

**OFFERING OF STUDENT DRUG TESTING TO THOSE STUDENTS
EXHIBITING SIGNS OF BEING UNDER THE INFLUENCE WHILE AT SCHOOL
AND/OR SCHOOL EVENTS**

DEFINITIONS:

Drug: An alcoholic beverage, and/or any substance listed in Schedules 1-V of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act of the State of Washington (RCW Chapter 69.50), as reproduced in RCW 69.50.203, RCW 69.50.206, RCW 69.50.208, RCW 69.50.210, and RCW 69.50.212, as those statutes exist and as they may hereafter be amended or modified pursuant to legislative act or administrative amendment pursuant to RCW 69.50.201.

OVERVIEW

Wahkiakum School District (“The District”) is making available a drug testing program for students who exhibit signs of being under the influence of controlled substances while at school and/or school events. Its purpose is threefold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of all students; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs or alcohol; and (3) to encourage students currently using alcohol or controlled substances to participate in treatment programs.

PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS

For both alcohol and other drugs, the Superintendent shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity and confidentiality of the process.

If a student appears to be under the influence of controlled substances, any school employee shall have the power and responsibility to refer that student to the building principal’s office. The student will be observed and questioned by one or more of the District’s DITEP trained staff members. If after this observation and questioning, it is the opinion of one or more of the District’s DITEP trained staff member(s) that it is more likely than not that the student is under the influence of controlled substances, the student will be subject to the disciplinary and rehabilitative consequences outlined in the school’s student handbook. Additionally, the student’s locker and personal belongings may be searched for prohibited substances. Parents will be notified of all findings just as quickly as reasonably possible.

To avoid the consequences stated in the school’s student handbook, the student or his or her parent or guardian may request to provide a urine sample.

SAMPLE COLLECTION

For controlled substances, urine samples will be collected at a designated collection site at school, at a time selected by the school administration. All samples will be collected following SAMHSA guidelines which call for an unobserved urine collection under controlled conditions. If a student is unable to produce a sample at any particular time, they may be given up to twenty-four ounces of fluid to drink and directed to remain at the collection site for up to two hours. The student must remain within the collection site under observation to discourage actions which could compromise the collection process (drinking excessive fluids, obtaining “clean” urine, obtaining adulterants, etc.). If after a period of two hours the donor is still unable to provide an adequate sample, the collection will be discontinued and the student will be subject to the consequences outlined in the school’s student handbook. However, the District will take into account information, if any, furnished by the student or his or her parent or guardian regarding medical or other reasons the student might not be able to provide a sample before making a decision regarding consequences. A qualified medical or psychological opinion will be given greater weight than lay opinion in this regard.

Procedures in the event of sample tampering or adulteration: If during the collection or testing process, it is determined that a student made an attempt to adulterate or tamper with the urine sample, the consequences shall be as if the student had a “positive” result. In addition, the student may face additional discipline for violation of school rules and/or code of conduct.

TESTING/ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES

Once a sample is provided, the District will inform parents of the preliminary results. All samples indicating “positive” results will be sent to a SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Services Administration) certified laboratory where the testing will be done following established federal guidelines and using mandated cutoff levels for both the screening and confirmatory procedures.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION

Students will be informed that their medication or digestive history may be helpful to assure the proper interpretation of the laboratory findings. They will be given the option to inform the District of any medications they are or have been taking. If a test is positive, the laboratory will forward any medication history given by the student tested along with the test result to the District Superintendent or designee. These findings will be discussed with the student by the District Superintendent or designee. Depending on the discussion and test results, the District Superintendent may request a copy of the prescription or a physician’s verification to confirm or override the laboratory findings.

RESULT REPORTING

The testing laboratory will report results only to the District Superintendent or his or her designee.

SCOPE OF TESTS - ILLEGAL DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

The District may instruct or request the testing lab conduct tests for specific drugs instead of or in addition to the testing lab's standard illegal drug screening at the discretion of the District, and if the testing lab has such capability. Student samples will not be screened for the presence of substances other than illegal drugs or for any physical condition other than drug intoxication.

PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE RESULT

Once the District receives the results from the laboratory, the building principal will contact a parent or guardian as quickly as reasonably possible. Whenever a student's test results indicates the presence of controlled substances or alcohol (A "Failed or Positive" Test), discipline pursuant to the school's student handbook will be imposed. The building principal will invite the student and parent/guardian to meet and discuss the situation, including encouraging the student to seek assistance with regard to his or her usage of controlled substances or alcohol.