

YOUTH DIVERSION

WHAT IS YOUTH DIVERSION?

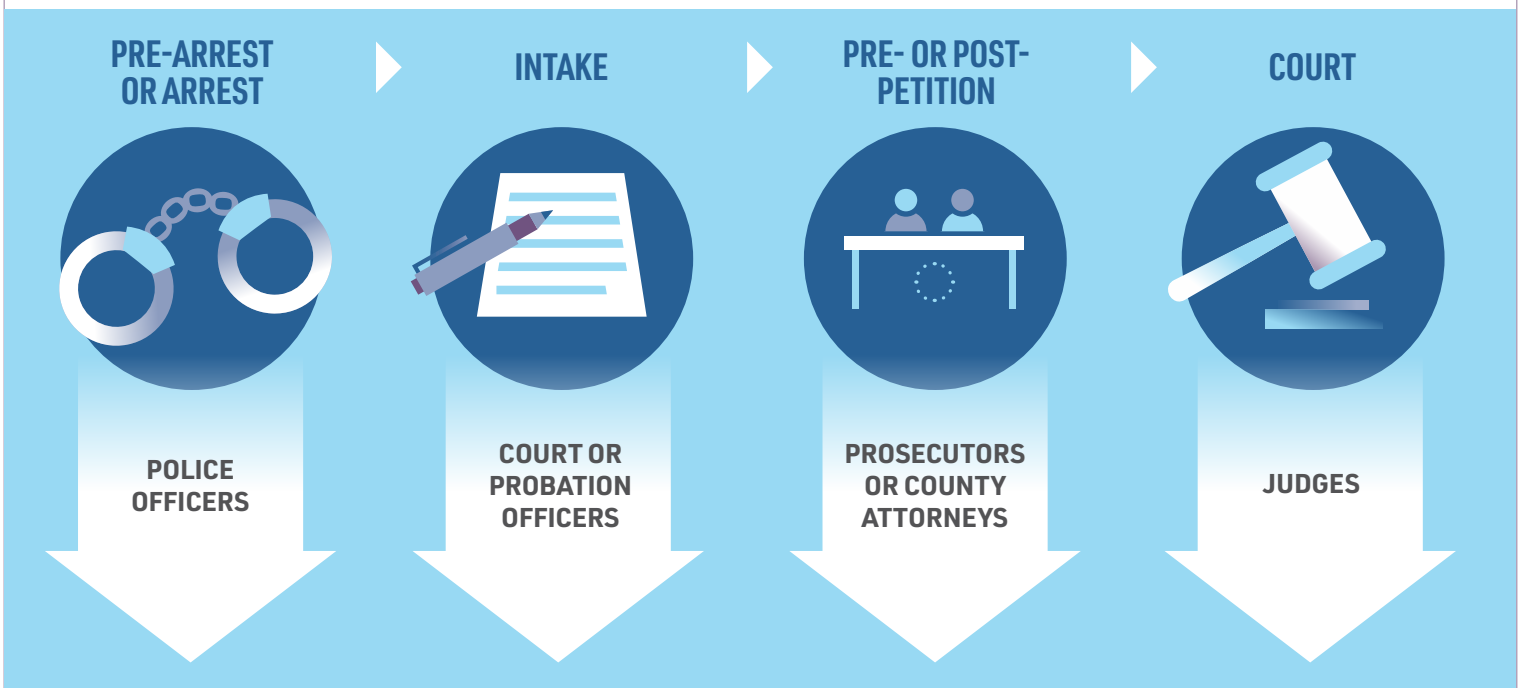
Diversion directs youth away from formal processing in the juvenile justice system, while still holding them accountable for their actions.

Terminology, definitions, and terms differ across jurisdictions.

WHY SHOULD WE DIVERT YOUNG PEOPLE?

Diversion offers young people a chance to be defined by more than their mistakes. Research shows diversion reduces recidivism, thereby improving public safety, and it reduces costs by keeping children in their communities and out of the juvenile justice system.

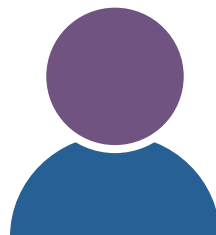
WHO CAN DIVERT YOUNG PEOPLE?



A young person with less involvement in the juvenile justice system:

has increased educational and employment opportunities

interacts with fewer peers who have antisocial behaviors



is less likely to commit another offense

is more likely to maintain positive community supports

DIVERTING YOUNG PEOPLE DEMONSTRATES BELIEF IN THEIR POTENTIAL.



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