

## ISP provides a chance to change. Are you ready?

### Quotes from ISP Participants

“I haven’t completed anything in my entire life and through this program I’ve overcome every obstacle or task put before.

I used to believe I was a lost cause destined to get high and commit crimes forever but through this program I changed my life.”

**Elijah H. – Participant**

“I see a great future. Before taking ISP, I see a very dim future. But, since I took the program, I see graduating off the program, getting the GED and just seeing a big, brighter future.”

**Shirlean H. – Participant**

“This program is a strict, but very good one. Anyone who comes out on this program is fortunate, but anyone who does anything to go back to prison is a fool. If it wasn’t for this program I know my life would have continued the way it was before – useless.”

**John A. – Graduate**

“The ISP program is a chance if you want to come out and change and stop hurting family, people around you, and number one stop hurting yourself.”

**Emilio F. – Graduate**

“ISP has helped me achieve a job, some goals in my life. Prior to ISP, I was a habitual shoplifter, full of crime, corrupt. Today, I do not do those things. ISP has really helped me be a better person.”

**Shirley C. – Graduate**

“The way I feel today is great. I have a new life, a family and I have new friends. I do not look at myself as someone who is likely to commit a crime. And that is the ISP difference. People who graduate ISP are winners.”

**Julio P. – Graduate**

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New Jersey Judiciary

# Intensive Supervision Program

A Way Beyond the Wall



For more information about the intensive supervision program, go to [www.njcourts.gov](http://www.njcourts.gov) and search for intensive supervision program.

## Are you interested in changing your life?

If so, then perhaps the Intensive Supervision Program (ISP) is for you. ISP is a carefully designed program to help you change “persons, places and things” that might have caused you problems in the past.

Your ISP officer will work with you so you can successfully complete the program. ISP has expectations and restrictions and you will have to learn to say “no”. But, if you really want to change, you will succeed on ISP.

If accepted into ISP, you will be on the program anywhere between one and five years, minus the time you have served. The time that you are required to remain on the program will depend on your ISP conditions and how well you do under supervision. However, in no instance will you be required to remain on the program beyond your Department of Corrections maximum date.

Since 1983, more than 10,170 participants have successfully completed the program. You too can be an ISP graduate.

## Am I eligible to apply for ISP?

Program guidelines permit all persons sentenced to state prison to be eligible for program consideration except those applicants convicted of bribery, corrupt influence, homicide, certain sex offenses, certain weapons offenses, crimes of the first-degree, robbery, or organized crime.

People convicted of second-degree offenses under the misconduct/abuse of office statutes are ineligible. Some people who have failed drug court for violation of special probation and have been sentenced to state prison pursuant to N.J.S.A. 2C:35-14 are ineligible.

Also, if you are sentenced to a parole ineligibility (stip) you are eligible after that period has been satisfied. You must live in New Jersey, but if you don't have a New Jersey residence, you should still apply. ISP might be able to find you a place to live. If you are not sure whether or not you are eligible, you are encouraged to apply and let the ISP staff determine whether you are eligible.

## Who decides whether I get into ISP?

Your application will be reviewed by a screening board that might recommend your release to a two-member panel of ISP judges. The judges make the final decision. If accepted by the judges, you will be immediately released from prison.

## How do I apply?

You fill out an application, which is available at all county jails and state prisons, and send it to ISP. Be sure to answer all questions, including who will be your community sponsor. If you do not have answers to all the questions, send the application with as much information as you have.

## How can I help get accepted?

If you are interviewed for ISP, you will be asked to write a plan explaining what you are going to do to help you avoid problems in the future. What you put in your plan is important. The people reviewing your application will closely review your plan. You should be able to do the things you say you can do.

## What happens if I get accepted?

You will be released from prison under the conditions of ISP. You will have to live up to all the details in your plan. Whether you remain in the program depends on you. Your community sponsor and ISP officer will help you, but you must make sure you do what you agreed to do.

## What are the expectations of ISP?

- Obtain a job within 30 days of your release from prison.
- Obey the 6 p.m. curfew until employed. The curfew can be changed to between 8 and 10 p.m. at the discretion of your ISP officer.
- Support your dependents and meet family responsibilities.
- Participate in treatment and counseling programs including AA, NA, and/or GA.
- Do not leave New Jersey without permission from your ISP officer.
- Do not possess any firearm or other weapons.
- Allow your ISP officer to visit your home and search you, places or things under your control.
- Do not use illegal drugs or alcohol, and submit to drug and/or alcohol testing as requested by your ISP officer.
- Pay all financial obligations imposed by the ISP Judicial Panel or by other courts.
- Inform your employer you are on ISP within 30 days of finding a job.

You should realize that if you fail to meet these expectations and others that will be set by the judicial panel, you might immediately be returned to prison.

If you break any rule, you might be placed under more restrictions rather than being returned to prison.

If you successfully meet the expectations, certain privileges and extensions of your curfew could be permitted based on your performance.