

KANSAS RAFT PROGRAM: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

FRANCIS GIVENS, KSSC SPECIAL PROJECTS MANAGER
KIRA JOHNSON, LMLP, KSSC SB 123 PROGRAM DIRECTOR
FEBRUARY 2023



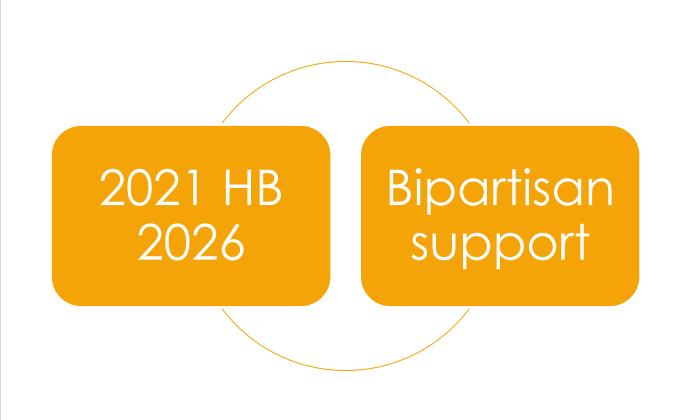
Sign up for email alerts <u>here!</u>

What is the RAFT Program?

A certified drug abuse treatment program for certain people who have entered diversion

Found in K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-6825

How did the RAFT
Program
become
law?



RAFT Program Eligibility

Limited to offenders charged with felony unlawful possession of controlled substances (K.S.A. 21-5706) at this time

whose offense is classified in grid blocks 5-C, 5-D, 5-E, 5-F, 5-G, 5-H or 5-I of the sentencing guidelines grid for drug crimes....

Cannot have <u>any</u> prior felony convictions of K.S.A. 65-4142, 65-4159, 65-4161, 65-4163 or 65-4164, prior to their repeal, K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 21-36a03, 21-36a05 or 21-36a16, prior to their transfer, or K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-5703, 21-5705 or 21-5716, and amendments thereto, <u>or any substantially similar offense from another jurisdiction.</u>

RAFT Program Eligibility Cont'd.

- (b) As part of the consideration of whether or not to allow diversion to the defendant, a divertee who meets the requirements of subsection (a) shall be subject to:
 - ▶ (1) A drug abuse assessment that shall include a clinical interview with a mental health professional and a recommendation concerning drug abuse treatment for the divertee; and
 - ▶ (2) a standardized criminal risk-need assessment specified by the Kansas sentencing commission.
 - ▶ (c) The diversion agreement shall require the divertee to comply with and participate in a certified drug abuse treatment program if the divertee meets the assessment criteria set by the Kansas sentencing commission. The term of treatment shall not exceed 18 months.

Divertees can be supervised by either Community Corrections or Court Services. See K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-6825(d).

Discharge from the RAFT Program

- (e) (1) Divertees in a certified drug abuse treatment program shall be discharged from the program if the divertee:
 - (A) Is convicted of a new felony; or
 - (B) has a pattern of intentional conduct that demonstrates the divertee's refusal to comply with or participate in the treatment program in the opinion of the county or district attorney.
- (2) Divertees who are discharged from such program pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be subject to the revocation provisions of the divertee's diversion agreement.
- K.S.A. 2022 Supp. 21-6825(e)

Eligibility Determination Process

- ► Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI 4th ed.)
 - Divertees must score "High Probability" on this measure
- Risk Needs Assessment
 - LSCMI (men)- Must score 15 or greater (medium very high risk)
 - WRNA (women)- Must score 15 or greater (moderate very high risk)
- AFTER THESE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA HAVE BEEN MET:
 - Divertee will complete an assessment with a certified provider to determine treatment needs and placement recommendations
 - Divertees are entitled to one funded assessment

Treatment Options for RAFT Divertees

- Those utilizing RAFT Diversion Program treatment funding are eligible to receive identical treatment as those on SB 123 (see <u>Modalities and Cost</u> <u>Caps</u> document on our website)
- The initial assessment should provide guidance related to initial and projected treatment needs, utilizing the ASAM continuum of care, and level of care recommendations.
- Treatment modalities available include:
 - Assessment
 - Social Detox
 - Inpatient
 - Outpatient (individual, group, family)
 - Reintegration
 - Relapse Prevention
 - Peer Mentorship

Treatment is provided by **SB 123 Certified** treatment agencies and providers. A current list of providers and services is located on the <u>KSSC website</u>.

Modalities of Service

- It is important to note:
 - Inpatient is not always the answer
 - ▶ Individuals must meet medical necessity for inpatient treatment
 - ▶ Inpatient should not be used as a punishment or ultimatum
 - The bulk of meaningful addiction treatment occurs in outpatient settings.
 - Outpatient modalities support the divertee in managing addiction and utilizing therapeutic skills while in their typical environment
 - Relapse prevention and peer mentorship are helpful in assisting the divertee in maintaining sobriety and applying practical skills
 - Limitations identical to those for SB 123 offenders exist for certain modalities
 - For example, peer mentorship is not a stand-alone service

Supervisor Obligations & Paperwork

- The supervisor of the divertee is responsible for assisting with care coordination, establishment of treatment services, and paperwork associated with the program.
 - ► This includes the <u>Client Placement Agreement</u> (CPA)
 - The CPA acts as a receipt and document of mutual understanding between the supervisor of the divertee and the treatment provider
 - Treatment providers are encouraged to not provide treatment to divertees/offenders without obtaining a signed CPA
 - The CPA reduces the likelihood of wasted resources, increased time to treatment, and unpaid treatment providers
 - ► The CPA should identify services that are recommended based on the divertee's individual needs and <u>reflect only those services which the</u> <u>treatment provider is certified to provide and intends to provide</u> within the treatment for this individual

The RAFT program has unique forms that can be found on the KSSC website!

Billing for Services

- When eligibility information is entered into the online form, treatment providers may then bill for treatment services (with a signed CPA)
- If a divertee is not eligible in Beacon's system, treatment providers will not be able to bill on that individual; Beacon and KSSC staff are available to assist if there are issues with a specific case.
- Please keep in mind that <u>KSSC is the payor of last resort</u>, meaning that if the divertee has private insurance of any kind or Medicaid/Medicare, those will be billed first.
- Billing standards for RAFT are the same as billing standards for SB 123 (i.e., 45 day timely filing, etc.)
- RAFT Diversion Program and SB 123 are different programs
 - ▶ They share some policy and a main funding source
 - Eligibility sources are different but may have overlap (i.e., Athena)
 - Please enter information carefully and establish the correct program on the CPA prior to attempting to bill

Utilization

- As of the most recent utilization report:
 - ▶ 11 divertees have established eligibility through the online form
 - ▶ 1 divertee has received treatment through the RAFT program
 - Supervision
 - ▶ 4 divertees supervised by DAs offices [Olathe/JOCO]
 - ▶ 3 supervised by Community Corrections [Abilene/Dickinson]
 - ▶ 4 supervised by Court Services [Kansas City/Wyandotte]
 - Demographics
 - ▶ 7 women; 4 men
 - ▶ All divertees categorized as white/Caucasian; 1 Hispanic/Latino divertee



QUESTIONS?

KSSC RESOURCES

Kira Johnson

kira.johnson@ks.gov

Francis Givens

• Francis.givens@ks.gov

KSSC Website

RAFT Program