

# INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS DRUG TESTING POLICY

The term "*athlete*" shall mean and include all athletes, cheerleaders, dancers, student athletic trainers and student athletic managers.

## Introductory Statement

The Administration of Odessa College (OC), as well as its health service professionals, and coaches, strongly believe that the use and/or abuse of the drugs listed later in this policy (excluding those drugs prescribed by a physician to treat a specific medical condition) can:

1. Seriously affect the performance of individuals as students and as athletes;
2. Be detrimental to the physical and mental well being of its student athletes, no matter when such usage should occur during the year;
3. Be dangerous to the athlete and his/her teammates in athletic competition to practice; and
4. Be detrimental to the spirit of fair competition.

Consequently, the use and/or abuse by a student athlete of the drugs listed later in this policy (excluding those drugs prescribed by a physician to treat a specific medical condition when taken in accordance with the prescription), is deemed a violation of the student athlete's intercollegiate athletic team rules and shall subject the student athlete involved to the sanctions provided in this policy.

Therefore, the OC is implementing a drug testing policy for its student athletes.

ATHLETES ARE FREE TO REFUSE TO CONSENT TO DRUG TESTING UNDER THIS POLICY. HOWEVER, ATHLETES WHO DECLINE PARTICIPATION IN THE PROGRAM, WHICH IS DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE HEALTH AND REPUTATION OF THE STUDENT ATHLETE, WILL **NOT** BE ELIGIBLE FOR, **NOR** SHALL BE PERMITTED TO RECEIVE FURTHER SCHOLARSHIPS OR TO PARTICIPATE IN, INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS FOR OC. AN ATHLETE WHO REFUSES TO TEST FOR DRUGS AS PROVIDED IN THIS POLICY, AFTER INITIALLY CONSENTING TO DRUG TESTING, SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE MADE A DECISION **NOT** TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OC PROGRAM AND AGREE TO IMMEDIATELY FORFEIT HIS/HER SCHOLARSHIP.

## Purpose of the Program

The purpose of the college's Substance Abuse Program is not to interfere unduly with the private lives of student athletes. Its primary purpose is to aid the student athletes. Such assistance is consistent with the specific goals of the program which are to:

1. Provide educational counseling concerning the effect of substance abuse on athletic activities;
2. Deter substance abuse by student athletes;
3. Identify, in a confidential way, any participant in the Program who may be abusing a

specific drug;

4. Counsel any participant in this Program so identified regarding such involvement as it may affect him/her and his/her teammates;
5. Encourage the proper treatment of any chronic chemical dependency;
6. Provide reasonable safeguards that every participant in the Program is medically fit to engage in intercollegiate athletic competition; and
7. Encourage discussion at all appropriate levels about use of controlled substances.

Drug test may be conducted for the substances listed below:

### **Type of Drug Testing**

COCAINE  
MARIJUANA  
AMPHETAMINES  
OPIATES  
PHENCYCLIDINE (PCP)  
BARBITURATES  
BENZODIAZEPINES  
METHADONE  
PROPOXYPHENE  
METHAQUALONE  
ALCOHOL  
STEROIDS

Odessa College may drug test by the following methods:

*Entire athletic team*  
*Random*  
*Reasonable cause*  
*Post accident*  
*Return to participation*

### **Entire Athletic Team**

Odessa College may drug test an unlimited number of times, any or all of their athletic teams, including the cheerleaders, dancers, and student athletic trainers, and managers.

### **Random Drug Test**

Odessa College may randomly drug test its athletes, cheerleaders, dancers, student athletic trainers, or student athletic managers one or more times each semester or enrollment period. One member of the team or group for every ten (10) team members may be chosen for random drug testing. Student athletic managers are considered to be a member of the sport for which they work.

Student athletic trainers are considered a separate group from any other team or group. Names of the above mentioned students will be selected by a random selection process.

### **Reasonable Cause Drug Test**

Odessa College may drug test at any time any athlete, with reasonable cause. Reasonable cause is considered:

1. Tardiness or absence from enrolled classes.
2. Tardiness or absence from scheduled practices and games.
3. Inconsistent academic or athletic and performance.
4. Unexplained financial gains.
5. Personality changes or withdrawal from usual activities.
6. Poor conditioning given the time of year.
7. Unexplained depression, euphoria, or hyperactivity.
8. Confrontation with faculty, staff, or administrators of Odessa College
9. Breaking of the general Odessa College rules and regulations, including those of the Residence Hall, or athletic team.
10. Abnormal personal behavior at athletic practices or games.
11. Any behavior requiring police involvement: (DWI, MIP, fighting, etc).
12. Personal acknowledgment.

### **Post Accident Drug Test**

Drug testing may be conducted following any accident. The test shall be made when it has been determined that the student is not in any immediate danger.

### **Positive Test Results**

If the results of a drug test show a positive use of illegal drugs, steroids, or alcohol, a meeting will be scheduled to take place within 48 hours. At the meeting, the student-athlete will be given an opportunity to present any rebuttal evidence or mitigating circumstances he/she feels important. Following the meeting, a decision will be made concerning the student athlete's continued participation in athletics by the Director of Athletics, Assistant AD, the colleges Head Coach or Vice President of Student Services. The student-athlete will not be allowed to participate in any athletic contest until a decision has been made.

The decision will be one of the following:

1. A probationary period for a designated period of time.
2. Suspension from the team for the remainder of the semester or the remainder of the school year.
3. Removal from the team.
4. Loss of scholarship.
5. Other disciplinary actions by Head Coach or V.P. of Student Services in accordance with college policy.

Furthermore, if the results of drug test show a positive use of illegal drugs, steroids, or alcohol, the specimen of that athlete can be retested. Athletes can be retested to ensure that the athlete continues to be drug free.

### **Return to Participation Drug Testing**

Return to Participation Drug Testing will be conducted when:

Before an athlete, who has tested positive, can return to participate in a sport, he/she must be retested.

Any Head Coach, V.P. of Student Services, Head Athletic Trainer, Director of Athletics, or designated Administrator, can request a "Reasonable Cause", "Post Accident" or "Return to Participation" drug test.

Odessa College's Athletic Substance Abuse Program administrator is its Head Athletic Trainer.

Specimen collection and processing will be carried out by the College's current drug testing provider, however, Odessa College reserves the right to use another drug testing company if it so desires.

The name and address of the company selected to do drug testing will be provided upon request.

Every practical effort will be made to assure the accuracy and confidentiality of the test results. The records will be secured by the Head Athletic Trainer.