

Delta State University Drug Testing Policy

The Delta State University Athletic Department in addition to the administration of Delta State University “is committed to maintaining a drug-free environment” for their student athletes. Unfortunately, the use of illegal drugs and misuse of prescribed drugs are present in today’s society. Delta State University does not condone these activities, therefore the following policies and procedures are set forth for drug testing student-athletes. Testing will be conducted throughout the academic year.

1. Prohibited Substances:

The specific drug test *may or may not* include all the following list of banned substances:

- NCAA Banned substance list
 - o A list of banned-drug classes may be found at www.ncaa.org, or is available in the athletic training room.
- PCP, THC, Cocaine, Opioids, Benzodiazepines, Amphetamines, Barbituates

2. Eligible Participants:

The following methods of selection will be used when determining those student-athletes who will be selected for drug testing. A student-athlete is defined as one who is listed on the athletic department squad list.

- A. *Random Sampling:* Student-athletes names will be randomly selected using a computer generated roster from the Office of the *President and/ Director of Athletics*.
- B. *Reasonable Suspicion:* A student-athlete can be requested to be placed on the roster for a specific drug test by his/her coach, athletic administrator, or another athletic department or university official who is concerned about an athlete having a possible substance abuse/misuse problem. The requestee’s reasonable suspicion must be based on specific, contemporaneous, articulate observation concerning the appearance, behavior, and speech or body odors of the student athlete. Further indications that may warrant reasonable suspicion are as follows;
 - 1. Reduced quality of academic or athletic performance
 - 2. Patterns of unexcused absences from academic classes or athletic meetings
 - 3. Inability to get along with others; excessive withdrawal or isolation
 - 4. Frequent tardiness to academic classes or athletic meetings
 - 5. Decreases manual dexterity
 - 6. Impaired short-term memory
 - 7. Periods of unusual hyperactivity, irritability, or drowsiness
 - 8. Presence or possession of illegal or controlled drugs or drug related paraphernalia by a student athlete

- * The person submitting the request for testing must do so in written form stating what the suspicious activity was and when.

C. *Prior Offender*: Any student –athlete, who has previously tested positive on a prior drug screening, had past involvement in drug related activities or an admitted drug problem may also be placed on the testing roster.

3. Notification Process:

Delta State University has the right to use either of the following notification systems when alerting student-athletes about being selected for drug testing.

A). A representative from the athletic department (athletic training room) at Delta State University will contact you no sooner than 12 hours prior to the set testing time. At this time of notification you will be asked to report to testing site at the selected time.

B). Delta State University Athletics *may also* use a **NO NOTIFICATION** system, whereby a representative from the athletic department will physically contact you requesting your presence at the drug testing site. The student-athlete will be escorted to the site by the representative of Delta State University's Athletic Department.

Failure to accompany the athletic department representative, failure to appear at the designated time, failure to provide an adequate sample, or tampering with a sample in any way will result in a positive result. The student-athlete will be given a copy of the drug testing consent form he/she signed at the beginning of the academic year or physical year depending on their arrival to Delta State, if they wish. This is to re-confirm the drug testing policies and procedures, and consequences of a positive result. If the student-athlete leaves the site prior to completion of the test, the test will be considered positive.

4. Test Administration:

The drug test and the processing of the specimens will be conducted by the lab personnel at Bolivar Medical Center. The testing site will take place on the Delta State University campus or at the Bolivar Medical Center.

5. Positive Test:

A drug screening test will be considered positive once the confirmation by a second independent laboratory of the initial specimen that was provided to the lab at Bolivar Medical Center has been completed. A positive test is defined as a test which indicates in the opinion of the outside private laboratory performing the testing, that the student-athlete has used a prohibited or controlled substance based on traces of that substance detected in the student-athlete's urine specimen. A drug screening test will also be considered positive if it is discovered by the outside laboratory that the provided urine sample has been altered or where foreign substances have been added to the sample in an effort to destroy or disguise traces of prohibited substances. A drug screening test will also be considered positive if the athlete refuses to take the test, or attempts to alter or substitute their specimen by any additional methods.

