

### **Admission Policy for Mental Health Court Program**

In order to qualify for admission to the Mental Health Court Program (the “Program”), a person must:

1. Be 18 years of age or older.
2. Be charged with a criminal offence(s) that is within the jurisdiction of the Provincial Court.
3. Live in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) and have substantial ties to that community which must include health care providers. Applicants must also be engaged in work, education, or volunteer work in the HRM.
4. Acknowledge responsibility for the offences they are charged with.
5. Have the consent of the Crown Attorney in the Program to participate.
6. Must have a qualifying mental health disorder. See Mental Health Disorder Eligibility Criteria.
7. The qualifying mental health disorder must be clearly and substantially connected to the commission of the offence(s) (the “nexus”).
8. Have a level of risk that is manageable and able to be monitored by the Program Team.
9. Waive delay.
10. Be likely to gain some benefit from participation in the Program.