

**Division Policies & Procedures**

**Subject:** Clinical Drug Screening

**Effective date:** 6.19.19

**Responsibility:** Program Directors, Clinical Coordinators

**Review date:** July 17, 2025

**Purpose:** The Joint Commission requires verification of competency of all individuals who have direct contact with patients or employees; this includes students participating in clinical rotations in the facility. Competency extends beyond technical skills to include screening for drug use.

**Policy:**

Drug screens must be completed within thirty (30) days before a student's initial entry into the clinical assignment portion of their respective Health Professions program. For some programs, clinical assignments begin immediately when classes begin for the semester. For other programs, clinical assignments are scheduled for later in the program. Verification of a negative drug screen must be received before the first clinical day in the student's program. The results will be acceptable for all clinical rotations during the student's enrollment in the program unless there is a break during that student's enrollment. A break in enrollment (leaving the program) is defined as nonattendance for a portion of a semester or more. Attendance must be verifiable through the College.

Individual programs may require more frequent screening to meet clinical affiliation requirements.

The Substance Abuse Panel 12 (SAP 12) tests for:

Amphetamines  
Barbiturate  
Benzodiazepines  
Cannabinoids  
Cocaine  
MDMA [Urine Testing]  
Methadone  
Methaqualone  
Opiates  
Oxycodone  
Phencyclidine  
Propoxyphene

## **Costs for Drug Screening**

Cost of the drug screen will be the responsibility of any students entering a Health Professions Program at McLennan Community College. Students will use the testing agency designated by the College. The student will be responsible for scheduling his or her own testing time at the agency and will be required to follow all procedures required by that agency for accurate testing. The student will be responsible for ensuring that the results of all testing are sent by the agency directly to the director of the Health Professions program in which they are admitted or enrolled.

## **Disqualifications from Clinical Affiliation Participation**

A student will not be allowed to participate in clinical affiliations if he or she is found to have a positive drug screen on the Substance Abuse Panel 12 (SAP 12). If the student feels that the positive result is in error, he or she will be able to request a Medical Review through the testing agency and pay an additional fee for that service. The testing agency will have its Medical Review Officer assess the screen and follow through with an appropriate investigation. The student will be responsible for the cost of the medical review. A student will not be allowed to participate in clinical activity (removed from program) in any MCC Health Professions program for a minimum of twelve (12) months following a verified positive drug screen. The student will then be required to undergo an additional drug screen, which must be negative, before a clinical assignment, per the stated policy above.

## **"For Cause" Screening (Zero Tolerance)**

At any time during **classroom, lab, or clinical** portions of a health science program, if the student is suspected of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the program faculty or clinical facility personnel may require the student to be tested for drugs and/or alcohol. If the clinical facility has the capability of doing the screen on-site, the facility may use that service. If a student must be dismissed from the clinical facility during a clinical assignment to undergo testing and/or for inappropriate behavior due to possible drug or alcohol influence, the student will be responsible for providing contact information for someone to provide transportation for the student to be taken away from the site and, as necessary, to the college-designated testing agency. Failure by the student to comply with these policies is grounds for dismissal from the Health Professions program in which the student is enrolled. A positive drug or alcohol test is also grounds for dismissal from the program in which the student is enrolled.

## **CBD Statement**

Using CBD products with 0.3 percent or higher levels of THC may cause a positive result for marijuana metabolites on the clinical drug screen. Students who test positive for marijuana metabolites are not eligible for clinical placement and may not progress in the program.