

# CUYAHOGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE HEALTH CAREER PROGRAMS

## STUDENT DRUG SCREENING POLICY, PROCEDURES & INFORMATION

### **How will I know if I need a drug screen?**

If your assigned clinical site requires a drug screen, you will be notified by your program manager or via the onboarding process at your clinical site. You should **NOT** complete a drug screen unless instructed to do so.

### **Why do I need a drug screen?**

As part of the clinical affiliation agreements, many healthcare facilities require drug screenings for students who utilize their sites. If your clinical site requires a drug screen, you will be advised of when and where to obtain.

### **When do I have to complete the drug screen?**

The timeline varies at each site; however, if your clinical site does require a drug screen, it must be cleared **prior** to the start of the clinical rotation. Students who do not have results that have cleared before the first day of clinical will not be permitted to begin their clinical rotation.

### **Will I have to repeat the drug screen?**

You may have to repeat the drug screen depending on the facility you are assigned to for clinical rotations. Timeframes and expiration vary from site to site.

### **Where do I go to get the drug screen?**

If your site indicates you are to obtain your own drug screen it must be completed through the College approved vendor, CastleBranch. Drug screens completed by any other vendor will not be accepted. If the clinical site provides the drug screen as part of the onboarding process, you should not obtain your own drug screen and follow the protocol as directed by the clinical site.

### **What is the cost of the drug screen?**

The cost for a student drug screen via the current vendor CastleBranch is \$29.00. Please note – prices are subject to change at any time.

### **How long does it take for the results to come back?**

After the urine sample is provided, it takes approximately 3-5 days for results. Students can view the results through their account.

### **Who views my drug screen results?**

The drug screen results are viewed by the Program Manager of Clinical Compliance. The drug screen results may be shared with internal or external clinical facilities for placement purposes only.

### **What if I fail the drug screen?**

Any student who tests positive for a prohibited drug will be given the opportunity to contest the results, if the failure is due to justifiable prescription drug use. It is the student's responsibility to provide proper documentation if he/she has failed the drug screen due to justifiable drug use.

If the positive test is not due to justifiable prescription drug use, the student:

1. Must withdraw from the Health Careers/Nursing Program for a minimum of 6 months,
2. Must be retested, proving that they are drug free, before he/she will be readmitted into a Health Careers/Nursing Program.

A student may not be able to complete the health career program if he/she cannot be placed in a clinical site due to a failed drug screen.

**What is a negative dilute?**

Dilution is the process of reducing the concentration of drug or drug metabolites in the urine sample. This is accomplished by adding fluid to the sample or by drinking large amounts of fluid to dilute the specimen, called "internal dilution." Drug testing laboratories routinely test samples to detect dilution.

A dilute specimen can be caused by two circumstances. The first circumstance is caused by an individual diluting the urine with water, or other liquid, by actually pouring it into the specimen at the time of collection. The second method of obtaining a dilute specimen is by consuming too much fluid, especially liquids that contain diuretics, prior to collection (i.e. coffee, soda pop, medications, etc.). This may be inadvertent or may be on purpose on the part of the donor.

A student whose drug screen result is dilute negative will be required to complete another drug screen **at his/her own expense**.