

# Back on Track Program Eligibility



## About the program

The Northern Territory Government funds non-government organisations to deliver the multi-faceted Back on Track program for eight to 17 year olds in Greater Darwin, Alice Springs, Tennant Creek, Nhulunbuy and Katherine.

The program provides a sentencing option for the judiciary under the *Youth Justice Act 2005* and a referral option for Police, government agencies and non-government organisations.

The program is for young people who are engaging in behaviour that places them at significant risk of physical or emotional harm and that may affect community safety.

## Eligibility criteria

The young person **will**:

- be between the ages of eight to 17 years old (but may turn 18 years old after they have started in the program)
- be supported by a responsible adult who has agreed to assist them in the program
- reside in an urban location of Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine, Nhulunbuy or Tennant Creek
- have a history of contact with Police or be at risk of entering the youth justice system
- present with anti-social or offending behaviour; and
- have attempted or given appropriate consideration to other relevant service options
- have access to stable accommodation
- be at risk of, or already be disengaged from, education or training/employment
- give informed consent to engage and participate in the program
- be assessed through a comprehensive assessment undertaken by the Element 1 provider to determine if suitable for the program.

The young person **may not**:

- be serving in a period of detention longer than three months (except where it is identified that the young person is at risk because they will no longer have access to the program's services); or
- be disengaged from the program for a period greater than three months.

## How to make a referral to the program

A referral to the program must consist of both a completed Referral and Consent form, available online at: <https://www.youthjustice.nt.gov.au/initiatives/back-track-alternative-sentencing-and-youth-diversion-program>.

For more information, contact the Back on Track team at: [TFHC.BackOnTrack@nt.gov.au](mailto:TFHC.BackOnTrack@nt.gov.au) or telephone 08 8924 4244.