

STUDENT DRUG TESTING

All students in the Cameron R-I School District who choose to participate in extracurricular and cocurricular activities are entitled to do so in a drug-free environment. Student extracurricular and cocurricular activities provide experiences and opportunities that are not included in formal courses of study. They permit students to apply knowledge acquired in various courses and to gain real-world experiences. Our student activities program is based on the needs, talents and interests of the students. The student activities programs, in addition to the regular instructional program, allow for a well-rounded, balanced education and a higher degree of success in school—both academically and socially.

Drug abuse is a serious problem. Schools, including the Cameron R-I School District, are not immune. Even students involved in extracurricular and cocurricular activities are increasingly using alcohol and experimenting with the unlawful use of prescription drugs and street drugs. Participation in extracurricular and cocurricular programs is a privilege and carries with it the responsibility to adhere to high standards of conduct, refraining from the use of illegal drugs, synthetic drugs and prescription drugs without a valid prescription.

To assist students in making healthy and safe choices, the district will require students and parents/guardians to consent in writing to random drug testing as a condition of participation in covered activities for grades 9-12. Covered activities include all extracurricular and cocurricular activities, including sports teams, student organizations and clubs, attendance at school sponsored dances and parking on the Cameron R-I School District parking lot. The main goal of this drug testing program is not to levy discipline, but to educate students regarding the serious problem of drug abuse and to inform parents of risky behaviors concerning drug use. The key goal of this program is opening the lines of communication between students and parents about the serious matter of drug use and abuse and to offer support for those who may need it. As such, drug counseling and assistance programs will be required of any student who has a positive drug test under this policy. Any costs for assistance or enrollment into any drug counseling sessions will be exclusively the responsibility of the student or parent/guardian. The school district will not request or accept any information regarding the treatment of students participating in a drug counseling program other than enrollment in or completion of the program.

This policy does not affect other policies and practices of the school in dealing with drugs or alcohol use or possession where reasonable suspicion is obtained by means other than the random sampling discussed here. All students involved in the covered activities will be included in the random pool for testing throughout the school year.

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Definitions

Covered Activities – Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) sanctioned activities, cocurricular activities, extracurricular activities and parking privileges.

MSHSAA Activities – Activities regulated by the Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA).

Cocurricular Activities – School-sponsored activities or groups primarily involving students and occurring outside of academic class time, where the subject matter of the activity or group is or will be taught in a regularly offered class; the subject matter of the activity or group concerns the body of courses as a whole; participation in the group is required for a course; or academic credit is granted for participation.

Extracurricular Activities – Activities that take place outside of the regular course of study in school.

Parking Privilege – Parking on the Cameron R-I School parking lot.

Participant – Any student in grades 9-12 who is involved in extracurricular or cocurricular activities or any student who wishes to obtain a student parking pass.

Drug Test – A scientifically substantiated method to test for the presence of illegal drugs as determined by a urine test.

Illegal Drugs – The synthetic or generic equivalent or derivative drugs that are illegal under federal, state or local laws, including but not limited to marijuana, alcohol, heroin, hashish, cocaine, hallucinogens, depressants, and stimulants not prescribed by a physician for the user. Illegal drugs include steroids and steroid derivatives or related substances that are not prescribed by a physician for the user. This term shall include, but shall not be limited to, all drugs listed on the Narcotic Drug Act, Section 195.101, RSMo, and Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 812.

Non-Negative Drug Test – Any test showing an initial positive result that has not been verified.

Positive Drug Test – A toxicological test result that is considered to demonstrate the presence of an illegal drug or the metabolites thereof using standards customarily established by the testing laboratory administering the drug test. The term alternatively may be referred to as a “positive,” a “positive test” or a “positive result.”

Confidentiality

All records related to random student drug testing shall be kept in confidential files separate from a student's permanent educational records, and those files will be destroyed upon the student's graduation from school. Test results shall be released to school personnel only as needed to implement this policy.

Enrollment Period

The random drug testing program will begin second semester during the 2014-2015 school year. The enrollment period will be one week (seven days) from the first day of that semester for students. Every subsequent enrollment period will begin the first day of school for students and will be for one week (seven days). Any student wishing to participate in cocurricular activities, extracurricular activities or have parking privileges on school grounds shall enroll during the designated time period at the beginning of each school year. Students may not opt out of the program and then opt in at a later date. New students to the district will be given a one week (seven day) enrollment period when they begin classes.

Consequences

Consequences shall be cumulative from grades 9-12. A positive test through this random drug testing program will not result in suspension from school or academic sanctions. Alternate assignments will be given for students who are ineligible to participate in cocurricular activities. The district will not report results to law enforcement. Students who test positive through this random drug testing program will be excluded from participation in covered extracurricular and cocurricular activities as follows:

First Offense – All students with a positive drug test will be excluded from participation in all covered activities and privileges for a period of 15 days from the date the test results were determined. The student may not attend practice sessions or team functions or sit with or participate with fellow participants during activities. All students with a positive drug test shall be required to attend a minimum of five hours of licensed counseling that specifically addresses drug abuse, at parent/guardian expense. The counselor, with the legal consent of the parent and student, is to provide a written report of completion of the drug counseling program to the school. Students also must participate in all random screenings for the remainder of the school year at the expense of the parent/guardian.

Second Offense - A second positive test will result in the student being ineligible to participate in all covered activities for 180 calendar days from the date the test results were determined. All students with a second positive drug test shall be required to attend a minimum of 15 hours of licensed counseling that specifically addresses drug abuse, at parent/guardian expense. The

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counselor, with the legal consent of the parent and student, is to provide a written report of completion of the drug counseling program to the school. After any student presents a positive test for illegal substances, he or she will be subject to random testing for the remainder of the school year.

Third Offense – A third positive drug test will result in the student being ineligible to participate in all covered activities for the rest of the student’s enrollment in the Cameron R-I School District.

Refusal to Submit or Falsifying Results

A student refuses to submit for drug testing when he or she fails to provide adequate urine for testing when notified of the need to do so or engages in conduct that clearly obstructs the testing process. A student who refuses to submit to testing or takes deliberate action to falsify results may still be disciplined under the district’s discipline code for being under the influence of alcohol or drugs. A student who takes deliberate action to falsify results may also receive additional disciplinary consequences.

If a student does not provide a urine specimen in three hours, the district will follow DOT protocol by giving the student up to five days to have what is called a “shy bladder examination” (at parent/guardian expense) to determine if there is a valid medical reason for not voiding in the three-hour time frame. If the student does not have the exam or if there is not a valid medical reason, then the test would be deemed positive.

Suspicion-Based Drug Testing

Suspicion-based drug testing, unlike random drug testing, may only be used when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is under the influence of or has recently consumed alcohol or any drug prohibited by district policy. Students testing positive will be disciplined in accordance with the district’s discipline policy and may also be excluded from extracurricular activities as determined by the district. A student who refuses to submit to testing may still be disciplined under the district’s discipline code for being under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

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Note: The reader is encouraged to check the index located at the beginning of this section for other pertinent policies and to review administrative procedures and/or forms for related information.

Adopted: 12/15/2014

Cross Refs: IGAEA, Teaching about Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
IGD, District-Sponsored Extracurricular Activities and Groups

Legal Refs: U.S. Const., amend. IV
Board of Educ. of Ind. Sch. Dist. No. 92 of Pottawatomie County v. Earls, 536 U.S.
822 (2002)
Vernonia Sch. Dist. v. Acton, 515 U.S. 646 (1995)

Cameron R-I Public Schools, Cameron, Missouri