

DCTC Policy 2.6.1 Athletic Department Drug/Banned Substance Awareness, Education and Screening Policy

Part 1. Policy Statement.

Dakota County Technical College (DCTC) is an educational community that seeks to integrate personal, intellectual, and physical growth through participation in intercollegiate athletics. The importance of each student-athletes' health and wellness is emphasized in all the intercollegiate teams. DCTC does not condone the illegal and irresponsible use of alcohol or other banned substances, believing that use and abuse of these substances can be detrimental to the physical, social and mental well-being of its student-athletes. The DCTC Athletic Department believes strongly that drugs and athletics are incompatible and that use and abuse of drugs can impair both short-term and long-term health of the student-athlete and compromises the standards of fair play. It is a privilege to be a member of the intercollegiate experience at DCTC. Implementing a drug/banned substance awareness, education and screening policy and program will affirm compliance with NJCAA recommendations and statements, promote fair competition in intercollegiate athletics, and assist student-athletes before they pose a safety risk to themselves and others, or develop a psychological or physiological dependence to drugs.

Part 2. Program Purpose.

The purpose of the drug/banned substance awareness, education, and screening policy is to:

1. Help student-athletes avoid improper involvement with drugs/banned substances per DCTC policy, NJCAA rules and regulations, State law and Federal law as well as to educate the student athletes. The DCTC Athletic Department understands the pressures on young people and a primary purpose of this program is to give student-athletes a reason to "say no" to drug use.
2. Detect possible drug/banned substance abuse through a screening program based on periodic or random testing designed to reveal the use of drugs/banned substances.
3. Refer student-athletes found to be misusing drugs/banned substances to a counseling service.
4. Disassociate from the DCTC athletics program any student-athlete who is found to be engaged in chronic, improper use of drugs/banned substances, drug trafficking and/or who does not respond to rehabilitation efforts.

Part 3. Prohibited Drugs/Banned Substances. A student-athlete, during the period of membership with any DCTC athletic team, may not use the drugs/banned substances specified in Appendix A (from NCAA list of banned substances and non-prescribed drugs). Any use of these or other non-prescribed substances is expressly prohibited, whether such use occurs before, during, or after the student-athlete's competitive season. Any student-athlete who has a medical condition for which the use of a prescribed drug is authorized must have a physician provide a statement of such authorization and a copy of the prescription to the Athletic Office at DCTC. This documentation will be kept in the student-athlete's file.

Part 4. Voluntary Admission and/or Request for Counseling. Any student-athlete using impermissible drugs or banned substances may come forward at any time and seek help by contacting

the Athletic Director, head coach, athletic trainer, or DCTC staff. In such cases, the student-athlete will go through the steps listed in Part 7 concerning the consequences of impermissible drug/banned substance use.

Part 5. Reasonable Suspicion Reporting. If any staff member or coach is contacted by a third party, or has a reasonable suspicion that a student-athlete may be using drugs/banned substances, the reasonable suspicion reporting form (Appendix B) shall be used and subsequently submitted to either the Director of Student Life or the Athletics Administrator, at which time a determination will be made to investigate and/or test the student-athlete for use of illegal and/or banned substances.

Part 6. Screening Program. By participating in this awareness, education, and screening policy, a student-athlete agrees to submit to tests to reveal the use of any drugs/banned substances listed in **Appendix A**. No such test will be administered without the student-athlete first having signed an individual consent form (**Appendix C**); however, a student-athlete must sign a consent form in order to participate in athletics at DCTC. The basic test to be used for drug/substance screening is a urinalysis. However, from time to time, other types of tests may be utilized to determine the presence of drugs/substances listed in **Appendix A**. Except as otherwise provided herein, the standards for determining positive test results will be those prescribed by the manufacturers of the tests. The testing based on urinalysis will be implemented as follows:

1. When the Test Will be Administered

- a. **Unannounced, Random Testing.** All student-athletes will be subject to periodic, unannounced, random testing. The selection of individuals will be made through a random drawing of names from the team rosters by the contracted screening company. Student-athlete selection notification shall come from the Athletics Office and shall include a letter from DCTC indicating student-athlete as one who was duly selected, at random, to be tested on a specified date, at a specified time and location, and a copy of the signed Student-Athlete Consent form (**Appendix C**). The notification can occur at any time prior to the scheduled testing. The student-athlete is required to sign and return to the athletics office or designee, confirmation of receipt of notification and acknowledgement of time and location specified for conducting the test.
- b. **Reasonable Suspicion Testing.** Coaches may request the screening of a student-athlete when reasonable concern merits such a request by using the Reasonable Suspicion Reporting form as described in Part 5 above.

2. Consequences of Failure to Participate in or Cooperate With Testing

- a. If the student-athlete declines to execute the required individual consent form, eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics will be suspended (see Part 7 below).
- b. If the student-athlete fails to appear at the designated time and place for testing (on time and no later than 15 minutes past the scheduled time); the action will be treated as a positive test result and he/she will be suspended from athletic participation for the remainder of their active season.

c. A first year student-athlete can be eligible for a second season of participation after submitting a drug test, at the student-athlete's expense, prior to the second season of eligibility, and resolving any student code of conduct violations with appropriate college administrators.

3. Administration of Drug Screening Program (subject to change as conditions and needs merit)

The contracted drug screening staff will collect the specimen. Instructions will be provided by the screening staff.

4. Notification of results

The use of the results will be in compliance with the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Notification of a positive test result are communicated as needed to the following:

1. Athletic Director
2. Sports Medicine Provider (Athletic Training Staff)
3. Head Coach
4. Athletics Administrator

Part 7. Consequences of Impermissible Drug/Banned Substance Use. Any student-athlete who refuses to sign the Student-Athlete Consent Form (Appendix C) will not be given the privilege of participating in practices, scrimmages, or games of a Dakota County Technical College Intercollegiate Athletics Team. When there has been a reliable determination of improper drug use, through a verified positive test result, the student-athlete will be subject to the following requirements:

1. Voluntary Admission and Request for Counseling

- a. Student-athlete will be referred to a counseling service for which the student-athlete will be financially responsible. Written physician or medical documentation will be required to show proof of counseling and rehabilitation.
- b. The student-athlete may be subject to testing, and be financially responsible for testing as long as is deemed appropriate by either the Athletics Director or Athletics Administrator for the balance of the intercollegiate athletic season. Follow-up testing for non-negative test results will allow adequate time for the drug/substance to be removed from the system.
- c. Removal from athletic participation for the remainder of the season. This includes practices, scrimmages, and games.
- d. A first year student-athlete will be eligible for a second season after submitting a drug test prior to the second season and resolving any student code of conduct violations with appropriate college administration.

2. Positive Test Result

When a student-athlete has a positive test result, the Athletic Administrator will meet with the student-athlete and the applicable head coach to discuss the implications of the finding. The student-athlete will be required to comply with the following:

- a. Removal from athletic participation for the remainder of the season. This includes practices, scrimmages, and games.
- b. The student-athlete will be eligible for a second season after submitting a drug test prior to the second season and resolving any student code of conduct violations with appropriate college administration.

3. **Right to appeal.** Any student-athlete may appeal a suspension or expulsion from the athletic program. Appeals must be received within five (5) school or business days of the notification of the decision. Such appeals should be in writing and shall be delivered to the Chief Student Affairs Officer at Dakota County Technical College or his or her designee.

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Related Documents:

- N/A

Policy History

Date of Adoption: 04/12/2012

Last Review Date:

Date most recent policy revisions go into effect: