

# Russellville School District



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## DRUG TESTING REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC/SPIRIT GROUPS RUSSELLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT

### **Philosophy**

It is the philosophy of the Russellville School District that all students who represent the district in athletic activities should be encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop a chemical-free lifestyle. In keeping with this philosophy, the district will require students in grades 7-12 who wish to participate in athletic/spirit group activities (those where interscholastic competition and/or public performances are a part of the program); and the custodial parent/guardian of such students to agree that the student may be tested, at school expense, for alcohol and controlled substances, as defined by Chapter 64 of the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated, and as later amended. Every sport must have a preseason meeting with parents to cover expectations of the coach and athlete. This drug testing policy and regulations will be reviewed and explained at each preseason meeting. Each sport shall have a minimum of one drug education meeting per season.

### **Purpose**

1. Assist students to resist peer pressure to use drugs.
2. Establish a high standard of conduct for students who represent the school and the community.
3. Provide a sense of order and discipline for Russellville students.
4. Provide a positive response to students, parents, administrators, and law enforcement officials who have requested such a program.
5. Support laws relative to the use of alcohol and controlled substances.

### **Scope**

The provisions of this policy apply to students in the Russellville School District in grades seven through twelve. No student will be allowed to participate in any athletic/spirit group activity until the consent form has been signed by both student and custodial parent/legal guardian and returned to the school. Positive screening results are

considered cumulative and follow the student for the duration of enrollment in the Russellville School District.

## **Definitions**

*Illegal Drugs* are defined as any substance, including alcohol, considered illegal by Arkansas Statutes or which is controlled by the Food and Drug Administration unless prescribed by a licensed physician.

*Reasonable Suspicion* is defined as a reasonable suspicion by an administrator or other District employee that a student has used, possessed, or sold illegal drugs. The presence of an illegal drug or its metabolites or alcohol in a student's body is considered possession.

## **Prescription Medication**

The existence of lawfully prescribed medication in the student's sample is not a violation of this policy when taken in accordance with a physician's recommendation or prescription to a specific student.

## **Procedures**

1. Each student must have a signed student/parental/guardian consent form (Appendix A) as a requirement for participation in any athletic/spirit group activity and the drug-testing program. Failure to provide the signed consent form will result in the student being prohibited from participating in athletics/spirit group activities until the form is signed and submitted to the school.
2. All student test documentation and information will be completely confidential between the school district, the student, their parent/guardian, and the testing agency. The District will choose a qualified agency for the purpose of processing sample results and maintaining privacy with respect to test results and related matters.
3. All students involved in athletics/spirit group activities will be tested for controlled substances initially. Testing will occur at the first of the school year during physicals or before participation in athletic/spirit group activities. Students will be further subject to random urinalysis testing as a requirement for participation in athletic/spirit groups. No less than 2% or greater than 10% of the total number of students involved in athletics/spirit groups will be randomly selected for urinalysis testing at such times as may be decided by the Drug Advisory Committee of each school.
4. At the time of testing, students will complete an information form (Appendix B) listing prescription and non-prescription medication being taken. Such information provided by the student will not be disclosed to any other school official. Any student who tests positive and who has listed medications will be required to verify the medication through his/her physician or pharmacist. Students who refuse to complete Appendix B or who refuse to provide verification of current prescription and non-prescription drug use will not be allowed to participate in athletic/spirit group activities until the required information is provided.

5. Urinalysis testing will be administered under the supervision of the athletic director, or designee, by an independent testing agency, or by Urine Screening Test (e.g. American Bio Medica Corporation **RAPID DRUG SCREEN**, or equivalent).
6. With a Urine Screening Test, the student will receive a vial that has a number that corresponds to their name. The student being tested enters an empty restroom accompanied by an adult monitor of the same sex. Students will produce samples in an enclosed bathroom stall. All coats, hats, purses, and other bags or extra clothing that might be utilized to hide a sample will be left outside the stall. Monitors should listen for normal sounds of urination. Blue coloring will be added to the water in the commode to prevent tampering. After the sample is produced, it is given to the monitor who checks it for temperature and tampering. The vial will be delivered to the athletic director, or his designee, and it will be tested. The sample will be under the supervision of the drug advisory committee at all times.
7. With Independent Testing, the above process will be followed except that the sample will be delivered to the independent drug testing technician who will deliver the sample to the independent lab for testing.
8. Reasonable suspicion testing shall be required of students involved in athletic/spirit groups only by a drug advisory committee consisting of the athletic director and two administrators from the student's school. Each school shall have a separate committee.
9. No student athlete shall be penalized academically for testing positive for alcohol or controlled substances. The results of tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of these tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the District shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student's parent or legal guardian will be notified in writing in a language they understand within 24 hours of receipt of the process by the District.
10. In the absence of the athletic director, the superintendent may designate a district administrator to perform the duties of the athletic director regarding student drug testing.

### **Consequences of a Positive Test**

1. The parent/guardian and student will be notified forthwith of a positive test result. A due process hearing will be conducted by the Drug Advisory Committee with the student/parent/guardian.
2. A. **URINE SCREENING TEST.** If a sample initially tests positive for any substance, the sample will be immediately retested. In the event that the second test reports negative, the sample will be considered negative for reporting purposes. A second positive test will result in the sample being immediately delivered to a SAMHSA certified laboratory for GC/MS confirmation with results provided to the school in one or two days. If the confirmation test is negative, no further action will be taken.

**B. INDEPENDENT AGENCY TEST.** Upon receipt of a positive lab test result from an independent testing agency, student/ parent/guardian may, within 24 hours of notice to them, request a confirmation test of the original sample at their expense. If the second test is negative, no further action will be taken.

3. **First Offense.** Any student, for a first offense, who the District determines has tested positive will be on probation for ninety days. During probation, the student may not participate in athletic/spirit competition or practice until they can produce a negative test according to policy guidelines. Once a negative test result is received, the student will be allowed to resume participation. During probation the student must complete a drug-counseling/rehabilitation program that is recognized and accepted by the District. During probation the student will be tested each month. After ninety days, and if all further test results are negative, probation will be lifted. All testing and drug-counseling/rehabilitation while on probation will be at the expense of the student.
4. **Second Offense.** A positive drug test for a student on probation or who has previously been on probation for a positive test will result in the students loss of participation privileges in athletic/spirit group activities for six months or the rest of the semester, whichever is greater. The student will also be required to complete another drug-counseling/rehabilitation program.
5. **Third Offense.** A positive drug test by a student who has had two prior offenses will result in the student being prohibited from participation in athletic/spirit group activities for the remainder of his/her enrollment in the Russellville School District.
6. The District recognizes that there will be the possibility of trace residual drugs in students who have previously tested positive. The Drug Advisory Committee will take this into consideration when determining second and third offenses.
7. Any student refusing to submit to a drug test will not be allowed to participate in any athletic/spirit group activities for the remainder of the school year or six months, whichever is greater.
8. Student drug test results will be maintained at the District Central Office in a secure file cabinet. No files will be removed from Central Office, and only the Athletic Director and the Superintendent will have access to the files. Records will be destroyed within 6 months of the student's high school graduation.

### **Appeals Process**

All actions for student violations of the drug testing policy may be appealed by the student utilizing the District's appeals process.

**CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT  
REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES  
RUSSELLVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AND  
CONSENT FOR DRUG TESTING**

**Student Name (printed or typed)** \_\_\_\_\_



Circle School

**RHS    RJHS East    RJHS West    RMS East    RMS West**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_ **Grade** \_\_\_\_\_ **Year to Graduate** \_\_\_\_\_

I have received and read the Requirements for Participation in Athletic Activities and the guidelines regarding drug testing in the Russellville School District.

I consent and agree to have any necessary physical examination conducted for participation in athletics/spirit groups.

I consent and agree to the Russellville School District requirements regarding drug testing. I consent and agree that the student named above will participate in initial and random drug testing. I also consent to personal drug testing if school officials have reasonable cause to believe the student is using a controlled substance. This test may be required by the drug advisory committee.

I authorize the Russellville School District to conduct a test on a urine specimen that I provide to test for drug and/or alcohol use. I also authorize the release of information concerning the results of such a test to the Russellville School District and my parents and/or guardians.

This shall be deemed consent pursuant to the Family Education Right to Privacy Act for the release of above information to the parties named above.

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**APPENDIX A  
TO RSD DRUG TEST POLICY**