

Whatcom County
Domestic Violence Perpetrator Opportunity for Treatment Services (DVPOTS)
Provider Qualifications

Whatcom County has an open qualified provider process for Domestic Violence Perpetrator Opportunity for Treatment Services (DVPOTS) funding. Qualified providers must be a Washington State certified Domestic Violence Perpetrator Treatment Provider, enter into a contract with Whatcom County, be a registered vendor with Whatcom County, and be able to meet the requirements DVPOTS Implementation Guide. The Guide can be found at: <https://www.whatcomcounty.us/DocumentCenter/View/62543/DVPOTS-Implementation-Guide>.

Background

Whatcom County currently experiences insufficient capacity of, and local accessibility to, certified treatment for defendants who have a history of violent behavior toward intimate partners and family members. These treatment services are often ordered by the courts as part of criminal justice proceedings in an effort to reduce future harm and reduce incarceration. The Whatcom County Incarceration Prevention and Reduction Task Force has identified and supported the need to increase availability of quality treatment services for perpetrators of domestic violence. The sole purpose of DVPOTS is to provide funding for domestic violence perpetrator assessments and funding for treatment for qualifying defendants who are deemed indigent and have no readily available source of funding to access services independently.

Funding

The County has established a protocol and procedure for distribution and documentation of DVPOTS funds, and has agreed to continued administrative oversight of the DVPOTS funds. Whatcom County Council and Bellingham City Council support continued funding for the expansion of these treatment services locally. The City of Bellingham funds will be used to reimburse treatment expenses for defendants referred by Bellingham Municipal Court. The County funds will be used to reimburse treatment expenses for defendants referred by Whatcom County District Court.

Qualification Requirements

Domestic violence assessment and treatment services funded by DVPOTS must be in full compliance with RCW 26.50.150, the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) [388-60B](#), and those requirements listed in The Guide.

Interested parties may request a meeting with Jake Wiebusch, Whatcom County District Court Probation Manager, to discuss qualification requirements and present proposed service structure. jwiebusc@co.whatcom.wa.us, or 360-778-5462.