

# Batterer Intervention Program (BIP) Standards Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

## ***1. What are the Batterer Intervention Program Standards?***

In 2001 the Oregon Legislature passed a bill (Senate Bill 81) that tasked the Oregon Department of Justice with creating Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) governing BIPs. The rules are located at OAR 137-087-0000 through 137-087-0100 and can be found on line at [http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars\\_100/oar\\_137/137\\_087.html](http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/pages/rules/oars_100/oar_137/137_087.html). The rules went into effect January 1, 2006 and were revised in 2012 with an effective date of September 1, 2012.

## ***2. Who created the BIP Standards?***

Attorney General Hardy Myers convened an advisory committee in January of 2002 to work on the creation of the BIP rules. The advisory committee comprised of representatives from community corrections, BIPs, victim services programs, the judiciary and law enforcement.

## ***3. Does this Advisory Committee still exist?***

Yes, the Attorney General has appointed an ongoing advisory committee to review issues pertaining to the BIP standards and to recommend further change if needed.

## ***4. How often does the Advisory Committee meet? Can anyone attend? How do I get something on the agenda?***

The Advisory Committee meets three or four times a year. Advisory Committee members are listed on the BIP webpage. Meetings are not public meetings however meeting minutes are typically posted on the website within 30 days. If you have an issue or program you would like to present to the committee, contact Sherree Rodriguez at 503.378.5348. She will ensure the matter is brought to the committee co-chairs.

## ***5. How do I become licensed as a BIP in Oregon?***

There is no licensure process at this time. Each county's Local Supervisory Authority, often in cooperation with their domestic or family violence council, is responsible for screening and approving a BIP for referral of clients in the county.

**6. *How much does it cost to be an approved BIP provider in Oregon?***

As mentioned in the answer to #5, there is no statewide certification and monitoring of BIPs so there is no fee for approval.

**7. *I have heard there are conflicts between the BIP standards and SB 267, which prescribes standards for evidence-based practice. What is the Attorney General doing to resolve these issues?***

The Attorney General and the BIP advisory committee are working with state and local community corrections to sort out these issues. Further legislation may be required to clarify the role of the rules and of SB 267.

**8. *Do judges, prosecutors, victim services and corrections have to follow the rules?***

The rules only govern the operation of BIPs. However, the rules charge BIPs with having an active role in their local domestic violence intervention and prevention efforts. While judges, prosecutors, victim services and corrections are not in any way bound by the rules, it is suggested that they study the rules and work in cooperation with BIPs to develop local policies and procedures that enable BIPs to comply with the rules.

**9. *Who is the staff person I should talk to at DOJ if I have any questions about the BIP rules?***

The authorizing legislation did not include any funds or staff positions to prepare the rules. Currently, questions are being handled by Shannon Sivell, Director of the DOJ Crime Victims' Services Division. You can contact her at 503-378-5348.

**10. *How does our domestic violence council or Local Supervisory Authority go about screening programs for compliance with the rules?***

Every county will do things differently, but ideally, county planning groups (DV council, LSA etc.) will agree on a way to screen BIPs who want to be approved in that county to receive referrals from the criminal justice system. Using the rules as a guide, a checklist, site visits or interview process, and curriculum review is recommended to determine whether a program is in compliance with the BIP rules. Periodic review and re-certification is also recommended. Click [here](#) to link to "How do I know my Batterer Intervention Program is working?" The Advisory Committee will be working to create more tools for counties.

**11. *What should I do if I know a BIP is not in compliance with the rules?***

You can report your concerns to the Local Supervisory Authority (usually either the Sheriff's office, or the Community Corrections Director) in your county and/or the county's domestic violence council.

***12. Are Batterer Intervention and Anger Management the same thing?***

No, in fact, anger management is not appropriate to use with perpetrators of domestic violence. Using anger management may actually put victims in danger. You can get more information about the difference between anger management and batterer intervention by clicking [here](#).

***13. What tools are available to my Local Supervisory Authority or domestic violence council to screen and endorse our BIPs?***

The Advisory Committee will be working to develop tools for counties to use. In the meantime it may be useful to see what another state has done. Click the live links below for information from some other states.

Illinois: [Monitoring Partner Abuse Intervention Programs](#)  
[New Site Tool](#)

Texas: [Personnel & Training Records Review Form](#)  
[Audits Overview](#)  
[Group Observation Tool](#)  
[Participant Records Review Form](#)

Florida: [Administrative Monitoring Report](#)  
[Group Observation Monitoring Report](#)