

Health Professionals' Services Program Program Guidelines

Title: Toxicology Testing Exemptions

Pages: 2

Revision Date: 4/27/2021; 5/15/2013; 4/19/2013; 9/25/2012; 11/16/2010

Guideline:

- 1 **11/16/10-Requirement determined in conjunction with the Health Professionals' Service**
- 2 **Program committee comprised of representatives of the Department of Human Services, and**
- 3 **the Board of Dentistry, Board of Nursing, Board of Pharmacy, and Medical Board.**

- 4 **9/25/12 –Requirement revisions accepted by the Advisory Committee comprised of**
- 5 **representatives from the Oregon Health Authority, the Board of Dentistry, the Board of**
- 6 **Nursing, Board of Pharmacy and Medical Board.**

- 7 1. A Licensee may request a travel exemption from toxicology testing if all of the following conditions
- 8 have been met:
 - 9 a. The request must be made at least two weeks prior to time requested. Testing requests not
 - 10 made within the two-week timeframe may not be considered.
 - 11 b. The licensee must give HPSP the dates requested, and the city, state, and zip code of where
 - 12 the licensee will be staying. HPSP may request a copy of the licensee's itinerary or proof of
 - 13 travel.
 - 14 c. The request must be for travel in an area where checking the daily testing notification
 - 15 system (using either the integrated voice response (IVR) system, website or app) is not
 - 16 possible and/or a collection site is not available within a 20-mile radius.
 - 17 d. The licensee must have a minimum of 9 months in a monitoring program. If the licensee was
 - 18 in a **residential** treatment program 2 weeks prior to licensee's entrance to the monitoring
 - 19 program, the time spent in the treatment program will be included in the 9 month
 - 20 calculation. **Other treatment modalities may be considered as part of the 9 month**
 - 21 **calculation if the treatment included random, observed toxicology testing.**
 - 22 e. The Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) must approve all requests for toxicology testing
 - 23 exemptions within the two weeks prior to the licensee's estimated date of completion, as
 - 24 the licensee must be available to participate in required program completion activities
 - 25 during that time.
 - 26 f. The licensee must have a record of compliance with his/her monitoring agreement and
 - 27 addendums. A licensee must have a minimum of nine months in the HPSP program from the

- 28 time of the closure of a **non-excused** report of substantial non-compliance to be eligible to
29 request a testing exemption.
- 30 g. All treatment providers must approve the licensee's request, in addition to the licensee's
31 agreement monitor. If the agreement monitor has questions if the request meets the
32 requirements of the Guidelines, the agreement monitor may review the case at the
33 Agreement Monitors meeting or consult with a manager.
- 34 h. The licensee will be required to have a toxicology test upon return from testing exemption.
- 35 2. A licensee is able to use up to 21 testing exemption days per year, except in the first year of the
36 program. For the first year, the licensee may not request exemption days until the licensee has been
37 in the program and compliant for nine months. For the remaining 3 months of the licensee's first
38 year in the program, the licensee will be entitled to 10 exemption days. At the licensee's annual
39 review date, which is the anniversary of the date of full enrollment, the licensee will be entitled to
40 21 exemption days. For licensees who have previously planned longer vacations during the last
41 three months of their first year, the requests may be reviewed and approved at the agreement
42 monitor meeting or staffed with a supervisor on a case by case basis.
- 43 3. If a testing exemption is not approved, then the standard vacation policy applies as follows:
- 44 a. The licensee may travel to a location where the licensee is able to call the Interactive Voice
45 Response (IVR) or log on to the website or app on a daily basis.
- 46 b. The licensee must make a request for collection sites at least two weeks in advance of the
47 proposed travel.
- 48 c. The licensee needs to give the monitoring program the dates of travel, and the city, state
49 and zip code of where the licensee will be staying.
- 50 d. Licensee will need to take a paper Chain of Custody form to the collection site. No travel kit
51 is needed.
- 52 4. The daily testing notification system (accessible via the IVR, website or app) is accessible from
53 3:00am Pacific Time to 5:00pm Pacific Time. If the system is contacted prior to 3:00am or after
54 5:00pm, the licensee will NOT receive their individualized testing message; rather a message will
55 inform each licensee that they've contacted the IVR outside the hours of operation.