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# MONTANA JUDICIAL BRANCH TREATMENT COURT BASICS

[courts.mt.gov](http://courts.mt.gov)

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- ❑ Treatment Court Locations – *map attached*
  
- ❑ Governance Structure
  - Treatment courts are managed by the judge, who presides over the docket
  - The dockets can be attached to a District Court, Court of Limited Jurisdiction, or Tribal Court
  - Each court has a governance document and participant manual
  - Funding and policy guidance for District Court treatment courts is provided by the Supreme Court's Drug Court Advisory Committee
  - The Court Administrator's Office has one state level program manager working with the courts
  
- ❑ Funding Through Judicial Branch Budget:
  - The state funds some District Court Treatment Courts
  - OCA provides technical assistance and other support - but not general fund dollars - to limited or tribal courts
  - Courts generally start with federal start-up grants, which run for three-four years; successful courts are added to the general fund matrix via a legislative request
  - Funding sources – federal grants dollars, local government support, highway traffic safety funding, and state general fund dollars make up most of the support
  - 24 courts of 36 courts are funded by a combination of state general fund and opioid settlement dollars:
    - \$1.8 million in general fund
    - \$350,00 in opioid settlement dollars
  - The state dollars pay for a coordinator and ancillary services such as drug testing
  
- ❑ Performance Measurements:
  - OCA collects extensive performance measurements and outcome measures – distributed in a lengthy biennial report each legislative session
    - *Highlights from the 2023 report attached*
  - Peer review process for continuance improvement
  
- ❑ Critical System:
  - Appropriate substance abuse and behavioral health services – very dependent on Medicaid dollars and other health insurances
  - Involvement from court partners – law enforcement, prosecutor, defense counsel, etc.