

Lubbock Christian School

Drug Testing Policy 2023-2024



DRUG TESTING POLICY

INTRODUCTION

Overview

The Board of Trustees, administration, and staff desire that every LCS student refrain from using or possessing illegal drugs. This procedure supplements and complements all other policies, rules, and regulations of Lubbock Christian School regarding prohibited possession or use of illegal drugs. Lubbock Christian School reserves the right to random drug test any student in grades 9–12. Furthermore, LCS may require scheduled drug testing of any student in grades 9-12 who is suspected by school administration of illegal drug use.

Purpose

Our drug testing policy is intended to

- prevent injury, illness, or harm resulting from the use of illegal drugs or alcohol.
- help enforce a drug-free educational environment.
- deter student use of illegal drugs or alcohol.
- educate students regarding the harm caused by illegal drugs or alcohol.
- create a culture that more thoroughly reflects the core values and the mission of Lubbock Christian School.

Definitions

“Drug use test” means a scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal drugs or the metabolites thereof in a person’s urine. This test shall also test for the presence of alcohol.

“Illegal drugs” means any substance, which an individual may not sell, possess, use, distribute or purchase under either Federal or Texas law. For the purposes of this procedure, **“Illegal Drugs”** includes, but is not limited to, all scheduled drugs as defined by the Texas Controlled Substance Act, all prescription drugs obtained without authorization, and all prescribed and over-the-counter drugs being used for an abusive purpose. For purposes of this procedure, **“Illegal Drugs”** shall also include alcohol and performance-enhancing drugs, such as, but not limited to, anabolic steroids.

“Positive” when referring to a drug use test administered, means a toxicological test result which is considered to demonstrate the presence of an illegal drug or the metabolites thereof using the standards customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the drug use test.

“Reasonable suspicion” means a suspicion of illegal drug use based on specific observations made by teachers/coaches/administrators/sponsors of the appearance, speech, or behavior of a student; the reasonable inferences that are drawn from those observations; and/or information of illegal drug use by a student supplied to school officials.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

New Students

All new students applying for enrollment into the 9th–12th grades will be required to provide LCS with proof of a negative drug test prior to being enrolled. Official results of the drug test must be provided to LCS within the time specified by administration and at the expense of the student and or parent/guardian. Students who fail to provide the school with the appropriate documentation will not be enrolled.

Distribution of Policy

Prior to the student's enrollment into the 9th-12th grades, LCS shall provide each parent and student access to the drug-testing policy and a consent form designed to provide written permission from parents/guardians for their student/s to be subject to the LCS drug testing program. Lubbock Christian School is committed to the success of this program and expect LCS students to be equally committed.

Consent

Before a student is eligible to be enrolled the student's parent/guardian shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing for the student to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be enrolled.

Confidentiality

Drug test results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parents/guardians, and designated LCS officials who need the information to administer the drug-testing program. Drug test results shall not be maintained with a student's academic record. Results shall not be otherwise disclosed except as required by law.

Testing Laboratory

LCS administration shall contract with a certified drug-testing laboratory to collect and analyze a student's urine sample. Testing laboratories shall not release statistics regarding the rate of positive drug tests to any person or organization without consent of the LCS administration.

COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Random Testing

The process for random selection of students shall be created by LCS administration. Students shall not receive prior notice of the testing dates or times. A student who refuses to be tested when randomly selected, or who is determined to have tampered with a sample, shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences depending on previous positive test results, if any.

Privacy Protocols

All aspects of the drug use testing program, including the taking of specimens, will be conducted to safeguard the personal and privacy rights of the student to the maximum degree possible. The urine test specimen shall be obtained in a manner designed to minimize intrusiveness of the procedure:

- The specimen must be collected in a restroom or other private facility behind a closed stall.
- The principal shall designate a coach, sponsor, or school employee of the same gender as the student to accompany the student to a restroom or other private facility behind a closed stall.
- The monitor shall not observe the student while the specimen is being produced.

Verification Protocols

While privacy shall be maintained, the monitor is responsible for ensuring the legitimacy of the process:

- The monitor shall be present outside the stall to listen for the normal sounds of urination to guard against tampered specimens and to insure an accurate chain of custody.
- The monitor shall verify the normal warmth and appearance of the specimen.
- If at any time during the testing procedure the monitor has reason to believe or suspect that a student is tampering with the specimen, the monitor may stop the procedure and inform the principal, who will then determine if a new sample should be obtained.

Initial Positive Test Result

An initial positive test result will be subject to confirmation by a second and different test of the same specimen. The second test will use the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry technique. A specimen shall not be reported positive unless the second test utilizing the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry procedure is positive for the presence of an illegal drug or the metabolites thereof.

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the LCS administration shall schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parent/guardian, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity, as applicable, to review the test results and discuss consequences.

** An initial negative test shall be discarded and documented with no further action.*

CONSEQUENCES

All students who test positive for a banned substance will be subject to, but not limited to, the following disciplinary actions:

First Offense:

- The student testing positive will be suspended from all extracurricular performances, competitions, activities, and/or driving privileges for **21** school days.
- The principal will arrange a conference with the student, parent/guardian, and appropriate sponsor(s).
- The student will be required to participate in and show proof of private drug counseling. Any costs associated with counseling are the responsibility of the student and/or parent/guardian. The program must be approved by the school prior to the student's participation.

- During this period of suspension, the student will undergo drug-testing weekly. If the results of the weekly tests are negative, the student will be eligible to participate in performances, competitions, activities, and/or regain parking privileges at the end of the **21**-school day suspension period.
- If the student has a second or subsequent positive result in the weekly drug-testing, this will count as a second offense.
- During the suspension the coach or sponsor will determine the conditions of participation (practice, team meetings, conditioning, etc.).
- For every non-school day in which the student completes a minimum of 2 hours of volunteer or community service, the school will reduce the **21**-day suspension by 1 day. There will be a maximum of **7** non-school days in which the student can receive credit for volunteer or community service, and the details of the volunteer or community service must be approved by LC administration prior to the student's participation.

Second Offense:

- The student testing positive will be suspended from all extracurricular performances, competitions, activities, and/or driving privileges for **49** school days.
- All other aspects of "first offense" conditions apply.

Third Offense:

- The student testing positive will be expelled from school for a minimum of one calendar year.
- The principal will notify the student and student's parent/guardian of the date of expulsion.

** Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative from 9th through 12th grade.*

Suspensions and Expulsions

If a student's suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and/or parking privileges or expulsion from school is not completed by the end of the semester/year in which it was assigned, the student shall complete the assigned period of suspension during the next semester/year.

Appeals

Any student who has been determined by the president or designee to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to appeal the decision. Such a request for a review must be submitted to the president in writing within five (5) calendar days of notice of the positive test. A student requesting a review will remain ineligible to participate in any extra-curricular activities until the review is completed. The president or his designee shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. Any necessary interpretation or application of this policy shall be in the sole and exclusive judgment and discretion of the president which shall be final and non-appealable.

Removal of Consent

If a parent/guardian or person otherwise in lawful control of the student elect chooses to remove consent for their student to participate in the LCS drug testing program, the student will be immediately and indefinitely suspended from all extra-curricular activities and/or parking privileges. The LCS administrative team will have the discretion to expel a student from school for removal of consent.