

Intensive Supervised Release (ISR) Orientation Guide

This guide will inform you about your placement on Intensive Supervised Release (ISR). The Minnesota Department of Corrections believes that your best chance of success is by working closely with an ISR agent. The MNSTARR assessment is used to determine who should be on ISR, and it includes your prison records and criminal history.

When you are released, you'll receive information specific to your supervision area, including resources available to you and how to contact your agent(s). No matter where you release, the expectations of ISR are the same.

ISR is meant to provide supervision that changes over time. The main goal is to help you build stability in the community and give you tools for success. You and your agent will create a personalized supervision plan aimed at helping you succeed. Your agent is here to support you, so take time to review this guide with them and ask questions.

Before Release

Address Approval: You need an agent-approved address to be released. Give your caseworker any possible addresses (name, address, contact information). Your agent will investigate the address or work with you and your case manager to find a suitable place.

Contact with Agent: Your agent will schedule a virtual meeting with you before release to go over your plan and options. Agents will also discuss ISR supervision and identify any specific needs you have prior to and after release.

Release/Transport: On your release date, your agent will take you to your approved location unless another plan (family or support person) has been approved.

After Release

Purpose: This is intended to provide structure and support to help you successfully transition into the community. The goal is to provide structure while you work toward building a positive support network and stability while using community resources.

A risk and need assessments will be completed during this time and your agent will provide feedback regarding the areas of high and low risk. This will help identify a plan for programming to help reduce the risk of future high-risk behavior and/or returning to jail/prison. You and your agent will work together on short and long-term goal setting called case planning.

While on ISR supervision, you are required to comply with your conditions of release and supervision expectations. A violation of any condition of release or supervision expectation could result in a sanction, including a warrant being issued.

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Contact and Communication: ISR operates 24/7, so any ISR agent can check in on you at any time, day or night, and in any place. You'll have at least three visits per week at first, which may include drug or alcohol testing.

You must stay in touch with your agent as directed. Your agent will tell you how to communicate with them. You must be available at all times and answer your door and phone. Your agent will give you instructions on how to contact them in emergency and non-emergency situations.

Schedules: You must stay at your approved address unless you get prior permission from your agent or in an emergency. You'll need to submit a schedule as directed. Initially upon release, you will work with your agent with a modified schedule for up to 60 days after your release. After the initial 60 days, your scheduled activities on your schedule should end by 10 p.m. unless your agent says otherwise.

Below are examples of activities that may be approved on a daily/weekly schedule:

- Job searching, work, school, volunteering, or community service
- Treatment, support meetings, and other programs
- Appointments (medical, legal, court)
- Religious or cultural activities
- Personal needs (like grocery shopping, laundry, banking)
- Positive social activities (for example, gym, family time) that help you build a support system

Timeline: ISR is one year in length or until the expiration of your sentence if that is less than one year. ISR supervision can be extended or advanced early based on your progress, engagement, behavior, and attitude. Your work towards completing your case plan goals will help reduce the level of supervision and amount of time you are on ISR.

Level 3 Predatory Offender Timeline: If you are designated Level 3, you will remain on ISR until the expiration of your sentence or until risk level reduction. Timeline, curfew, and contacts may vary after the first year.

Supervision Expectations

You'll start on ISR with a high level of contact and work towards lowering your risk of reoffending. You and your agent will set goals, treatment plans, and programs that are a best fit for you. Your agent will review your progress weekly, and the level of supervision may be reduced if you are meeting goals. However, if you're not making progress or are engaging in negative behaviors, supervision may be increased.

Transition Planning to Expiration/Supervised Release

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Transitioning off ISR: Your agent will update your risk and needs assessment to highlight your strengths and needs. You will either be transferred to standard supervised release with a new agent or, if your supervision period is ending, your agent will help create a transition plan for you to succeed in the community. To be considered for early transfer from ISR, you must actively participate in your supervision, treatment, and programming for at least six months. However, an early transfer is not guaranteed.