Tri-County Technical College

Health Education Division
Student Drug Screen Policy and Procedure

Policy

All healthcare agencies that accept students for clinical training require drug screening. Annual drug screens will be conducted on all new, returning, and current Health Education Division students. Any student who has been out of the program for greater than two semesters, as well as all transfer or readmitted students, will also be required to complete a drug screen. The drug screening test will be given prior to clinical rotation. The results of the drug screen determine eligibility to participate in clinical training. A student must be able to enter and/or remain in all clinical sites to progress within the program. A positive drug screen without proof of a medical prescription is an indication that a student is unable to progress within a program and will be administratively withdrawn from the program. The results of the student drug screen will remain confidential in Health Education Division Dean's office and will not be shared with any Tri-County Technical College employee.

A 10-panel urine drug screen will be utilized. This test screens marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, opiates, PCP, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, methadone, methaqualone, and propoxyphene. Random drug screening may be required of a student at any time throughout the course of clinical study if actions indicate reasonable suspicion.

Procedure

- Drug screening requirements will be emailed to TCTC accounts only. Students should check their TCTC email daily for such notification. Work or school schedule conflicts WILL NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE EXCUSE for this one-time event.
- The cost is $64.25. This charge has already been included in tuition fees.
- Students should be prepared to present a valid photo identification at the time of the screening.
- If a student does not attend their scheduled drug screen test for any reason, they will be contacted by the Health Education Division office and will be required to meet with the Dean of Health Education Division.
- Any extenuating circumstances that might interfere with the drug screening must be presented to the Health Education Division Dean in writing via email prior to screening date.
- Health Education Division Dean has the discretion to determine if students will be allowed a second opportunity to drug screen within 24 hours of the original screening. If a student is allowed to test, there will be a fine of $10 late fee payable to the Cashier's window in the Ruby Hicks building for this screening. After providing a receipt of late fee payment to the Health Education Division Office, the Dean's assistant will schedule a new drug screening date and time.
- Any student with a positive drug screen will be required to meet with the Health Education Division Dean.
- If a substance is detected, the Medical Review Officer (MRO) will attempt to contact the student using the phone number provided during online registration of the testing. If the MRO is usable to reach the student, the result may show "Non-Contact Positive." During

MRO review, students may be asked about medications. If the MRO confirms a student's medication is current and valid, the result may be updated to negative.

- Students should not discuss or show medical documentation to their instructors, program directors, or department heads, in the event of positive drug screen results.
- Students should only share any medical documentation with the MRO if contacted or with the Health Education Division office if prompted.
- Any student who may have concerns or received positive drug screen results could contact the Health Education Division Dean at 864-646-1400.
- The initial test is included in course fees. If you do not provide a sufficient urine sample, it will be considered a "refusal to test" and may be considered a positive drug screen. At the dean's discretion, you may be allowed to complete a second drug test, but you will be charged $64.25 for the test to be paid at TCTC Cashier's window in the Ruby Hicks building.
- Failure to complete the drug screen will be seen as a positive result with subsequent removal from the program.
- Any student that leaves during the drug screening without giving an adequate specimen will be considered as avoiding the test.
- Any student without drug screening will not be allowed to attend clinical and may be administratively withdrawn from all clinical courses.
- If the student does not comply with the second drug screening attempt, this lack of action will constitute avoidance. Avoidance will result in administrative withdrawal from the program.
- The Health Education Division does not assume responsibility for the delivery of TCTC emails that are forwarded to personal email accounts.