

2.2 Substance Abuse and Drug Testing

(Reviewed 11/3/2023)

The UT Tyler School of Nursing (SON) is committed to maintaining a drug-free academic and work environment consistent with and in furtherance of UT Tyler's [Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy](#) for UT Tyler Students.

Failure of any drug screening or refusal to test may result in dismissal from the program. Failure to undergo a drug screen on the designated day will result in immediate withdrawal from the nursing program. Pursuant to the Nurse Practice Act (§301.404), the SON will submit a written report to the Texas Board of Nursing of any enrolled student with a positive drug screen.

Refer to items in the [Texas BON Unprofessional Conduct Rule 217.12](#).

2.2.1 Pre-Admission Drug Testing

All students enrolled in SON clinical programs must complete a urine drug screen prior to entry into the first semester of nursing courses. Drug screens are at the student's expense and must be conducted at drug testing facilities designated by the SON. Positive results are kept confidential and will be shared with the appropriate program director or site coordinator and nursing academic advisor.

Positive results require additional research that is conducted by Castle Branch and will require the donor (student) to be contacted to provide a prescription. Students must provide documentation within the time frame determined by Castle Branch (usually 3 days). Students with positive results that are not a medically verifiable reason will be dismissed from the program. If there is a medically verified reason for the positive result, the result will be changed to "negative."

2.2.2 Random Drug Testing

Random Drug Screens will be conducted on each campus each semester and screening will be paid for by the School of Nursing. A percentage of students will be randomly chosen by a third party for testing. The program director, site coordinator, or clinical experience liaison will contact the students 72 hours before the testing deadline by the student's patriots email account. Selected students will be provided with the ordering instructions, and a guide that will direct selected students to available collection sites.

See above "**Positive Results**" for consequences of a positive finding.

2.2.3 Testing for Cause

On the spot, for cause drug/alcohol screening may be requested by the faculty as deemed necessary. For cause screening will be paid for by the School of Nursing. Refusal to test may result in dismissal from the program. Pursuant to the Nurse Practice Act (§301.404), the SON will submit a written report to the Texas Board of Nursing of any enrolled student with a positive drug screen.

See above "**Positive Results**" for consequences of a positive finding.