

Port Neches-Groves Independent School District
Random Drug Testing Policy
Port Neches-Groves High School

The District requires random drug testing of any student in grades 9-12 who chooses to participate in school-sponsored extracurricular activities and/or any student who drives a motorized vehicle on any District campus. Students shall be randomly tested throughout the school year.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

A student who does not participate in any extracurricular activity or drive a motorized vehicle on any District campus may request to participate voluntarily in the random drug-testing program. Before voluntary participation is permitted, the student must properly complete and submit the District random drug-testing program participation agreement and consent form to the principal or principal's designee. If the student is under the age of 18, the student's parent or guardian shall also sign the form. At any time, upon written request, a student participating on a voluntary basis may withdraw from the random drug-testing program without consequence.

PURPOSE

The purposes of the drug-testing program are to:

1. Prevent injury, illness, and harm resulting from the use of illegal and performance enhancing drugs or alcohol;
2. Help enforce a drug-free educational environment;
3. Deter student use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol; and
4. Educate students regarding the harm caused by the use of illegal and performance-enhancing drugs or alcohol.

CONSENT

Before a student is eligible to participate in extracurricular activities and/or drive a motorized vehicle on any District campus, 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/or drive a motorized vehicle on any District campus.

USE OF RESULTS

Drug test results shall be used only to determine eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities and for driving a motorized vehicle on any District campus. Positive drug test results shall not be used to impose disciplinary sanctions or academic penalties.

CONFIDENTIALITY

The collection and coding of specimen samples shall be executed in a manner that ensures proper identification and total confidentiality.

Test results shall be destroyed within 60 days when the student graduates or is no longer of school age.

The vendor, laboratory, and medical review officer (MRO) shall be prohibited from releasing any statistical information, relating to the nature or rate of any positive tests that result from the testing program, to any person, organization, news publication, or the media without the express written consent of the District.

TESTING LABORATORY

The District shall contract for drug-screening services through an independent laboratory that has met all standards for certification as established by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services administration, and all testing shall be conducted by qualified laboratory personnel in accordance with accepted practices and procedures established by the contracted laboratory. Testing shall be accomplished by urinalysis using accepted immunological procedures; chain-of-custody documentation shall be maintained throughout the collection and testing processes.

SUBSTANCES FOR WHICH TESTS ARE CONDUCTED

Students may be tested for the use of:

1. Drugs that an individual may not buy, possess, or use without prescription or sell or distribute under either federal or state law.
2. Over-the-counter drugs that may be used in abusive manner.
3. Performance-enhancing drugs.

COLLECTION PROCEDURES

Personnel from the drug-testing laboratory shall collect urine 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 employee supervision until the student provides a sample. Samples shall be produced by a student from behind a closed restroom stall. Personnel from the drug-testing laboratory shall monitor the collection to ensure the validity of the sample. However, that person shall be positioned in such a way as to give the student his or her privacy during the collection process.

RANDOM TESTING

Random tests shall be conducted on as many as 30 dates throughout the school year. No less than 20 students and no more than 35 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 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.

POSITIVE TEST RESULTS

An initial positive test shall be confirmed by a second test of the same specimen before being reported as positive. The student or parent shall have five school days following the notification of a positive result to provide a medical explanation for a positive result to the testing laboratory. Upon receiving results of a positive drug test from the testing laboratory, the District shall schedule a meeting with the student, the student's parent if the student is under the age of 18, and the coach or sponsor of the extracurricular activity to discuss sanctions due to positive test results.

CONSEQUENCES

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

A student who has a confirmed positive drug test shall be subject to the following consequences:

FIRST OFFENSE

The student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity and/or driving a motorized vehicle on any campus for 15 school 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.

SECOND OFFENSE

The student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity and/or driving a motorized vehicle on any campus for 45 school days following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

THIRD OFFENSE

The student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity and/or driving a motorized vehicle on any campus for one calendar year following the date the student and parent are notified of the test results.

RETESTING

If the student wishes to return to participation in extracurricular activities and/or driving a motorized vehicle on any campus, the student must be retested at the end of the period of suspension and have a negative test result for the first, second, and third offense.

DRUG ABUSE PREVENTION

The student shall be required to participate in a program of substance abuse counseling conducted by a certified chemical dependency counselor approved by the Board's designee after each offense.

FOURTH OFFENSE

The student shall be suspended from participation in any extracurricular activity for the remainder of the student's enrollment in the District.

END-OF-SEMESTER SUSPENSIONS

If a student's suspension from participation for a first and/or second offense is not completed by the end of the semester, the student shall complete the assigned period of suspension during the following semester or during the first semester of the following school year.

If a student withdraws from the District before the period of suspension ends, should the student reenroll in the District, he or she shall be required to complete any time remaining on the suspension prior to his or her withdrawal from the District.

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 extracurricular activities while the appeal is pending.

The Port Neches-Groves ISD complete drug testing policy FNF(LOCAL) is available online at www.pngisd.org.