



*Adopted: June, 1996*

*EMID 6067 Board Policy 416*

*Revised: March 15, 2006; December, 2014; February 15, 2017*

## **416 DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING**

### **I. PURPOSE**

- A. EMID recognizes the significant problems created by drug and alcohol use in society in general, and public schools in particular. The Board further recognizes the important contribution and responsibility the public schools have in shaping the youth of today into the adults of tomorrow.
- B. The Board believes that a work environment free of drug and alcohol use will not only be safer, healthier, and more productive, but will also be more conducive to effective learning. To provide and maintain such an environment, the Board hereby requires all employees and/or job applicants to submit to drug and alcohol testing in accordance with the provisions of this policy and as provided in federal law and Minn. Stat. §§ 181.950-181.957 .

### **II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

- A. EMID may request or require that any school district employee or job applicant, submit to drug and alcohol testing in accordance with the provisions of this policy and as provided in Minn. Stat. §§ 181.950-181.957.
- B. The use, possession, sale, purchase, transfer, or dispensing of any drugs not medically prescribed, including medical cannabis, regardless of whether it has been prescribed for the employee, is prohibited at EMID integration programs, and at any EMID sponsored program or event. Use of drugs which are not medically prescribed, including medical cannabis, regardless of whether it has been prescribed for the employee, is also prohibited throughout the school or work day, including lunch or other breaks, whether or not the employee is on or off EMID district or integration program property. Employees under the influence of drugs which are not medically prescribed are prohibited from entering or remaining on EMID district or integration program property.
- C. The use, possession, sale, purchase, transfer, or dispensing of alcohol is prohibited on EMID district and integration program property, and at any EMID sponsored program or event. Use of alcohol is also prohibited throughout the school or workday, including lunch or other breaks, whether or not the employee is on or off EMID district or and integration program property. Employees under the influence of alcohol are prohibited from entering or remaining on EMID district or integration program property.



- D. Any employee who violates this policy shall be subject to discipline which includes, but is not limited to, immediate suspension or discharge.

### **III. FEDERALLY MANDATED DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FOR SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS**

#### **A. General Statement of Policy**

It shall be the responsibility of EMID member districts to comply with federal and state statute for drug and alcohol testing of bus drivers.

### **IV. DRUG AND ALCOHOL TESTING FOR OTHER EMPLOYEES**

EMID may request or require drug and alcohol testing for employees or job applicants. EMID does not have a legal duty to request or require any employee or job applicant to undergo drug and alcohol testing as authorized in this policy, except for school bus drivers and other drivers of Commercial Motor Vehicles who are subject to federally mandated testing implemented by member districts.

#### **A. Circumstances Under Which Drug or Alcohol Testing May Be Requested or Required:**

##### **1. General Limitations**

- a. EMID will not request or require an employee or job applicant whose position does not require a commercial driver's license to undergo drug or alcohol testing, unless the testing is done pursuant to this drug and alcohol testing policy; and is conducted by a testing laboratory which participates in one of the programs listed in Minn. Stat. § 181.953, Subd. 1.
- b. The district will not request or require an employee or job applicant whose position does not require a commercial driver's license to undergo drug and alcohol testing on an arbitrary and capricious basis.

##### **2. Job Applicant Testing**

EMID may request or require any job applicant whose position does not require a commercial driver's license to undergo drug and alcohol testing, provided a job offer has been made to the applicant and the same test is requested or required of all job applicants conditionally offered employment for that position. If a job applicant has received a job offer which is contingent on the applicant's passing drug and alcohol testing, EMID may not withdraw the offer based on a positive test result from an initial screening test that has not been verified by a confirmatory test. In



the event the job offer is subsequently withdrawn, EMID shall notify the job applicant of the reason for its action.

3. Random Testing

EMID may request or require employees to undergo drug and alcohol testing on a random selection basis only if they are employed in safety-sensitive positions.

4. Reasonable Suspicion Testing

EMID may request or require any employee to undergo drug and alcohol testing if there is reasonable suspicion that the employee:

- a. is under the influence of drugs or alcohol; or
- b. has violated the district's written work rules prohibiting the use, possession, sale, or transfer of drugs or alcohol while the employee is working or while the employee is on the district's premises or operating the district's vehicles, machinery, or equipment;
- c. has sustained a personal injury, as that term is defined in Minn. Stat. § 176.011, subd. 16, or has caused another employee to sustain a personal injury; or
- d. has caused a work-related accident or was operating or helping to operate machinery, equipment, or vehicles involved in a work-related accident.

5. Treatment Program Testing

EMID may request or require any employee to undergo drug and alcohol testing if the employee has been referred by EMID for chemical dependency treatment or evaluation or is participating in a chemical dependency treatment program under an employee benefit plan, in which case the employee may be requested or required to undergo drug and alcohol testing without prior notice during the evaluation or treatment period and for a period of up to two (2) years following successful completion of any prescribed chemical dependency treatment program.

6. Routine Physical Examination Testing

EMID may request or require any employee to undergo drug and alcohol testing as part of a routine physical examination provided the drug or alcohol test is requested or required no more than once annually and the employee has been given at least two weeks' written notice that a drug or



alcohol test may be requested or required as part of the physical examination.

B. No Legal Duty to Test

EMID does not have a legal duty to request or require any employee or job applicant whose position does not require a commercial driver's license to undergo drug and alcohol testing.

