

Clover School District Athletic Drug Testing Procedures Parent Guide

On June 24, the Clover School Board passed a policy mandating random drug testing for all students who participate in interscholastic sports at the high school level to promote and encourage wellness and good health practices. The Clover School District administration has developed the following procedures to implement the policy.

This policy only applies to athletes who play interscholastic sports for Clover High School. It specifically does not apply to students who play middle school sports.

Coaches will provide student-athletes with consent to test forms that must be signed by the student and their legal guardian. The form must be returned by the designated deadline or the student will not be allowed to participate until the form is returned.

The policy requires two types of testing: general team testing and individual testing.

General Team Testing

On a random date selected by the school principal, during the first one third of any given sport season, all members of applicable CHS athletic teams will be summoned to a central location, such as the school library, for drug testing.

Students will then be sent individually to a private testing area that includes a bathroom.

Trained personnel of the same gender as the student will provide specimen cups and direct the athlete to a private bathroom to generate a urine specimen. The technician will check the specimen for appropriate temperature to insure legitimacy. Once completed, the student will be released to return to practice.

The specimen will be tested for banned substances. If the test is negative, the contents and materials will be destroyed. If the test is positive, the district administrator for student services or superintendent will be notified. They will notify the student's parents or legal guardian.

ANY FURTHER ACTION ON A FIRST OFFENSE POSITIVE TEST WILL BE DONE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PARENT.

The school will provide parents with resources for follow-up testing, counseling, etc.



Individual Testing

The school may also call student athletes individually, at random, during the athletic season for individual testing.

Trained personnel of the same gender as the student will provide specimen cups and direct the athlete to a private bathroom to generate a urine specimen. The nurse or trainer will check the specimen for appropriate temperature to insure legitimacy. Once completed, the student will be released to return to practice or class.

Individual samples will be sent to an independent lab. If the test is positive, the district administrator for student services or superintendent will be notified. They will notify the student's parents or legal guardian.

ANY FURTHER ACTION ON A FIRST OFFENSE POSITIVE TEST WILL BE DONE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PARENT.

The school will provide parents with resources for follow-up testing, counseling, etc.

If a student tests positive for drugs or alcohol a second time, the students' parents will be notified by a face to face conference or phone call with the principal or athletic director. The student is declared ineligible from participating in athletics for a period of five [5] school days. To regain eligibility, the student must participate in and complete a substance abuse counseling program with a certified clinical counselor, including random urinalysis.

If a student tests positive for drugs or alcohol for the third time, the students' parents will be notified by a face to face conference or phone call with the principal or athletic director. The student will be declared ineligible from participating in athletics for the remainder of the sports season. To regain eligibility for future teams, the student must participate in and complete a substance abuse counseling program with a certified clinical counselor, including random urinalysis.



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. If my student is absent for the team test, will s/he be tested?

A. Yes. A student absent for the team test WILL be called for an individual test by school health officials on a random date.

Q. Does the three offense rule apply to a single sport or all sports?

A. It applies to all sports, all year. Students start over with a clean slate each year.

Q. Even though my student will not be banned from participation for a first offense, will coaches remain impartial about them when they learn of test results?

A. Coaches have no role whatsoever in the testing process and are not privy to results. The district administrator for student services or superintendent are prohibited from sharing any test results with anyone other than parents on the first offense.

Q. Will athletes caught for drug offenses at school or in public fall under this policy?

A. NO. A student found guilty of any drug related offense outside of the random testing policy is subject to the regular school, civic and legal consequences.

Q. What happens if our student legitimately uses prescription drugs and these drugs appear during the test?

A. Students who use properly prescribed prescription drugs have this noted on their school medical charts. The principal or AD can refer to these charts and upon verification, void the test result. The parent can also void the test result by providing a copy of the prescription [pill bottle].

Q. What happens if a student or parents refuse to participate?

A. The student is declared ineligible to play.

Q. Does the district follow all HIPPA regulations?

A. Yes.

Q. What counseling opportunities are available for students who test positive?

A. Students may use a variety of counseling services. Private practice counselors and Keystone counselors [Rock Hill] are two examples of approved counseling services.

Q. Why is this opportunity for students and parents to deter drug use not extended to other students at school?

A. The school district and board understand that drug testing of athletes has cleared legal challenges up through the Supreme Court of the United States. Participation in sports holds a greater threat for injury while under school supervision than other student activities.