

For Classified Students

*When the offenses of a Youth involve truancy, incorrigible, ungovernable behavior at the school and the youth is a special education student with an IEP or 504 plan, the School District **cannot** file a PINS referral/petition unless a **Manifestation Determination Hearing (NEXUS)** has been held by the Committee on Special Education (CSE) and the school has provided the PINS Caseworker with documentation that the student's behaviors are intentional and ongoing and are not related to their disability.



ECDSS **PINS Program**

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Essex County PINS Program



Essex County Department of **Social Services**

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Person In Need of Supervision **(PINS)**

An individual under the age of 18 who:

- *Does not attend school
- *Behaves in a way that is incorrigible, ungovernable, or habitually disobedient
- *Is beyond the control of a parent, guardian, or lawful authority
- *Is suspected of drug abuse
- *Requires supervision or treatment

A PINS referral should **not** be the first response to problem behavior or replace the authority and responsibility of guardian, and schools. A referral is appropriate only after guardian and schools have made diligent efforts and when additional support is needed to try and resolve the problem behavior.

Guardians must understand that when there is a PINS referral made, they, along with their child, will be expected to cooperate with and participate in all recommended services.

Typical Referral Sources

*The most common referrals made include but are not limited to the following:

- ➡ Department of Social Services Preventive Services
- ➡ Mental Health Counseling
- ➡ Substance Abuse Counseling
- ➡ Families First-Health Homes
- ➡ Youth Advocate Program



The PINS Process

- *The School or Guardian makes PINS referral.
- * Essex County DSS will schedule a Pre-PINS meeting with the Youth, school, and guardian.
- *Referrals to Service Providers may be made at the Pre-PINS stage. Youths and their families are expected to comply with all recommended services.
- *A Follow-Up meeting will take place approximately 30-60 days after the initial Pre-PINS conference (unless an earlier time is indicated) to assess the Youth's progress. If successful, the Pre-PINS case will be closed.
- *If further involvement is necessary a PINS Diversion case will be opened for a period of 90 days (can be extended if necessary).