

# Sonora I.S.D. Drug Testing Policy

Sonora ISD

FNF  
(LOCAL)

<b>MANDATORY DRUG TESTING PROGRAM</b>	The District requires drug testing of any student in grades 7-12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities or who parks a vehicle on a school campus.
<b>COVERED ACTIVITIES</b>	<p>School-sponsored extracurricular activities for which testing is required shall include UIL athletics, UIL academics, band, cheerleading, FFA, rodeo, choir, and 4-H.</p> <p>A student participating in any of these activities shall be tested for the presence of illegal drugs at the beginning of each school year and prior to joining an extracurricular program at any time during the school year. In addition, students shall be randomly tested throughout the school year.</p> <p>In addition, any student applying for a school parking permit shall be required to participate in the drug testing program in the same manner and shall be randomly tested throughout the school year.</p>
<b>PURPOSE</b>	The purposes of the drug-testing program are to: prevent injury, illness, and harm resulting from the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs; help enforce a drug-free educational environment; deter student use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs; and educate students regarding the harm caused by the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs.
<b>DISTRIBUTION OF POLICY</b>	The District shall provide each parent and student a copy of the drug-testing policy and consent form prior to the student's participation in an affected activity.
<b>ORIENTATION MEETING</b>	The District shall conduct a meeting for parents and student participants the beginning of the fall semester. Attendance at the orientation meeting is mandatory for students who wish to participate in the covered extracurricular activities; however, attendance for parents is not mandatory.
<b>CONSENT</b>	Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities or acquire a school parking permit, the student shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the drug-testing program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign a consent form. If appropriate consent is not given, the student shall not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities and shall not be given a school parking permit.
<b>USE OF RESULTS</b>	Drug test results shall be used only to determine eligibility for a school parking permit and participation in extracurricular activities. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose

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disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties.

Nevertheless, nothing in this policy shall limit or affect the application of state law, local policy, or the Student Code of Conduct. A student who commits a disciplinary offense shall be subject to consequences in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

Drug-testing results shall be confidential and shall be disclosed only to the student, the student's parents, the coach/sponsor of any applicable extracurricular activity, and designated District/campus administrators who need the information in order 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**

The Board shall contract with a certified drug-testing laboratory to conduct testing.

Testing laboratories shall not release statistics regarding the rate of positive drug tests to any person or organization without consent of the District.

## **SUBSTANCES FOR WHICH TESTS ARE CONDUCTED**

The District shall make available to students and parents a list of the exact substances for which tests will be conducted.

## **COLLECTION PROCEDURES**

Urine or hair samples shall be used for the test. Personnel from the drug-testing laboratory shall collect samples under conditions that are no more intrusive than the conditions experienced in a public restroom. When selected for testing, a student shall be escorted to the school's testing site by a District employee and shall remain under supervision until the student provides a sample.

Urine samples for testing shall be produced within a closed restroom stall, with a lab staff member of the same gender as the student present when any samples are collected.

Hair samples for testing (approximately 120 strands of hair) shall be collected by a lab staff member from the back crown area of the student's head.

## **RANDOM TESTING**

Random tests shall be conducted on as many as 20 dates throughout the school year.

No less than 20 percent and no more than 50 percent of the students participating in the program shall be randomly selected for each random test date. The drug-testing laboratory shall use a random selection method to identify students chosen for random testing. Students shall not receive prior notice of the testing date or time.

## **REFUSAL TO TEST OR TAMPERING**

A student who refuses to be tested when selected or who has tampered with a sample shall be deemed to have a positive test result and shall be subject to the appropriate consequences

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depending on previous positive test results, if any.

If a student selected for testing is absent on the day of the random test, a sample shall be collected on the next random testing date.

## **CONFIRMATION OF POSITIVE TEST RESULTS**

An initial positive test shall be confirmed by a second test of the same specimen before being reported as positive.

Upon receiving results of a positive drug test, the principal shall schedule a meeting within the following three days with the student, the student's parent, and the coach or sponsor of the applicable extracurricular activity to review the test results and discuss consequences.

If the student or parent intends to provide a medical explanation for the positive result, he or she shall notify the school of this at the meeting and shall have two school days following the meeting to provide such an explanation..

## **CONSEQUENCES**

Consequences of positive test results shall be cumulative through the student's enrollment in the District.

## **FIRST OFFENSE**

Upon the first offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from all applicable extracurricular activities, and the student's school parking permit shall be suspended, for 21 calendar days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

## **RETESTING AND COUNSELING**

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or to again hold a school parking permit after any applicable consequences, the student shall be retested on the next four random test dates following the 30-day period beginning on the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

In addition, the student shall be required to attend a minimum of four one-hour counseling sessions with a licensed substance abuse counselor provided by the District. A student choosing instead to participate in four one-hour counseling sessions with licensed substance abuse counselor of his or her choice shall do so at his or her own expense, and the counselor shall provide to the principal documentation that the student has completed the required sessions. If the substance abuse counseling is not completed within 40 days, the student shall again be suspended from participation in extra-curricular activities, and the student's parking permit shall be suspended, until the counseling is complete.

## **SECOND OFFENSE**

Upon a second offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from all applicable extracurricular activities, and the student's school parking permit shall be suspended for 45 calendar days following the date the student and parent are

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notified of the test results.

During the period of suspension, the student may participate in practices but not in any competitive activities or performances.

## **RETESTING AND COUNSELING**

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or to again hold a school parking permit after any applicable consequences, the student shall be retested on the next four random test dates following the first 30 calendar days of the suspension period.

The District shall notify the parent and student of drug abuse prevention resources available in the area.

## **THIRD OFFENSE**

Upon a third offense of receiving a confirmed positive drug test, a student shall be suspended from participation in all applicable extracurricular activities, and the student's school parking permit shall be suspended for one calendar year following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

During the period of suspension, the student shall not be permitted to participate in practices or any other activities associated with any applicable extracurricular activity.

## **RETESTING**

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities or to again hold a school parking permit after any applicable consequences, the student shall be retested on every random test date for one calendar year following the first 30 calendar days of the suspension period.

## **APPEALS**

A student or parent may appeal a decision made under this policy in accordance with FNG (LOCAL). The student shall be ineligible for participation in applicable extracurricular activities and use of a school parking permit while the appeal is pending.

## **VOLUNTARY DRUG TESTING PROGRAM**

With advance consent from the parent, any student may volunteer to participate in the District's drug testing program. Each voluntary participant shall be required annually to sign a consent form agreeing to be subject to the rules and procedures of the program. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent shall also sign the consent form. The parent or student may withdraw consent by making a written request to the District.

The parents of a student who does not participate in any applicable extracurricular activity and does not park a vehicle on school property may request in writing that the student participate in the drug testing program. Such requests shall be valid for one school year.

The testing laboratory shall report any positive test results to the principal, who shall notify the student and parents and provide information identifying available counseling options.