

INDIANA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy/Procedure

Policy/Procedure S-06

The ISBVI Board believes that maintaining an environment that is safe, free from substance use/abuse, and conducive to learning is an important goal for the school and the community. The Board recognizes its responsibility to address drug and alcohol problems in the school. The Board believes that the parent(s) and the school must work together to educate, encourage and support students in an attempt to prevent their illegal use of drugs and alcohol. The Board believes that parents want to know when their children are using drugs or alcohol.

As used in this policy, the terms "substance use/abuse," "drug or alcohol use or abuse," "drug or alcohol problems" or similar phrases include, without limitation, the following:

- Use or under the influence of any drug, intoxicant, controlled substance or other substance made unlawful by law or regulation, including tobacco and tobacco related products;
- Use or under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or similar intoxicant;
- Use of any prescription medication or legend drug not strictly in accordance with the direction of a licensed physician;
- Use of any non-prescription or over-the-counter medication or of any other substance, legal or illegal (including anabolic steroids), in a way that impairs or alters mood, motor skills or mental functions (except use of a substance strictly in accordance with the direction of a licensed physician).

The term "use" means consuming, ingesting, drinking, injecting, demonstrating, inhaling, or smoking drugs or alcohol.

The term "under the influence" means any positive test that was administered under this policy.

The term "alcohol" means ethyl alcohol and includes all beverages, mixtures, medications, inhalants, or preparations which contain ethyl alcohol.

The term "drug" means any substance that has known mind or function altering effects upon the human body or that impairs one's ability to safely and adequately perform his or her work, and specifically includes, but is not limited to, all prescription and over-the-counter medications, all psychoactive substances, all controlled substances, all substances illegal under Federal or Indiana law, all synthetic, counterfeit, or designer drugs, all "look alike" drugs, all drug paraphernalia and nicotine.

The Student Drug and Alcohol Testing policy and program at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired for students in grades 5-12 is established for the following purposes:

- To ensure the safety and security of our schools;
- To discourage and reduce use of drugs and alcohol at school, at school-related events and activities, to and from school and during non-school times;
- To provide students and parents with information on ways to prevent drug and/or alcohol use/abuse;
- To identify students who might have drug and/or alcohol problems;
- To assist students and parents in seeking assessment, and treatment (if necessary) when a student has a drug and/or alcohol problem;
- To allow for effective transition of students back into school after treatment.

Students who use or abuse drugs and/or alcohol often exhibit negative behaviors and other indicators of their problem. These indicators can include, but are not limited to the following:

- Mood swings
- Aggressive (including fighting) or lethargic behavior
- Smoking
- Risk-taking behavior
- Paranoia
- Falling grades
- Bragging or talking to other students about drug and/or alcohol use
- Psychosis
- Loss of interest in school and in favorite activities
- Significant deterioration in grades or attendance
- Significant deterioration in grooming
- Truancy, excessive tardiness and/or excessive absence
- Isolation from friends and family members
- Depression and/or entire withdrawal

As used in this policy, "reasonable suspicion" includes observation or detection of the negative behaviors and actions set out above as indicators of a problem; specific observations or detections concerning the appearance, behavior, body odors or speech of a student; information received by the principal from teachers, parents, students, employees, or detection devices; the past record of a student in connection with any of the above listed factors; an accident involving a motor vehicle (cars, motorcycles, motor bikes, etc.) before, during or after school hours on school premises; in any school owned vehicle or in any other school approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; on or off school property at any school sponsored or school approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school; or during any period of time students are under the supervision of employees who are working on behalf of the school or otherwise engaged in school business.

The school has the right to request an appropriate specimen such as urine, breath, saliva, sweat, or any other specimen deemed reasonable in conducting drug and alcohol tests.

Students will be required to submit to a drug and alcohol test in accordance with rules and regulations to be developed by the Superintendent in the following circumstances:

1. The student is believed to have violated or is violating the school policy and/or the school rules pertaining to use, possession, and/or being under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol.
2. If an administrator, teacher or other staff member has reasonable suspicion that a student might be using drugs and/or alcohol.

The results of the drug and alcohol test will be provided to the Superintendent or his/her designee who will share the results with the parent. If the results are positive, the school social worker will proceed as follows:

1. **First Positive Test** - The results of the test will be provided to both the parent and the principal. If the parent wants a retest administered on the same sample, the full cost of the retest shall be borne by the parent. The school social worker will work with the parent to provide guidance in seeking assessment and/or treatment, as an alternative to expulsion. Students testing positive will be placed on probation. Failure to participate in any recommended program for assistance and treatment will result in a recommendation of expulsion.
2. **Second Positive Test** - When any student tests positive a second time (not including a prior retest that was paid by the parent), the student will be suspended, and the school will initiate a request for the student's expulsion. The cost for the second positive test shall be the responsibility of the parent. The results of the second positive test will be provided to both the parent and the principal. If the parent wants a retest administered on the sample, the full cost of the retest shall be borne by the parent.

A student's refusal to submit to a drug and alcohol test or to provide a valid specimen will be considered an admission of a violation of school policy or school rules pertaining to the use and possession of drugs or alcohol. If the laboratory reports the presence of an adulterant in the specimen provided, the school shall deem it a refusal to provide a valid specimen. This violation of school policy and/or school rules will be dealt with according to suspension and expulsion protocol.

In an effort to encourage and motivate students to refrain from the illegal use of drugs and alcohol, the Board may institute a voluntary drug and alcohol-testing program for students. Any student who has a drug and/or alcohol related problem may request assistance through the principal or the school social worker. A student who makes a self-referral or requests assistance prior to a first positive drug test will be assisted by the school social worker in identifying programs and treatment options. This provision does not apply to students who make such

requests after they have been notified of the requirement to submit to a drug and alcohol test or to provide a specimen under this policy. Self-referrals after a positive drug test may be assigned to the school social worker to receive assistance in finding treatment options and shall be subject to the same discipline procedures as students testing positive under the "reasonable suspicion" program.

The ISBVI Board prohibits the use and/or possession of tobacco by students in school buildings, on school grounds, on school buses, or participating in any school-related event.

For purposes of this policy, "tobacco" shall mean all tobacco products including cigars, cigarettes, pipes, snuff, chewing tobacco or any product made from tobacco whether for smoking, chewing, or both, or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco.

The administration will take appropriate disciplinary action in cases involving students who use tobacco in violation of this policy.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop administrative guidelines, including the staff development of personnel and the use of educational materials for students and parent(s) to fully implement all aspects of this policy.

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