



Category

3-11 Admission to Programs Requiring Drug Testing

Approval

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Effective Date: 3/30/12
Revised: 7/5/2023
Responsible Party: Vice President, Student Success

Policy Statement

The comprehensive education of health profession students at the College requires collaboration between the college and clinical agencies. The college shares an obligation with the clinical agency to protect the agency's patients to the extent reasonably possible from possible harm due to students who are under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol while in the clinical agency. The college wishes to ensure that the health and safety of students and patients are not compromised and that clinical affiliation agreements exist to provide students with quality clinical education experiences.

Procedure

1. All students enrolling in long term health profession programs are required to submit to drug testing. This testing will occur prior to admission. This policy only authorizes drug testing of students who voluntarily choose to enroll in health professional programs at the college. The student will be responsible for paying all costs associated with the drug screen and confirmations as needed. Long term health profession programs include:
 - Practical Nurse
 - Surgical Technology
 - Registered Nurse

2. Educational programs and/or information will be provided to students enrolled in health professional programs to prevent drug abuse and to promote the personal well-being of the student.

3. Tests will be conducted by a qualified laboratory using established methods and procedures. The handling of all records and subject information will be strictly confidential and revealed only to those required.

4. A nine panel drug screen will be used to screen for the following substances:
 - Amphetamines/Methamphetamine
 - Barbituate
 - Benzodiazepine
 - Benzoyllecgonine (Cocaine Metabolite)
 - Methadone
 - Opitates
 - Oxycodone
 - Tetrahydrocannabinol

- Phencyclidine (PCP)
- Propoxyphene

Results

1. A drug test will be presumed positive if any of the drugs listed above are found. The drug cut-off levels are derived from federal guidelines. Presumed positives will be confirmed by a second test from the original sample per laboratory procedures. The laboratory will notify the Academic Coordinator for Health Programs with test results.
2. When a drug test reveals a negative result, the enrollment process will proceed.
3. When a drug test reveals a positive result, admission will be denied. A letter will be sent to the applicant indicating the presence of a controlled substance in the sample and the denial of admission into the program.
4. Applicants who previously were not accepted or those that withdrew their application must submit to an additional drug test for the current year and semester in which they plan to attend.

Record Keeping

The Academic Coordinator for Health Care programs will maintain all students' drug test results. All drug test results (electronic and physical) will be filed in a secured area to ensure confidentiality and will be filed separately from the student's permanent academic record. No permanent detailed record on student drug testing information is maintained by the college. This information will not be released to any third party without the written consent and knowledge of the student. All records (electronic) maintained by the Academic Coordinator for Health Care programs regarding drug test results will be destroyed upon the student's graduation or withdrawal from the College.