

Youth Justice Bail After-hours Service (YJBAS)

Information for young people and families

If you are arrested by the Police at night or on the weekend or a public holiday, YJBAS will meet with you and do a bail assessment. This helps the Bail Justice or the Magistrate decide whether to release you on bail or put you in custody while you wait for your next court date.

Who are the YJBAS workers?

YJBAS is run by Youth Justice, and YJBAS workers are trained YJ workers in the community. They are used to working with young people.

What does YJBAS do?

YJBAS meets with young people who are in police custody on weeknights, weekends or public holidays ('after-hours'). YJBAS workers can do a bail assessment which helps the Bail Justice or Magistrate understand more about the young person when making their decision.

If the Police are thinking about remanding you in custody after-hours, they will contact the YJBAS to meet with you first.

What happens during when you meet with YJBAS?

A YJBAS worker will speak with you and learn more about your situation, and check on your health, wellbeing and safety. They can also tell you more about what will happen next, and what your options are.

The YJBAS worker can complete a bail assessment to help give the bail decision-maker more information about you. YJBAS will only do this assessment if you agree to it and give your consent.

The YJBAS worker might also contact your family or carers to discuss any extra support you may need, and start to make a plan for if you are released on bail.

A YJBAS worker will either come to see you at the police station in person or speak to you on a video call or a phone.

What happens after your YJBAS assessment?

The YJBAS worker will speak with the bail decision maker and give them information from the bail assessment to help them make their decision.

This decision maker may be a [Bail Justice](#), or a Magistrate at the [Weekend Online Remand Court](#).

There will be a hearing, and decision maker will say whether you should be released into the community (bail) or put into custody (remand) while you wait for your next court date.



Who makes the decision about whether to grant bail?

A Bail Justice or a Magistrate at the Weekend Online Remand Court will decide whether you should be bailed or remanded.

The YJBAS team will provide advice to the bail decision makers based on their conversation with you, information in the bail assessment, and any other relevant information including if you are already involved with YJ.

Who can contact YJBAS?

Usually, Victoria Police will contact the YJBAS. You can also contact YJBAS, and your legal representative, family, carers, or support workers can also ask YJBAS to assess your suitability for supervised bail.

How and when can YJBAS be contacted?

Phone: 1300 313 381

Email: yjbas@justice.vic.gov.au

Hours of Operation:

- Monday to Friday: 5.00pm - 3.00am
- Saturday & Sunday: 8.00am - 3.00am
- Public holidays: 8.00am - 3.00am

During normal business, please contact your [local youth justice unit](#).