

Juvenile Incompetent to Proceed

Policy

It is the policy of Central Florida Behavioral Network, Inc. (CFBHN) to ensure that services provided to children in the Juvenile Incompetent to proceed (JITP) program meet mandated requirements.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the key elements of the JITP program.

Procedure

1. Florida's JITP Program provides competency restoration services to juveniles who are mentally ill, intellectually disabled, or autistic, who have been charged with a felony, and do not have the ability to participate in legal proceedings due to the state of their mental health and/or level of intellectual functioning.
 - A. The goal of the program is to provide an assessment, evaluation and intensive competency training and treatment to allow the juvenile to return to court and continue with their court proceedings.
 - B. Competency restoration services are available in both the community setting and in a secure residential setting.
2. Competency Restoration services are provided to juveniles who have been charged with a felony prior to reaching the age of 18. Community services are available to delinquent juveniles up to the age of 18 years old. Community restoration services do provide exceptions to the age limit of 18 years old. The statute allows the court to retain jurisdiction of the juvenile for up to two years after the date of the order of incompetency. Therefore, a juvenile determined Incompetent to Proceed (ITP) at the age of 17 years old, may receive services past their 18th birthday. Secure residential services are available to delinquent juveniles up to the age of nineteen years old. Diagnostic categories include all major DSM disorder classifications and Intellectual Developmental Disorder diagnoses.
3. Community Restoration services are provided to juveniles adjudicated ITP. These services are able to be provided in the juvenile's home, foster care home, detention center, school, Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Program (SIPP), group home, and/or Specialized Therapeutic Foster Care (STFC). These services are provided by Twin Oaks' outpatient program.
4. Juveniles determined by the court to require secure treatment and competency training within a residential setting are served at Apalachicola Forest Youth Camp (AFYC) located in Liberty County, Florida. AFYC is a 48-bed facility operated by Twin Oaks Juvenile Development, Inc.

Juvenile Incompetent to Proceed (JITP) Approval:  Alan Davidson, President/Chief Executive Officer	Date Issued: <u>07/29/10</u> Last Revision: <u>06/24/2026</u> Review Date: <u>06/24/2026</u>
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