

**RANDOM DRUG TESTING FOR STUDENTS
IN SCHOOL-SPONSORED EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

For the health, safety, and success of its students, North Conejos School District has a compelling interest in providing a learning environment that is free of drugs and alcohol. Toward this end, the District has adopted disciplinary policies that prohibit students from possessing, using, and distributing illegal drugs and alcohol on school property, at school events, on school vehicles, and off school property when such conduct has a nexus to school.

Despite this prohibition, the District has noted and documented, both formally and informally, an increase in the use of illegal drugs and alcohol among District middle school and high school students, particularly among high school students who participate in extracurricular activities. This trend poses a significant threat to student health and safety and indicates that students require additional incentives to make good decisions related to drug and alcohol use.

For these reasons, the District, with the support of the community, is authorizing and implementing a program of random drug testing in accordance with this policy JJJ-1, Random Drug Testing for Students in School-Sponsored Extracurricular Activities and its accompanying regulation, JJJ-1R, Extracurricular Activities Random Drug Testing Regulation, for all students in grades six through twelve who participate in extracurricular activities. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right, and students exercising this privilege are expected to accept the responsibilities that accompany it, including the responsibilities of refraining from, or getting treatment for, drug and alcohol use.

The purposes of this program are to provide for the health and safety of students by deterring drug and alcohol use, to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use drugs and alcohol, and to encourage students who use drugs and/or alcohol to participate in available treatment programs. The purpose of this program is not to punish students who have made poor decisions related to drug and alcohol use.

Violations of this policy will be addressed in accordance with District regulation JJJ-1R. This policy supplements and complements all other federal and state laws, and District policies, rules, and regulations regarding student use, possession, and abuse of illegal drugs and alcohol.

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