

Treatment Completion Guidelines FAQs

Q1: When must the Treatment Completion Guidelines be implemented?

A: All sexual offenders who are required to comply with Treatment Completion, pursuant to 1203.067 (b)(2), 3008(d)(2), and 903 (b) that are enrolled in sex offender treatment on or after March 15, 2018, must comply with the Treatment Completion Guidelines as set forth by CASOMB in order to receive a Certificate of Treatment Completion.

The Guidelines are useful even as applied to offenders outside the scope of mandated treatment, and a provider of treatment services to any sexual offender may find these guidelines useful in adhering to best practice standards in the field of sexual offender treatment and assessment.

Q2: Can an agency use forms they have created, instead of the CASOMB forms provided in the Treatment Completion Guidelines?

A: No. Even when a Provider Agency chooses to use its own forms and processes for establishing treatment completion, Provider Agencies are still expected to complete and maintain with the clinical file (medical record) the “Treatment Completion Worksheet” to record an individual’s successful completion of treatment. This form may be requested during a CASOMB audit. The “Statement of Successful Treatment Completion” form shall be completed if an offender satisfies the requirements of successful treatment completion. The form shall be maintained with the medical record by the Treatment Provider Agency, a copy given to the client, and a copy to probation or parole.

Q3: Can treatment be successfully completed if a client is expected to remain in some form of treatment for the duration of his or her time on supervision?

A: Many clients in sex offender treatment may be required by the terms of supervision to maintain some contact with treatment providers even after they have completed all of the components of the active treatment program. When the client has met the criteria as set forth in Treatment Completion Guidelines and recorded on the “Treatment Completion Worksheet” the client has successfully completed treatment. However, he or she may be required to attend Maintenance or Aftercare Sessions, polygraph exams, risk assessment, and other elements of supervision that are part of the Sex Offender Management Program.

Q4: What if the client in sex offender treatment is not a registered sex offender pursuant to Penal Code section 290?

A: It is good practice to comply with the Treatment Completion Guidelines whether or not the client who has sexually offended is a registered sex offender. If a client completes sex offender treatment in compliance with Treatment Completion Guidelines, then the Treatment Provider Agency can still issue a Certificate of Successful Completion for such an offender, maintain the document as a part of the official medical record and provide a copy to the client.

Q5: Can failing a polygraph exam be the basis for denying a statement of successful completion of treatment?

A: A failed polygraph exam should not be the sole reason for denying the statement of successful treatment completion. Failure to pass a polygraph should be only one factor in determining whether someone has successfully completed the active phase of treatment. Polygraph exams are a useful tool to obtain information for treatment and supervision but even at the best of times there is an error rate and reasons why, other than failure to be truthful, someone might not be able to pass a polygraph exam.