

All services provided by the Probation
and Mediation Service
are free of charge.

Address of our workplace:



Parole

Conditional Release
With Supervision

Offender integration
Victim participation
Community protection



What can you gain from cooperation with the PMS?

Cooperation with the Probation and Mediation Service employees (hereinafter the PMS) – officers or assistants in the course of performance of the custodial sentence provides you with an opportunity to prepare yourself for an active transition from prison to freedom, and for compliance with conditions, which may be set to you by the court during the conditional release or conversion of imprisonment in home detention. In cooperation with the PMS you can gather and verify information needed and considered by the court while deciding upon the request for early release from prison.

In which cases should you contact the PMS?

Contact a PMS centre, if you have decided upon an active preparation for your release, e.g. in cooperation with the PMS to address issues, which you will face after the release – for example the issue of housing, how to earn money to make a living, how to resolve your debts, how and where you get a job, how you are accepted by community. Under the terms of the decision on early release from prison, the court may impose various measures, which control is subsequently ensured by the PMS - for example, to undergo the PMS supervision, to stay at a specified time in your homes, to perform work in favour of municipality, national or other charitable institution, to undergo drug screening for the presence of drugs in the body, to refrain from visiting a designated facility, or to avoid contact with specified persons etc. In case that the court will hear the application for conversion of a custodial sentence in home detention, collaboration with the PMS is always needed - the PMS detects conditions where home detention should be carried out.

If you are considering cooperation with the PMS, first contact your tutor, social worker or other professional from the department, where you are serving the sentence, and s/he will tell you whether and how to contact the PMS. The professional prison staff is well informed of our activities, and can also help you with filling out the form „*The Request to Start Cooperation with the Probation and Mediation Service*“ (hereinafter Request).

How should you contact the PMS?

If after the consultation with the tutor, social worker, or another professional from the department, where you are serving your sentence, you conclude that it is suitable in your case to cooperate with the PMS, fill in „*The request to start cooperation with the Probation and Mediation Service*“. Send the completed form to the relevant PMS centre (you can find the address on the other side of the leaflet). If you do not have funds to send the form, ask the prison administration department to send it for you.

When should you contact the PMS?

Considering that the PMS will discuss your case not only with you, but also with prison staff, the injured/victim, and persons from your planned place of residence, it is necessary that the corresponding PMS centre receives the Request filled out by you

at least 3 months before you file your parole application for early release. We recommend you to contact the PMS even earlier, because if you fail the above mentioned deadline, it will have some impact on your cooperation with the PMS.

How will the cooperation with the PMS be carried out?

Before your first session the PMS officer will work with the information you provided in the Request, your file documentation, personal card, and other materials that the prison keeps in relation with your case.

During the first session you will finalize the details of your cooperation with the PMS officer, and you will agree on specific steps to take – i.e. what information and from whom will the PMS get it, and what steps you will take. You will be able to arrange a lot of things in writing from the prison on your own (for example to contact your potential employer, to request information from the Employment Authority and from the social curator, to confirm possibility of housing in the place where you plan it...), the PMS, prison workers, eventually other persons working outside the prison (social and other services) can help you with other issues.

If needed, the PMS may contact other cooperating individuals/organizations. The PMS also contacts the injured and victims/the deceased and finds out, whether the crime impacts on their life still persist. When preparing conditions for your release, the PMS cooperates with the PMS centre in your planned place of residence. In cooperation with it, conditions of your housing are confirmed, possibilities of your future employment are found out, etc.

What is the PMS statement?

The PMS verifies all the summoned information, keeps you acquainted with it, and based on them finally prepares „*The PMS Opinion on the Parole Application or Conversion of Prison Sentence into Home Detention*“ (hereinafter Opinion). The purpose is to assess the possibility of your early release from the point of view of your preparedness and the presence of possible risks of re-offending.

The Opinion takes into consideration conclusions of the evaluation your behaviour in prison. The Opinion contains information on conditions of your return to freedom (housing, work, family, etc.), and about addressing the impact of crime on the injured and victims - how you compensated the caused damage or took steps to remedy the caused injury. The Opinion also includes a summary of potential risks of your release and a proposal, whether and how they can be reduced.

You will get acquainted with the Opinion before it is submitted to the court, and you will have an opportunity to state your comments. In that case, your comments will be appended to the Opinion. You will also be able to comment on it during the court hearing.