

DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING PROGRAM

Employees who operate school vehicles are subject to drug and alcohol testing if a commercial driver's license is required to operate the school vehicle and the school vehicle transports sixteen or more persons including the driver or the school vehicle weighs twenty-six thousand one pounds or more. For purposes of the drug and alcohol testing program, the term "employees" includes applicants who have been offered a position to operate a school vehicle.

The employees operating a school vehicle as described above are subject to pre-employment drug testing and random, reasonable suspicion and post-accident drug and alcohol testing. Employees operating school vehicles will not perform a safety-sensitive function within four hours of using alcohol. Employees governed by this policy are subject to the drug and alcohol testing program beginning the first day they operate or are offered a position to operate school vehicles and continue to be subject to the drug and alcohol testing program as long as they may be required to perform a safety-sensitive function as it is defined in the administrative regulations. Employees with questions about the drug and alcohol testing program may contact the school district contact person, the Superintendent or the Transportation Coordinator, at the McKinley Administration Building located at 423 East Nodaway Street, Clarinda, IA 51632.

Employees who violate the terms of this policy are subject to discipline, up to and, including termination. The district is required to keep a record of all drug or alcohol violations by employees for a minimum of five years. Employees are put on notice that information related to drug or alcohol violations will be reported to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Clearinghouse. Additionally, the district will conduct FMCSA Clearinghouse queries for employees annually. Employees must provide written consent for the district to conduct FMCSA Clearinghouse queries; however, employees who choose to withhold consent will be prohibited from performing any safety sensitive functions.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations to implement this policy in compliance with the law. The superintendent will inform applicants of the requirement for drug and alcohol testing in notices or advertisements for employment.

The superintendent will also be responsible for publication and dissemination of this policy and supporting administrative regulations and forms to employees operating school vehicles. The superintendent will also oversee a substance-free awareness program to educate employees about the dangers of substance abuse and notify them of available substance abuse treatment resources and programs.

IASB Drug and Alcohol Testing Program (IDATP) Web site:

https://www.ia-sb.org/Main/Affiliated_Programs/Iowa_Drug_Alcohol_Testing_Program.aspx.

NOTE: It is important for the school district to read this policy and its supporting documents and the notes very carefully. This policy and its supporting documents assume the school district employs its drivers and owns the school vehicles rather than contracts with a private service provider with its own drug and alcohol testing program. School districts contracting with a private service provider must ensure the provider has a drug and alcohol testing program complying with the federal regulations.

Compliance with the regulations is the responsibility of the school district even if the school district uses a service provider. Boards need to determine who will be responsible for administering the drug and alcohol testing program in the second paragraph and make that determination throughout the policies and regulations.

This policy and its supporting documents also assume private contractors and nonpublic schools participating in the Iowa Drug and Alcohol Testing Program (IDATP) have chosen to test only under the federal regulations and not to test under state law.

This policy and its supporting documents terminate a driver for violation of the policy and its supporting documents. Such a violation includes a positive drug test result. Should a school district, after careful consideration, choose to retain the option not to terminate for violation of this policy, consideration should be given to making the following changes:

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School districts choosing to pay for OR to make the driver bear the personal and financial responsibility for the substance abuse evaluation and rehabilitation, if any:

First sentence of paragraph two: The employees operating a school vehicle as described above are subject to pre-employment drug testing and random, reasonable suspicion, post-accident, return-to-duty and follow-up drug and alcohol testing.

School districts choosing to pay for the substance abuse evaluation and rehabilitation, if any:

Paragraph three: Employees who violate the terms of this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including termination at the discretion of the school district. Employees who violate this policy, as a condition of continued employment, will be required to successfully participate in a substance abuse evaluation and a substance abuse treatment program, recommended by the substance abuse professional. Employees required to participate in and who fail to or refuse to successfully participate in a substance abuse evaluation or recommended substance abuse treatment program may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

School districts choosing to make the employee bear the personal and financial responsibility for the substance abuse evaluation and rehabilitation, if any:

Paragraph three: Employees who violate the terms of this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including termination. Employees who violate this policy bear the personal and financial responsibility, as a condition of continued employment, to successfully participate in a substance abuse evaluation and a substance abuse treatment program recommended by the substance abuse professional. Employees who fail to or refuse to successfully participate in a substance abuse evaluation or recommended substance abuse treatment program may be subject to discipline up to and including termination.

This policy and the supporting documents require the school district to designate a school district contact person for the Drug and alcohol testing program. The title of the person(s) designated should be entered in paragraph two. This person Will answer questions from employees and others about the program, receive the test results and receive the identification numbers of the drivers who were selected for random testing and notify those drivers. If these responsibilities are divided among different persons, the policy and supporting documents must clearly explain which person handles which part of the drug and alcohol testing program.

Information about the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Clearinghouse is located at:
clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov.

Information about resources for a substance-free awareness program and related services may be obtained from the school district's employee assistance program, the Department of Education at (515) 281-3021 or Department of Health, Substance Abuse Division at (515) 281-3641. For regulations and forms,
<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/topics/drug/drug.htm?>

Note: For more detailed discussion of this issue, see IASB's Policy Primer, May 15, 2003.

Legal Reference: American Trucking Association, Inc., v. Federal Highway Administration, 51 Fed. 3rd 405 Cir. (4th 1995).
49 U.S.C. §§ 5331 et seq.
42 U.S.C. §§ 12101.
41 U.S.C. §§ 81.
49 C.F.R. Pt. 40; 382; 39.
34 C.F.R. Pt. 85.
Local 301, Internat'l Assoc. of Fire Fighters, AFL-CIO, and City of Burlington, PERB No. 3876 (3-26-91).
Iowa Code §§ 124; 279.8; 321.375(2); 730.5.

Cross Reference: 403.5 Substance-Free Workplace
409.2 Licensed Employee Personal Illness Leave
414.2 Classified Employee Personal Illness Leave