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Parents: Ask Questions and Become Informed about RSDT

School policies vary so be sure you understand your schools policies. The answers below are typical of well-run RSDT programs.

How will the drug test be administered?

The test should be administered in a timely fashion, immediately after the student is notified that he or she has been randomly selected that day.

Where will the test be administered?

On-site testing should be conducted in a private setting such as a restroom or nurse's office. Off-site testing is usually carried out at a laboratory facility. The student's privacy will be taken into account when the test is administered.

When will my child be tested?

Your child should be tested at a reasonable and acceptable time. For example: not during scholastic examinations.

Who will know the results of the drug test?

The school will keep results of drug tests confidential and the personnel who will know about results will be specifically designated in the school's drug testing policy. However, it is common for students to tell others about their test results.

Will I know what day my child will be tested?

No. Random drug testing programs are effective deterrents because no one knows when he or she may be tested.

How will I be notified of the results?

This depends on the policy of your school.

Who will administer the drug test?

Trained staff will obtain the sample from the student. Generally, laboratory personnel will obtain the sample or if a school administrator or nurse is collecting the sample, that person will be trained in proper collection procedures.

Will positive results be confirmed?

Positive results should be confirmed by a Medical Review Officer (MRO) in order to rule out a positive laboratory result as a result of prescribed medicines. If the MRO determines the initial test is positive due to legally prescribed drugs, the test is officially reported to the school as negative and no further action is taken.

What will happen to my child's record when he/she leaves the school?

Records for random student drug testing should be kept in confidential files separate from all other school records. When the student graduates or leaves the school, these records should be destroyed.

Will student drug testing results affect future educational and professional opportunities?

Results from random student drug tests are strictly confidential and are protected by federal law for public schools [See [FERPA](#) and [PPRA](#)]. Colleges will not ask for drug test results, nor can results be released to them. Records are maintained separately from other records and should be destroyed after the student leaves the school.