

HAGERSTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TESTING POLICY

The Hagerstown Community College Athletic Department is committed to providing a drug information and drug testing program consistent with national regulations of intercollegiate athletics and the College's Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy.

Through dissemination of the student handbook and team meetings, the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies encourages students to become knowledgeable about drugs, as they may interfere with the athlete's health and performance. Athletes are encouraged to seek out information through the coaching staff, the athletic trainer, the Washington County Health Department or any professional knowledgeable in the field of alcohol/drug education. No athlete will be penalized for seeking out this information. However, disciplinary action is required in cases where drug testing as stated in this policy shows the athlete as using a banned drug. When necessary, this action will follow procedures of the College's Code of Student Conduct and the College Hearing Board.

Annually, prior to participation in intercollegiate competition during the academic year, the athlete shall sign a statement in a form prescribed by Hagerstown Community College. This signature indicates the athlete's consent to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by the College and the NJCAA. Failure to complete and sign the statement annually shall result in the athlete's ineligibility to participate in all intercollegiate competition. Hagerstown Community College shall authorize methods of drug testing of selected athletes involved in intercollegiate competition.

This policy applies to athletes first enrolled at Hagerstown Community College as well as to athletes who transfer to the College.

Individuals found to be involved in the illegal distribution of drugs; through any means (transfer or sale) will be subject to disciplinary action as stated in the College's Code of Conduct and Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy.

IMPLEMENTATION

Tests may be conducted on the student/athlete population in each sport. These tests may be conducted from the first day of practice or the first day of classes in the fall semester through the last day of exams in the spring semester or last contest. Athletes participating in more than one sport may be tested as a member of each team on which he/she has membership.

Athletes who present behavior that may indicate substance abuse may be referred to the *Student Assistance Team (SAT)*. The SAT will consist of the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies, the Athletic Trainer, the Director's Executive Assistant, and a representative of the Washington County Health Department. The SAT may require testing and follow up education and/or treatment as may be recommended by health care professionals.

If an athlete refuses to be tested, as procedure dictates, he/she will immediately be dismissed from the team. If the athlete is receiving athletic financial aid, such aid will continue only through the end of that semester.

TESTED DRUGS

Tests will be conducted for those drugs and controlled substances as found in the testing protocol of the testing agency.

PROCEDURES

The Athletic Department shall inform the athletes about the substance abuse policies (requirement and procedures) of both Hagerstown Community College and the NJCAA. Athletes must sign a release indicating understanding of/and agreement to comply with the policy in order to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

At the time the athlete is informed about the policies and testing procedures, he/she shall also be informed of drug education resources available through the College or the Washington County Health Department.

Coaches shall be responsible for enforcing this policy with their teams. The Athletic Director, or his/her designee, coordinates the transmittal of roster information to the testing agency and provides a secure site for test results in the Athletic Department.

Testing Procedures

A. Technique

1. The College has contracted the Washington County Health Department to perform random drug testing, follow-up drug testing, additional staff training and resources for counseling and education.
2. Drug tests are performed at Hagerstown Community College but may also be performed at random during an away competitive event.
3. The student shall be notified of a positive test result by the professional who is responsible for the analysis of the sample. This individual shall also contact the Athletic Director with the same information.
4. Test results are confidential and released only to the Dean of Students, Athletic Director, and the head coach and when appropriate, to a mental health professional. Parents and or legal guardians may also be informed, at the discretion of the Athletic Director.

B. Test Results

1. If the test is negative, no further action will be taken.
2. If the test is positive, the athlete shall meet with the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies and the SAT and may also be referred to a mental health professional and told that a follow-up test will be given in thirty days.
3. During this period of time
 - a. The Dean of Students, head coach and the parent/guardian shall be informed.
 - b. The student shall be suspended from participation in athletics (including practice), for two (2) weeks of competition, beginning the day following the receipt of the information by the Athletic Director.

C. Follow-up Test and Results

1. If the follow-up test is negative:
 - a. All privileges will continue.
 - b. The athlete will be included in all subsequent tests for the remainder of the season. After that time, the athlete will be tested only when his/her name comes up in the periodic selection process.
2. If the *subsequent test* is positive:
 - a. The athlete will be dismissed from the team immediately and suspended for the remainder of the season. If the athlete is receiving athletic financial aid, such aid will continue only through the end of the semester.

D. Prescription Medication Effects

1. At the time of testing, the representative of the Washington County Health Department will inquire of the individual athlete about his/her use of any prescription medication, which may produce a false positive result.
2. When test results are communicated to the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies, the Washington County Health Department representative will indicate the possibility of the false positive profile for the student involved.
3. The Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies, at that time, will contact the student and his/her coach that he/she is immediately suspended from all athletic participation, including travel and practice.
4. The student will request written verification (on professional stationery or, if a prescription copy, the latter must be dated within sixty (60) days prior to the drug test date). This information must be forwarded directly to the Athletic Director.

5. The Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies may contact the physician or the Washington County Health Department representative to verify the nature of the written verification. The decision for reinstatement to athletic participation rests with the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies.

E. Alcohol Policy

1. Each athlete will abide by Athletic Department rules established at the beginning of the academic year.
2. A student who is found using alcohol will be suspended from participating in athletics (including practice) for two weeks (2) of competition beginning with the day the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies meets with the student. If an athlete is found using alcohol the second time he/she will be dismissed for the remainder of the season.
3. Each athlete will also abide by the College's alcohol use policy as stated in the student handbook.

- F.** The liaison with the Washington County Health Department and the Hagerstown Community College Athletic Department is the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies or his/her designee.

July 2006

**CONSENT TO TESTING OF URINE SAMPLE
AND AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

I hereby acknowledge that I have received a copy of Hagerstown Community College's Athletics Substance Abuse Policy. I further acknowledge that I have read the policy, and that I fully understand the provisions of the policy.

I hereby consent to be tested for the presence of the drugs or substances in accordance with this Policy, and at such other times as urinalysis testing is required under the policy during the academic year.

I further authorize you to make a confidential release to the Dean of Student Affairs, the Director of Athletics and Leisure Studies, my head coach, a health care professional and my parent(s) or legal guardian(s), of all information and records, including test results, you may have related to the drug test performed in accordance with the College's Athletic Substance Abuse Policy. To the extent set forth in this document, I waive any privilege I may have in connection with such information.

Hagerstown Community College, its Board of Trustees, its administration, employees, and agents are hereby released from legal responsibility of liability for the release of such information and records as authorized by this form.

PRINT NAME

SPORT

ATHLETE'S SIGNATURE

DATE

PARENT/GUARDIAN (if minor)

DATE