



Drug Testing in the Workplace

The vast majority of drug users are employed, and when they arrive for work, they don't leave their problems at the door. Of the 17.2 million illicit drug users aged 18 or older in recent years, 12.9 million (74.8 percent) were employed either full or part-time. Furthermore, research indicates that between 10 and 20 percent of the nation's workers who die on the job test positive for alcohol or other drugs. In fact, industries with the highest rates of drug use are the same as those at a high risk for occupational injuries, such as construction, mining, manufacturing, and wholesale.

Drug Testing

Some employers decide to drug test employees for a variety of reasons, such as deterring and detecting drug use, as well as providing concrete evidence for intervention, referral to treatment, and/or disciplinary action. Before deciding to conduct testing, employers should consider a few factors, including:

Who will be tested? Options may include all staff, job applicants, and/or employees in safety-sensitive positions.

When will tests be conducted? Possibilities including pre-employment, upon reasonable suspicion or for cause, post-accident, randomly, periodically, and post-rehabilitation.

Which drugs will be tested for? Options including testing applicants and employees for illegal drugs and testing employees for a broader range of substance, including alcohol and certain prescription drugs.

How will tests be conducted? Different testing modes are available, and many states have laws that dictate which may and may not be used.

The key thing here is that drug testing is part of the work place environment and not just pre-screening new employees, but can be administered if there are suspicions of use or after an accident in the workplace has occurred. We are able to supply options for drug testing in these circumstances. We do sell tests and screens for marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, methamphetamines, opiates, and alcohol.

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