

UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY – COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS
MCAULEY SCHOOL OF NURSING

Drug Screening Policy and Procedure

Approved: April 27, 2005 Amended 12/5/06, 3/2/2011, 6/30/2015

Background

The purpose of this policy is to provide a safe working and learning environment for patients, students, clinical and institutional staff and property in the clinical programs of the University of Detroit Mercy’s College of Health Professions (CHP) and McAuley School of Nursing (MSON). Healthcare accreditation organizations mandate that hospitals and other health care agencies require students who participate in the care of patients be subject to the same standards as their employees. Accordingly, submitting a negative urine drug screen is a condition for participation in the clinical component of the Physician Assistant (PA), Nurse Anesthesia (NA) and all Nursing (graduate and undergraduate) programs.

Policy

1. **Applicability and timing:** All students in the CHP and MSON will be required to undergo a urine drug screening, as determined by the individual program as follows:

PROGRAM	DUE DATE
Physician Assistant	Before matriculation
Nurse Anesthesia	Before matriculation
Undergraduate Nursing	Before Sophomore Year
Health Information Management	Before Sophomore Year
Health Services Administration Graduate	Before Internship
Health Services Administration Undergrad.	Before Sophomore Year
Second Degree Option	Before matriculation
Graduate Nursing	Prior to clinical or internship

Repeat testing may also be required for cause or to retest a dilute sample. Failure of the drug test, or refusal to cooperate with any aspect of this policy, or any health system policy on substance abuse, will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal, refusal of enrollment or denial of course progression. This policy is subject to change.

2. **Cost** The student shall be responsible for paying any and all associated costs of urine drug screening including necessary retesting for any reason. A College of Health Professions approved testing site will provide testing (see information provided separately).

3. **Use and care of information on drug screening** Test results are confidential with disclosure of results provided electronically only to approved persons involved in evaluating qualifications for clinical/internship programs. Because of the mandate to comply with health system policies, disciplinary actions against students may be imposed without the customary mechanisms of warning and probation. Reports are the property of the CHP/MSON, will not be provided to students and will be kept electronically, separate from the student's academic file. Students who wish to review a copy of their test results should contact the agency providing the drug screening.
4. **Duty to Report** Under section 333.16223 of the Public Health Code, licensed/registered health professionals are required to make good faith reports of suspected violations of the Code to the Department of Community Health, Bureau of Health Profession. However, for purposes of substance abuse or mental illness, a report to the Health Professions Recovery Program (HPRP) meets the legal reporting requirement.

Procedure

1. **CHP/MSON student responsibilities**
According to the table above all students in the CHP/MSON must submit and pass a urine drug screen.
2. **False or misleading statements.** Any false information contained on any forms pertaining to this policy will be grounds for the immediate rejection of the applicant, or immediate dismissal of a current student.
3. **Results.** Students/applicants complete the urine drug screen at a CHP/MSON approved site (see information provided separately). If confirmatory testing is not required (the sample is clearly negative in the screening procedure), a negative report will be sent to the College of Health Professions representative. No further action is required. If the urine drug screen results are inconclusive, retesting will be required which may be at the student's expense as determined by the CHP/MSON. In the case of a positive test, a Medical Review Officer (MRO) will be charged with interpreting the results and contacting the applicant/student to disclose any prescription medications. If determined by the MRO that the further investigation proves a negative result, no further action is required and the negative result will be sent to the College of Health Professions representative. If further interpretation proves the results are positive, the MRO will notify the applicant/student and University of Detroit Mercy, CHP/MSON representative. Current students will not be allowed to continue in the clinical phase of the program. Accepted applicants will not be allowed to matriculate into the program.