(s) as provided for in section 524 Cr.C.
- The Court will determine, where applicable, whether the offender will be kept in the program or be withdrawn from it.

- The Court considers all of the facts of the new offence; it assesses their short and long-term impact on determining whether the offender remains in the program.
- Any new charge is treated in accordance with the program rules.

7.3 Sanctions and rewards

7.3.1 Sanctions

Offenders who do not comply with the conditions of their participation in the program are faced with sanctions.

At a specific hearing, based on the evidence and submissions made by the CPPP and the defence, the Court decides whether it is appropriate to impose a sanction and determines one that is appropriate and fair under the circumstances (ss. 723 and 724 Cr. C.).

7.3.2 Rewards

To recognize and validate the offender's efforts in pursuing the treatment program objectives, the Court uses forms of rewards.

7.4 Temporary abandonment

Where the offender temporarily leaves the program, his or her participation in it is not terminated provided that the offender establishes reasonable justification and the Court rules that the offender should continue in the program.

7.5 Grounds for exclusion from the program

Offenders are excluded from the program if they:

- commit another offence, barring exceptional circumstances
- repeatedly breach one or more of the conditions of release or moral commitment contracted before the Court
- flee or leave the therapy centre, unless able to demonstrate the existence of exceptional circumstances or if they terminate their monitoring with the addiction rehabilitation centre, without the consent of his or her worker.

8. FAILING THE PROGRAM

Offenders fail the treatment program and the program is terminated when:

- the consideration of all the factors of success as a whole does not make it possible to find that the program was successful
- the offender is expelled from the program
- the offender abandons the program without reasonable justification.

9. SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAM

The following factors are considered in determining the program's success:

- the offender has fulfilled the treatment requirements and attained his or her objectives
- the offender shows a significant improvement in his or her condition, in physical, psychological and social terms
- the offender has abstained from all psychoactive substances for a minimum of three months before sentencing
- the offender is working, or actively looking for work, is in training or, being unfit for work, benefitting from a development plan
- the offender has a fixed address
- the offender accepts the care or social assistance needed for his or her complete reintegration into the community
- the offender has complied with the interim release conditions.

Although abstinence remains a key factor in determining the program's success, the Court must analyze the file to determine whether abstinence may be weighted by all other factors.

In certain cases, the Court may give the offender a certificate attesting to the successful completion of the program.

10. DESCRIPTION OF THE STAGES FOLLOWING ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

Please refer to Appendix I of this program.

11. TRAINING

The program participants recognize the importance of training in order to have a common language and a clear understanding of the problem of dependence.

APPENDIX I

DESCRIPTION OF THE STAGES FOLLOWING ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM

1. Appearance of the detained accused.
2. Investigation into interim release:
 - ✚ Release with conditions (an orientation date is set)
 - ✚ Detention maintained, a detention order is issued (an orientation date is set)
 - ✚ Release is waived, order and detention (an orientation date is set)
3. The offender shows interest in participating in the program.

First treatment phase

4. Defence counsel contacts the CPPP and requests an assessment of the offender's eligibility for the program.
5. The DPSMD worker determines, among other things, the offender's problems, motivation and specific needs for therapy using the specialized addiction assessment, and sends the offender the information relevant to the program. The worker provides the offender with the cautionary notice regarding confidentiality and informs him or her on the option of taking part in a criminology study. The worker may also make a recommendation with respect to the level of service (inpatient or outpatient) required.
6. The offender enters into contact with a therapy centre adapted to his or her needs, which meets the program's requirements. The offender prepares to be assessed for admission to the treatment program.
7. The CPPP consents to the offender's admission to the program.
8. The parties agree on the following elements:
 - ✚ the charges for which pleas will be entered
 - ✚ suggested sentence(s) if the offender successfully completes the program
 - ✚ in case of failure, the fact that parties argue for a sentence on the merits
 - ✚ everything is recorded on the plea negotiation form and is explained to the offender.
9. The Court indicates to the offender whether it considers that his or her request to participate in the program is plausible.
10. The offender submits his or her plea and motions.
11. The offender pleads guilty before a program judge in a practice division courtroom of the Montréal courthouse. At that time:

