

**[ DDB BOARD REGULATION NO. 3, S. 2009, June 03, 2009 ]**

**GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF RANDOM DRUG TESTING FOR STUDENTS OF SECONDARY, TERTIARY, VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, AMENDING BOARD REGULATION NO. 6, SERIES OF 2003**

WHEREAS, Section 36 (c), Article III of Republic Act 9165, mandates that the students of secondary and tertiary schools shall undergo drug testing and that all drug testing expenses whether in public or private schools under this Section will be borne by the government;

WHEREAS, government already implemented a similar random drug testing activity in 2005 for secondary level students, and in 2007, for tertiary level students;

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend provisions of the implementing guidelines in order to adopt new policy directives and remedy perceived ambiguities in the previous issuance;

WHEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, as it is hereby RESOLVED, to amend Board Regulation No. 6, series of 2003 specifically the following provisions thereof:

**SECTION 1. Subject, is hereby amended by including "students of vocational and technical schools", as among those covered by the guidelines which should now read as follows:**

**Subject: "GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT OF RANDOM DRUG TESTING FOR STUDENTS OF SECONDARY, TERTIARY, VOCATIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS"**

**SECTION 2. Letter A "Guiding Principles in the implementation of Random Drug Testing in Schools and Management of Drug Test Results" is hereby amended by adding another paragraph as paragraph number 12.**

**12. Random drug testing for students is considered by the government as entirely a "health" issue and aims to provide appropriate interventions, to those who will be tested positive for dangerous drug use, which will help the student stop further use and/or abuse of the substance.**

**SECTION 3. Letter C "DEFINITION OF TERMS" is hereby amended to include the terms "CHAIN OF CUSTODY, INTERVENTIONS and LABORATORY, which shall be defined as follows:**

**CHAIN OF CUSTODY** - refers to procedures to account for each specimen by tracking its handling and storage from point of collection to final disposal. These procedures require that the applicant's identity is confirmed and that a Custody and Control Form is used from time of collection to receipt by the laboratory. Within the laboratory, appropriate chain of custody records must account for the samples until disposal.

**INTERVENTIONS** - are therapeutic programs appropriate for high-risk individuals/students who are using dangerous drugs and who need special assistance to recognize the signs and symptoms of initial drug use and dependency. It may include corrective or rehabilitative actions that may take the form of crisis intervention, peer counseling, peer leadership programs, parent/peer groups, or psychological counseling at the individual or family level and structured rehabilitation programs. It may also include medical intervention of the afflicted student whenever necessary.

**LABORATORY** - refers to a DOH-Accredited private or government facility that is capable of testing a specimen to determine the presence of dangerous drugs therein.

**SECTION 4. Letter D "PROCEDURES IN THE CONDUCT OF RANDOM DRUG TESTING" is hereby amended such that:**

**Item 2.a should read as: "The Supervising Agency shall inform all schools on their inclusion in the random drug testing program."**

**Item 4. On Treatment of Random Drug Test Results is hereby amended in its entirety such that it shall read as follows:**

**4. TREATMENT OF RANDOM DRUG TEST RESULTS**

- a. The results of the test shall be strictly confidential. No school shall publish or post results whether positive or negative.**
- b. Any person who violates the rules of confidentiality of the results and selection shall be liable under Section 72 of RA 9165 and such other appropriate laws.**
- c. In case the test results are positive at the screening level, the same specimen shall immediately be submitted for confirmation observing all strict chain of custody procedures and confidentiality of records.**

**d. If a student is "confirmed" to be using a dangerous drug, the following shall be observed:**

**i. The Laboratory, places results in a sealed envelop for transmission to the Central Office of the Supervising Agency**

**ii. The Supervising Agency shall then transmit the results to the concerned school/institution by informing the particular school/institution's random drug testing (RDT) Coordinator previously assigned by the selection board.**

**1. The Supervising Agency shall remind the RDT Coordinator of the confidential nature of the results and strict handling of the "chain of custody" of the information should be observed.**

**iii. The school/institution's RDT Coordinator shall then inform the parent and the student of the results and how the information is regarded with utmost secrecy and confidentiality.**

**1. The Coordinator shall remind the student that divulging the results with anybody will be at his own risk; and**

**2. That if possible, the information should remain in the confines of their house.**

**iv. The parent, the RDT Coordinator and the student shall then prepare for a case conference to discuss issues of drug use and possible dependency.**

**v. The Drug Testing Coordinator shall refer the student and his/her parent to a government-owned**

**DOH-accredited facility or DOH-accredited government physician to determine the student's dependency level.**

**vi. A date and venue shall be selected for the case conference**

**1. Date should be agreeable to all concerned in the case conference (Parent, Student, RDT Coordinator and the DOH Accredited Physician).**

**2. Venue should have a semblance of privacy (preferably in a room, with an office table where group discussions and individual sessions can be done).**

**3. Whichever is more convenient for the student and parent, venue could be as follows:**

**a. Regional Office or hospital of the DOH**

**b. Regional Office of the Supervising Agency**

**c. Other designated venue which can assure privacy**

**vii. The RDT Coordinator shall inform Supervising Agency Central Office coordinator on the possible dates and venue for further discussions of options.**

**viii. Once, finalized, the group shall proceed as planned with the case conference.**

**1. Drug dependency level of the student shall be**