6. Response to Positive Results:

- *First Positive:* The student-athlete will be suspended from his/her sport from all practices, games, and conditioning or individual sessions for no less than 30 activity days. The student-athlete will be required to attend counseling session with University Counseling. The student-athlete will be tested no sooner than 30 days from the first positive test. At which time the student athlete can be reinstated if he/she tests negative for the banned substance if the head sport coach so chooses to reinstate the athlete in question.
- *Second Positive:* If the student-athlete tests positive a second time during his/her career at Delta State he/she will be suspended from the team and a loss of scholarship will occur for 365 calendar days from the date of the positive test. During this time the student-athlete is to have ***no association with team activities*** such as off season conditioning/practice, and in-season conditioning/practice. Upon completion of the suspension the student-athlete will be allowed to return to his/her chosen sport(s) at the discretion of the head sport coach provided they test negative on a drug screening test. If this test is positive the student-athlete has garnered a third positive result.
- *Third Positive:* If the student-athlete tests positive a third time he/she will be permanently suspended from any involvement with collegiate athletics at Delta State University.

7. Additional Conditions and Regulations:

- i. The possibility of a student-athlete testing positive on a drug screening test will begin with the first day of his/her attendance at Delta State and ends when he/she exhausts his/her NCAA eligibility.
- ii. If the student-athlete tests positive for the first time and there is less than 30 days remaining in his/her actual season that concludes with the final game played the suspension will carry over until the next semester and will begin upon the start of mandatory team activities.
- iii. If the student-athlete is participating in a winter sport in which competition occurs over the semester break the suspension will run consecutive days in which mandatory team activities take place, unless there is a break of a week or more with no practice or competition and the suspension will be postponed until the team returns and mandatory team activities begin.
- iv. Suspension cannot be served concurrently with any injury/illness. The return from an injury/illness will be determined by a medical doctor.
- v. A separate NCAA drug test that reveals a positive result after an initial positive Delta State University drug test will be considered a second positive drug test and the student-athlete in question will be subject to the penalties outlined in this document as a second positive result.
- vi. Any Delta State University drug test that reveals a positive result after a separate initial positive NCAA drug test will be considered a second positive drug test and the student-athlete in question will be subject to the penalties outlined in this document.
- vii. If the student-athlete re-tests and tests positive for the same banned substance or in which there is the same or an increase in amount of that particular substance, the test will considered positive for a second time,

thus imposing the penalties of a second positive result. A second positive will also be considered if the athlete tests positive for an additional banned substance upon re-testing from the initial suspension.

- viii. Delta State University Athletic Department will conduct random drug testing of all athletes participating on a varsity sports team. Testing will be conducted multiple times during the academic year. Testing dates will be selected on a random basis. The selection will be done using random sampling from a computer generated program. Furthermore, additional subjects may be tested under the reasonable suspicion criteria or if they are a prior offender (See Section 2-B of Policy).
- ix. In the event a student-athlete tests positive and will therefore have to submit a second sample at the end of his/her suspension he/she will be required to submit this sample under the same protocol as the initial sample. He/she will not be permitted to submit a sample directly to the lab and return the results to Delta State University. In the event this occurs the student-athlete will be suspended and additional 30 days and will then submit a second sample at that time.
- x. The student-athlete is required to stay in Cleveland, MS for at least 12 hours after submitting an initial drug testing sample in the event a second sample must be collected due to discrepancies with the initial sample.
- xi. The student-athlete must declare any medications and supplements that they are currently taking or have taken at the time of the initial test on the forms that are provided. Furthermore he/she must declare any food products that they have recently consumed in which he/she believes could cause a false positive drug test. The student-athlete will not be permitted to declare any of this information after the results of the test have been revealed unless there is significant scientific information to support his/her claim.
- xii. In the event a student-athlete confesses that he/she has been under the influence of a banned substance after learning of their notification of testing, his/her test will be considered positive and will not be required to submit a sample. He/she will follow the terms listed above for the consequences of their actions for a positive test.
- xiii. In the event a student-athlete is questioned by law enforcement personnel with the suspicion of drug use or is caught with banned substances or associated paraphernalia he/she will be subject to the terms and consequences of this policy for a positive test.

8. Terms of Notification:

If a Delta State University drug test returns as positive, a faculty/staff athletic trainer will notify the athletic director who will in turn notify the head sport coach in which the student-athlete participates. The athletic director, head coach, and a faculty/staff athletic trainer will then in turn meet with the student-athlete to discuss the terms of the suspension. A certified letter will be sent from the athletic director to the parent/guardian notifying them of the results and consequences.

By signing this document I hereby attest that I have read and fully understand the policies and procedures associated with drug testing at Delta State University. In addition, I declare that I will consent to the possibility of being subject to drug testing. Failure to sign this document will result in the inability to participate in athletics at Delta State University.

Signature of Athlete: _____

Date: _____

Effective March 1, 2004
Modified August 1, 2005