

Student Drug Testing Procedure – Health Programs

Health Program students with a high probability of completing clinical courses at clinical agencies requiring drug screening must complete a drug test before their first clinical experience. This mandatory drug test is conducted at designated facilities at the student's expense.

As outlined in the [Drug and Alcohol-Free Campus and Workplace](#) policy, the use of alcohol, illegal drugs, tobacco, or the misuse of prescription drugs is strictly prohibited in the classroom, clinical, and laboratory settings. The procedures below cover only the process by which students' results of drug tests obtained as part of the admission into certain clinical settings will be administered.

Procedure

Drug Test Requirement

- Students registered in programs with clinical experiences with agencies requiring drug screening must complete drug testing as a condition of enrollment in clinical courses in Health Programs.
- Students will be notified of potential drug test requirements during the clinical documentation period.

Testing Deadlines

- Specific information about the timing and process for drug testing will be provided with clinical documentation standards.
- **Deadlines are mandatory. Failure to meet the deadlines will delay or prevent clinical participation and may impact a student's progression in the program.**

Drug Screening Process

- Students must purchase a drug screen package through the designated clinical documentation system. Testing costs are the student's responsibility. Externally obtained testing will not be accepted (pre).
- Private health insurance generally does not cover this expense. Students are responsible for confirming coverage with their insurance provider if desired.
- Within one business day of ordering a drug screen package, students will receive an email from clinical documentation management system with instructions.
- Students must follow all instructions and complete testing promptly to ensure admission into clinical experience.
- Results will remain confidential but will be posted to the clinical documentation management system account and made accessible to a college designee.

Test Result Outcomes & Consequences

NOTE: Students will have up to two attempts to submit a negative result. Any combination of positive and inconclusive results will result in the student having to complete the Course Re-Enrollment process.

Negative Results

- Students with verified negative drug tests are eligible for clinical placement.
- Negative results must be obtained by the clinical documentation deadline to avoid delays in placement or program progression.

Inconclusive (“Dilute) Results

- Inconclusive samples require retesting at the student’s expense.
- Students are allowed one retest.
- Students with a second inconclusive (or positive test following an initial inconclusive) will be unable to continue in clinical and program courses.
- **Note:** A “dilute specimen” is a urine sample with creatinine and specific gravity values lower than expected. This may have been caused by excessive fluid intake shortly before testing and can interfere with result accuracy

Positive Results

- A Medical Review Officer (Viewpoint appointee) will contact the student to review and validate the positive result.
- Students are allowed one retest after a positive test at the student’s expense.
- Students cannot attend clinical until a negative drug test result is obtained. A delay may affect timely program progression.
- Students with a second positive result (or inconclusive/dilute after an initial positive result) will not be able to continue in clinical and program courses.
- Students who wish to continue following a second positive or inconclusive test must follow the process outlined below in Course Re-Enrollment.

Challenging Results

- Students may challenge test results with Viewpoint.
- Retesting will be performed on the original sample.
- All costs of challenging the results of a test will be born exclusively by the student.

Course Re-Enrollment - Following a Second Positive or Inconclusive Drug Test

- Students previously removed from clinical and program courses may request re-enrollment by submitting a written request to the Dean – Health Division.

- The request must include documentation from a licensed therapist specializing in addiction behaviors and include a statement confirming the student's ability to provide safe, therapeutic care in a clinical setting.

Upon Re-Enrollment

- Students must undergo drug testing and may be subject to random or "for cause" testing at their expense for the duration of the program.
- Clinical participation is contingent on obtaining negative test results.
- Any positive or inconclusive drug test following re-enrollment will result in **dismissal from all FVTC Health Programs for a minimum of three years, with no option for re-admission.**