



Fact Sheet:



SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2000

On November 7, 2000, California voters approved Proposition 36, the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (SACPA). The law became effective statewide on July 1, 2001.

What is the intent of SACPA?

Under SACPA, first or second time non-violent adult drug offenders who use, possess, or transport illegal drugs for personal use will receive drug treatment rather than incarceration. Implementation of SACPA has required a new model of collaboration between the criminal justice system and public health agencies to promote treatment as a more appropriate and effective alternative for illegal drug use. SACPA was designed to:

1. Preserve jail and prison cells for serious and violent offenders;
2. Enhance public safety by reducing drug-related crime; and
3. Improve public health by reducing drug abuse through proven and effective treatment strategies.

What are the requirements of SACPA?

Eligible offenders may receive up to one year of drug treatment and six months of aftercare. Treatment must be provided in a program licensed or certified by the State. The courts may sanction offenders who are not amenable to treatment. Vocational training, family counseling, literacy training, and other services may also be provided. Upon completion of successful drug

treatment, participants may petition the sentencing court for dismissal of charges.

Funding

SACPA established the Substance Abuse Treatment Trust Fund (SATTF) which provided \$60 million in start-up funds for State fiscal year 2000-2001 and \$120 million annually through State fiscal year 2005-06. The Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) distributes these funds to counties to implement SACPA.

Lead Agencies and Partners

Regulations (Chapter 2.5, Division 4, Title 9, California Code of Regulations) implementing SACPA require counties to designate a county lead agency to administer SACPA locally and to receive the funds. As a condition of receiving funds, counties must annually submit a county plan describing the processes and services they will employ to implement SACPA, as well as proposed expenditures.

The plans must be developed and implemented in collaboration with county agencies and any other organizational entities responsible for administering SACPA.

Data and Evaluation

SACPA requires the State to fund a long-term evaluation and submit an annual report on the effectiveness and financial impact of the programs that are funded pursuant to the requirements of SACPA. To fulfill these requirements, ADP:

- Maintains a web-based SACPA Reporting Information System (SRIS) to collect and maintain county-level data on clients and program expenditures; and
- Allocates up to 0.5 percent of the fund's total monies each year for a long-term (five-year) independent evaluation of the program. The study is being conducted by the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), Integrated Substance Abuse Programs.

SACPA Website

ADP maintains an active website dedicated to promoting collaboration among the various entities involved in implementing SACPA.

<http://www.adp.ca.gov/SACPA/prop36.shtml>

Visitors to the website will find comprehensive information available on:

- County SACPA allocations and financial reporting;
- All County Lead Agency (ACLA) Letters that provide information on SACPA administration;
- Evaluation updates;
- Statewide Advisory Group activities; and
- Conference proceedings.

The SACPA pages also include a user-friendly and convenient method for submitting questions to ADP. At the bottom of the SACPA navigation bar is an "E-mail SACPA" link. ADP staff will provide acknowledgement within two days, with full responses prepared as quickly as possible after submission. ☐