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- ✚ the parties lay out the relevant facts, particular circumstances of the case, aggravating and mitigating factors
 - ✚ the judge verifies the plea's validity conditions, namely, the admission of the essential elements of the alleged offence, the understanding of the nature and consequences of the decision, and the knowledge that the Court is not bound by any agreement between it and the CPPP (subs. 606(1.1) Cr.C.)
 - ✚ the judge explains that the Court has discretion to determine an appropriate and fair sentence and that, for that purpose, it may adopt the parties' joint suggestion as long as it is reasonable in the circumstances, not contrary to the public interest or likely to bring the administration of justice into disrepute
 - ✚ the judge verifies the validity of the offender's consent to take part in the program and the offender's wish to end his or her dependence
 - ✚ the judge explains the program's main rules and objective
 - ✚ the judge accepts the offender into the program and confirms the guilty plea, which marks the beginning of the treatment program.
12. The judge conditionally releases the offender on the recognizance to comply with the release conditions pre-determined for the program. He or she adjourns the case normally for two months. The offender must appear before the Court when required.
13. The offender under conditional release consents to his or her conditions being modified by the judge so as to meet the program conditions. The offender not under conditional release signs the moral commitment toward the Court to respect the conditions of the program.
14. The therapy centre sends the therapy progress report to all participants at least three working days before the next hearing.
15. Defence counsel and the CPPP meet with the liaison officer and share information on the offender's progress.
16. The first hearing after interim release:
- ✚ The judge validates with the offender the information contained in the monitoring report. The judge encourages and supports the offender or imposes sanctions following breaches.
 - ✚ The judge can modify the conditions of interim release or the moral commitment contracted before the Court to allow the offender to leave the centre with the centre's authorization.
 - ✚ The judge adjourns the hearing normally for another two months.
17. The therapy centre sends the therapy progress report to all participants at least three working days before the next hearing.
18. Defence counsel and the CPPP meet with the liaison officer, share information on the offender's progress and discuss the offender's specific needs during reintegration into the community.

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19. The second hearing after interim release:
 - ✚ The judge validates with the offender the information contained in the monitoring report. The judge encourages and supports the offender or imposes sanctions following breaches.
 - ✚ The judge can modify the conditions of interim release or the moral commitment contracted before the Court to allow the offender's reintegration into the community.
 - ✚ The judge adjourns the hearing normally for another two months.
20. The therapy centre sends the final therapy report and a release plan to all participants at least three working days before the next hearing.
21. Defence counsel and the CPPP meet with the liaison officer, share information on the offender's progress in therapy and discuss the offender's specific needs during his or her reintegration into the community.
22. The hearing of the end of therapy:
 - ✚ The judge validates with the offender the information contained in the monitoring report. The judge encourages and supports the offender or imposes sanctions following breaches.
 - ✚ The judge can modify the offender's conditions of interim release or the moral commitment contracted before the Court in order to be able to start the second phase of the program.
 - ✚ The judge adjourns the hearing and determines with the parties how often the offender should be seen.

Second treatment phase

23. The offender admitted directly to this phase of treatment is referred to the DPSMD to undertake his or her outpatient monitoring. The offender is actively involved in the monitoring of his or her rehabilitation. The DPSMD worker sends the Court the offender's progress report at least three working days before the next hearing.
24. Preparation of the first hearing of the second phase:
 - ✚ Defence counsel, the CPPP, the liaison officer and the DPSMD worker meet concerning the monitoring that the offender must undergo to consolidate his or her acquired knowledge.
25. The court hearing:
 - ✚ The judge validates with the offender the information contained in the monitoring documents. The judge encourages and supports the offender or imposes sanctions following breaches.
 - ✚ As required, the judge can modify the conditions of interim release or the moral commitment contracted before the Court.
 - ✚ The judge adjourns the sentencing hearing normally for two months.

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26. The judge orders, as required, that the probation service draft a specific pre-sentence report in order to prepare for the offender's reintegration into the community. The report targets the offender's needs with respect to education, employability, lodging, financial resources, additional personal therapies or medical care. The report is filed with the Court by the liaison service.
27. Defence counsel and the CPPP meet with the liaison officer and verify the relevant information and documentary evidence.
28. The DPSMD worker conducts another specialized addiction assessment of the offender.
29. The final hearing:
 - ✚ The judge verifies the attainment of specific objectives by the offender as regards his or her completion of the treatment program.
 - ✚ The judge notes that the offender has successfully completed the program and imposes an appropriate sentence, taking into account the parties' suggestion.
 - ✚ The judge notes that the offender must continue in the program and delays sentencing for the length of time needed to complete the program.
 - ✚ The judge notes that the program was completed unsuccessfully and invites the CPPP and the offender to make their submissions on the sentence; the judge then hands down an appropriate and fair sentence.

If the offender is having difficulty completing the program, the sentencing may continue to be delayed for a maximum of 24 months. The Court will adjust the number of court appearances, depending on the offender's progress and his or her individualized treatment and social reintegration plan.

At any time, the offender may ask to terminate the treatment program and would then be sentenced on the merits.