

~~ YOUTH AT-RISK ~~

In the State of Washington, a Youth At-Risk is a child under the age of 18 who is:

- 1) Away from home for more than 72 hours without permission; and/or
- 2) Is beyond the control of his/her parents such that the child's behavior endangers the child or another person and/or
- 3) Has a serious substance abuse problem for which there are no pending criminal charges related to the substance abuse.

Parents may petition the court asking for court intervention and supervision to assist them to maintain care, custody and control of their child. To begin the legal process, the custodial parent or guardian must contact the State Division of Children, Youth and Family Services (DCYF) at 1 (888) 713-6115 to request an At-Risk Youth Petition. An assessment will determine eligibility and if appropriate, assistance will be offered to help with the filing of the petition.

[Youth At-Risk Information Sheet](#)

[Youth At-Risk Contempt Form](#)

~~ TRUANCY ~~

Truancy Petitions are initiated by the school where the student is enrolled. The school may file a petition after five unexcused absences and is required to file a petition after seven unexcused absences in one month or ten within the school year.