

Northeast Texas Community College – Athletic Department

Drug Education and Consent to Testing Policy

Purpose of the Program:

Northeast Texas Community College adheres to the principle that there is no place in intercollegiate athletics for substance abuse of any kind. The primary intent of the Athletics Department policy concerning drug education and testing is to preserve the well being of the student-athlete. The Athletics Department is interested in the prevention of drug abuse, as well as helping student-athletes with drug abuse problems. The College's drug-testing program is regarded as a critical preventative measure for a potentially serious illness.

Each student-athlete that enters any intercollegiate athletics program at Northeast Texas Community College shall be provided a student-athlete handbook with a copy of the current version of the Drug education and Consent to Testing Policy (hereafter the "Policy"). Each student-athlete must sign this Policy and if the student-athlete is a minor the Policy must also be signed by the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s). However, failure of the College to provide information about this Policy, or to conduct training as described in this Policy, shall not excuse the student-athlete in any way from complying with this Policy fully.

The undersigned student-athlete acknowledges that it is a privilege rather than a right to represent NTCC in intercollegiate athletics and agrees to be bound by this Policy. Also, it is acknowledged that neither this Policy nor this document is intended to be a contract and the student-athlete acknowledges that NTCC retains at all times the discretion to remove students from intercollegiate athletics for any reason deemed by NTCC, in its sole discretion, to be in the best interest of the College.

Banned Drugs:

Students participating in intercollegiate athletics at NTCC are prohibited from the use, purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution and/or sale or the attempted use, purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution, and/or sale or aiding and abetting the use, purchase, possession, manufacture, distribution and/or sale by any of the substances on the current National Collegiate Athletics Association (NCAA) banned drug list (hereafter "Banned Drugs"). A copy of the NCAA's Banned Drug list is attached to this Policy.

Drug Testing:

Northeast Texas Community College screens all intercollegiate teams for drug use throughout the year. By agreeing to participate in athletics at Northeast Texas Community College, and by signing a copy of this Policy, every student-athlete agrees to participate in the drug testing programs developed by Northeast Texas Community College as described in this Policy.

Drug Testing Committee. The Drug testing Committee shall be made up of the Head Coaches, and the Director of Athletics, a faculty member and a non-athlete student as determined by the Vice President for Administrative Services.

Random Testing. Participants from each sport will participate in random drug testing (hereafter "Random Testing") at least once per semester. The Drug Testing Committee shall randomly select student-athletes for Testing. Student-athletes selected for Random Testing shall be notified of the test and shall cooperate in the testing as directed by the Drug Testing Committee. Random Testing may be announced (in which event the

student-athlete may be given prior notice) or unannounced (in which event no prior notice is given). All Random Testing shall be performed at a test site selected by the College at the test time designated by the College through the Drug Testing Committee.

Discretionary Testing. In addition to Random Testing, student-athletes shall agree to participate in other testing for any reason. The Drug Testing Committee may require any student-athlete to be tested at any time.

Procedural Guidelines:

The following procedural guidelines shall serve as a guide for the Athletics Department and for the student-athletes governed by this Policy. The failure of the Athletics Department to adhere to this Policy shall not be construed by the student-athlete to constitute a waiver by the College of any of the College's rights or privileges, nor shall it be construed by any person, entity or court of law or equity as the breach of any contractual or other obligation. These guidelines are intended to be just that – guidelines – rather than requirements.

1. Each year a drug presentation will be made to educate student-athletes and coaches of the dangers of drug abuse and regarding the Athletics Department drug testing, procedures, education, and counseling program. The drug testing procedures to be followed will be explained in detail at our mandatory orientation.
2. All student-athletes will be required to sign a copy of this Policy. Refusal to sign this Policy will result in dismissal from the team(s) and loss of any intercollegiate athletics scholarship award.
3. Student-athletes will be notified of drug testing by a member of the Drug Testing Committee who will provide information on the time and site of the test.
4. Collection of urine samples will be conducted by a laboratory designated by the College in the manner directed by the laboratory.
5. The results of the test shall be communicated by the laboratory to the College as directed by the College. In the event of a positive test, the College may elect to have a confirmation test.
6. The College shall inform the student-athlete of the results of the test in the manner determined by the College.
7. Failure by the student-athlete to cooperate in the testing process in any way, including failing to produce a sample at the time of testing, attempting to alter a urine sample, or failing to appear for a test, are all deemed to be the equivalent of a positive test.
8. If the test is found positive the student athlete may request a second testing of the same sample at their expense.
9. If the student has a medical history requiring the taking of prescription drugs that may cause a positive test result, the student will be required to obtain a written statement from their prescribing physician.
10. Results of the drug test will be given to the student within 10 school days, beyond that time, results will be considered negative.

Self-Referral:

If a student-athlete has used a banned drug as defined herein and reports this conduct prior to being notified of a request to submit to either random or reasonable suspicion testing, he or she will be tested for reasonable suspicion. However, leniency may be considered for those student-athletes who self-report use of banned drugs.

Self-referrals play a significant role in the educational aspect of our program for those student-athletes who are honest and attempting to adhere to this Policy. It must be clearly understood that any leniency afforded for self-referrals are limited to one self-referral per student-athlete.

Consequences of Violations of this Policy:

The Drug Testing Committee shall determine all consequences for the violation of this Policy. The Drug Testing Committee shall retain sole discretion to determine the consequences within the Athletics Department for positive tests. However, in addition to the consequences set forth in this Policy, the student-athlete may also be subject to other procedures and/or discipline as determined in the sole discretion of the College.

Consequences for a first offense (e.g., a single positive test result) shall include, but are not limited to, one counseling session per week with a counselor until the next drug test at the expense of the student, and suspension from the team(s) for a minimum of one scheduled competition/date for the current competitive season to be carried out immediately.

Consequences for a second offense (e.g., any subsequent positive test result) shall include, but are not limited to, immediate dismissal from the team(s) and loss of any intercollegiate athletics scholarship award.

By consenting to testing under this policy the student waives the right to confidentiality of the drug testing results and disciplinary actions taken to the extent permitted by law.

Student athletes will be provided due process as provided in the College's grievance policy.

Consent:

I, the undersigned, do hereby recognize that I have received, read, understand, and accept Northeast Texas Community College Athletics Department's Drug Education and Consent to Testing Policy.

I understand that my signature below authorizes the College, or its designee, to obtain a urine sample from me. I also understand that my signature on this form authorizes the laboratory selected by the College to perform drug testing on any urine samples obtained from me to test for the presence of the Banned Drugs as defined in this Policy, and to report all test results in accordance with the Policy.

I also understand that information pertaining to action taken pursuant to this Policy, including, but not limited to copies of the drug test results and any report of the action of the Drug Testing Committee, may be released to me upon written request, and to my parents (if under 18), to any member of the staff of the Athletics Department, and to any other member of the University faculty, staff and administration.

Print name: _____ Birth Date: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Parent/ guardian (if under 18): _____ Date: _____

Witnessed: _____ Date: _____

Attached current NCAA Banned Drug list.