University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Drug Screening for Students Attending a Clinical Rotation Setting

Scope/ Designated Programs	The information in this policy is intended for all OUHSC students/accepted applicants admitted to designated degree programs that include or may include a clinical component at a health care facility that requires drug screening as a condition of its affiliation with the University. Students should check with their college and/or degree program for specific requirements.
Policy	Drug screening(s) are required of all students in designated programs effective Fall Semester 2008 and accepted applicants to designated programs beginning Spring Semester 2009 as defined in Scope/Designated Programs above. As applicable, students/accepted applicants who do not pass the drug screening may be unable to complete degree requirements or may be denied admission to or suspended or_dismissed from the degree program.
Rationale	 Health care providers are entrusted with the health, safety, and welfare of patients; have access to confidential and sensitive information; and operate in settings that require the exercise of good judgment and ethical behavior. Thus, an assessment of a student's or accepted applicant's suitability to function in a clinical setting is imperative to promote the highest level of integrity in health care services. Clinical facilities are increasingly required by the accreditation agency Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), to provide a drug screening for security purposes on individuals who supervise care, render treatment, and provide services within the facility. Clinical rotations are an essential element in certain degree programs' curricula. Students who cannot participate in clinical rotations due to a positive drug screening are unable to fulfill the requirements of a degree program. Therefore, these issues must be resolved prior to a commitment of resources by the College or the student or accepted applicant. Additional rationale include (a) meeting the contractual obligations contained in affiliation agreements between OUHSC and the various health care facilities; (b) performing due diligence and competency assessment of all individuals who may have contact with patients and/or research participants; (c) ensuring uniform compliance with JCAHO standards and agency regulations pertaining to human resource management; (d) meeting the public demands of greater diligence in light of the national reports on deaths resulting from medical malpractice and medical errors.

Timing and Procedures of the Drug Screening	
Accepted Applicants: (as defined in Scope/ Designated Programs)	 The respective college/program designee will provide accepted applicants to designated programs with the necessary procedures and consent forms for the required drug screening. Accepted applicants in designated programs must complete the following prior to the start of classes. Complete and sign the Drug Screen Consent and Release Form and return form to drug screening vendor. Successfully pass the drug screen with sufficient time for the vendor to provide clearance documentation to the respective college/program designee. Note: Should the vendor report that the screening specimen was diluted, thereby precluding an accurate drug screen test, the student/accepted applicant will be required to complete and successfully pass a new drug screen test. If an accepted applicant fails to complete the above prior to the first day of classes, he/she will not be allowed to begin classes and will jeopardize their admission status in their program.
Current Students: (as defined in Scope/ Designated Programs)	 Current students in designated programs will be drug tested at the beginning of each academic year or more frequently if required by the clinical rotation site or by the OUHSC. Students who need to complete drug screening will be provided with the necessary procedures and consent forms for the required drug screening by the respective college designee. Students who fail to adhere to the drug testing deadline set by their college will be suspended from all classes until the vendor (see below) provides OUHSC with clearance documentation to the college designee.
Identification of Vendors	OUHSC will designate an approved vendor(s) to perform the drug screenings. Results from any company or government entity other than those designated by OUHSC will not be accepted.
Allocation of the Cost	Students and accepted applicants must pay the cost of the drug screenings.

Period of Validity	Drug screening will generally be honored by OUHSC for a period of one year but may be required on a more frequent basis depending on the requirements of a clinical rotation site. Students who have a break in enrollment may be required to retest before they can re-enroll in any courses. A break in enrollment is defined as non-attendance of one full semester (Fall or Spring) or more. A student on Leave of Absence is considered by OUHSC to be in continuous enrollment.
Drug Screening Panels	The drug screening shall include testing for at least the following drug panels: 1. Amphetamines 2. Barbiturates 3. Benzodiazepines 4. Cocaine Metabolite 5. Opiates 6. Phencyclidine (PCP) 7. Marijuana (THC) Metabolite 8. Methadone 9. Methaqualone 10. Propoxyphene 11. Meperidine
Reporting of Findings and Student/Accepted Applicant Access to Drug Screening Report	The vendor will provide the respective college or program designee with a list of those students who passed a drug screen test. The vendor will also provide the student/accepted applicant with the results of the drug screening report. Note: Should the vendor report that the screening specimen was diluted, thereby precluding an accurate drug screen test, the student/accepted applicant will be required to complete and successfully pass a new drug screen test. Students with a positive drug screen will have an opportunity to consult with a Medical Review Officer, provided by the vendor, to verify whether there is a valid medical explanation for the screening results. If, after review by the vendor's Medical Review Officer, there is a valid medical explanation for the screening results, the vendor will notify the University of a clear test. If, after review by the Medical Review Officer, there is not a valid medical explanation for the positive screen then the test results will stand. Any appeal right of a positive screen rests solely between the student/accepted applicant, the Medical Review Officer, and the vendor.

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Positive Drug Screen	An "offense" under this policy is any instance in which a drug
Accepted Applicants:	screening report shows a positive test for one or more of the drugs listed above in the Drug Screening Panels section. • Accepted applicants with a positive drug screen will not be allowed to begin classes until the vendor provides clearance documentation to the college or program designee. Colleges may defer admission to a future semester or require the student to reapply for a future semester if not cleared by the drug screening vendor. Accepted applicants with a positive drug screen who eventually enroll at HSC will be considered to have committed their first offense. Students should be aware that failure to pass drug screening, as determined by each facility, will prevent the student from participating in that clinical experience and may delay the student's completion of the degree program requirements or prevent
	the student from completing the degree program.
Current Students	
First Offense:	 Any student with a positive drug screen may be suspended for the remainder of the semester and be administratively withdrawn from all courses and/or may be suspended for the following semester at the program's discretion. Random drug screenings may be required by OUHSC for the remainder of the student's enrollment. Colleges may impose additional sanctions and students are encouraged to check with their colleges for specific details on these possible additional sanctions. NOTE: Students who are suspended may not be able to progress to the next semester based on specific program requirements (i.e. many programs are "lock-step" with completion of one semester a prerequisite for progression to the next semester.) Students may re-enroll at the discretion of the program contingent upon OUHSC's receipt of clearance documentation from the vendor, and dependent upon the curriculum of that particular program.
Second Offense:	Any student who has a second positive drug screen will be dismissed from the program.
Falsification of	Falsification of information will result in immediate removal
Information	from the accepted applicant list or dismissal from the degree program.
Confidentiality of Records	Drug screening reports and all records pertaining to the results are considered confidential with restricted access. The results and records are subject to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act [FERPA] regulations. For additional information on FERPA, please see http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa/index.html .

Recordkeeping	Reports and related records (both electronic and paper media) are retained in a secure location and are maintained in the respective college or program office for the timeframe listed below unless otherwise required by law.
	 Current Students – 5 years Accepted Applicants – 2 years (provided no legal complaint)