C. Definitions

1. "Drug" means a controlled substance as defined in Minnesota Statutes, including medical cannabis, regardless of enrollment in the state registry program.
2. "Drug and alcohol testing," "drug or alcohol testing," and "drug or alcohol test" mean analysis of a body component sample according to the standards established under one of the programs listed in Minn. Stat. § 181.953, Subd. 1, for the purpose of measuring the presence or absence of drugs, alcohol, or their metabolites in the sample tested.
3. "Other Employees" means any persons, independent contractors, or persons working for an independent contractor who perform services for EMID for compensation, either full time or part time, in whatever form, except for persons whose positions require a commercial driver's license, and includes both licensed professional and certified personnel. Persons whose positions require a commercial driver's license are primarily governed by the provisions of the school district's drug and alcohol testing policy relating to school bus drivers (Section III.).
4. "Job applicant" means a person, independent contractor, or person working for an independent contractor who applies to become an employee of EMID in a position that does not require a commercial driver's license, and includes a person who has received a job offer made contingent on the person's passing drug or alcohol testing.
5. "Positive test result" means a finding of the presence of drugs, alcohol, or their metabolites in the sample tested in levels at or above the threshold detection levels contained in the standards of one of the programs listed in Minn. Stat. § 181.953, Subd. 1.
6. "Random selection basis" means a mechanism for selection of employees that:
  - a. results in an equal probability that any employee from a group of employees subject to the selection mechanism will be selected; and



b. does not give EMID discretion to waive the selection of any employee selected under the mechanism.

7. “Reasonable suspicion” means a basis for forming a belief based on specific facts and rational inferences drawn from those facts.

8. “Safety-sensitive position” means a job, including any supervisory or management position, in which an impairment caused by drug or alcohol usage could threaten the health or safety of any person.

D. Right of Other Employee or Job Applicant to Refuse Drug and Alcohol Testing and Consequences of Such Refusal

1. Right of Other Employee or Job Applicant to Refuse Drug and Alcohol Testing

Any employee or job applicant whose position does not require a commercial driver’s license has the right to refuse drug and alcohol testing subject to the provisions contained in Paragraphs 2. and 3. of this Section D.

2. Consequences of an Employee’s Refusal to Undergo Drug and Alcohol Testing

Any employee in a position that does not require a commercial driver’s license who refuses to undergo drug and alcohol testing in the circumstances set out in the Random Testing, Reasonable Suspicion Testing, and Treatment Program Testing provisions of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate discharge.

3. Consequences of a Job Applicant’s Refusal to Undergo Drug and Alcohol Testing

Any job applicant for a position which does not require a commercial driver’s license who refuses to undergo drug and alcohol testing pursuant to the Job Applicant Testing provision of this policy shall not be employed.

E. Reliability and Fairness Safeguards

1. Pretest Notice

Before requesting an employee or job applicant whose position does not require a commercial driver’s license to undergo drug or alcohol testing, EMID shall provide the employee or job applicant with a Pretest Notice on



which to acknowledge that the employee or job applicant has received the district's drug and alcohol testing policy.

2. Notice of Test Results

Within three (3) working days after receipt of a test result report from the testing laboratory, EMID shall inform in writing an employee or job applicant who has undergone drug or alcohol testing of a negative test result on an initial screening test or of a negative or positive test result on a confirmatory test.

3. Notice of and Right to Test Result Report

Within three (3) working days after receipt of a test result report from the testing laboratory, EMID shall inform in writing, an employee or job applicant who has undergone drug or alcohol testing of the employee or job applicant's right to request and receive from EMID a copy of the test result report.

4. Notice of and Right to Explain Positive Test Result

- a. If an employee or job applicant has a positive test result on a confirmatory test, EMID shall provide him or her with notice of the test results and, at the same time, written notice of the right to explain the results and/or to submit additional information.
- b. EMID may request that the employee or job applicant indicate any over-the-counter or prescription medication that the individual is currently taking or has recently taken and any other information relevant to the reliability of, or explanation for, a positive test result.
- c. Within three (3) working days after notice of a positive test result on a confirmatory test, an employee or job applicant may submit information (in addition to any information already submitted) to EMID to explain that result. The employee may present verification of enrollment in the medical cannabis patient registry as part of the employee's explanation.

5. Notice of and Right to Request Confirmatory Retests

- a. If an employee or job applicant has a positive test result on a confirmatory test, EMID shall provide him or her with notice of the test results and, at the same time, written notice of the right to request a confirmatory retest of the original sample at his or her



expense.

- b. An employee or job applicant may request a confirmatory retest of the original sample at his or her own expense after notice of a positive test result on a confirmatory test. Within five (5) working days after notice of the confirmatory test result, the employee or job applicant shall notify EMID in writing of his or her intention to obtain a confirmatory retest. Within three (3) working days after receipt of the notice, EMID shall notify the original testing laboratory that the employee or job applicant has requested the laboratory to conduct the confirmatory retest or to transfer the sample to another laboratory licensed under Minn. Stat. § 181.953, Subd. 1. to conduct the confirmatory retest. The original testing laboratory shall ensure that appropriate chain-of-custody procedures are followed during transfer of the sample to the other laboratory. The confirmatory retest must use the same drug or alcohol threshold detection levels as used in the original confirmatory test. If the confirmatory retest does not confirm the original positive test result, no adverse personnel action based on the original confirmatory test may be taken against the employee or job applicant.
6. If an employee or job applicant has a positive test result on a confirmatory test, EMID, at the time of providing notice of the test results, shall also provide written notice to inform him or her of other rights provided under Sections F. or G., below, whichever is applicable.

F. Discharge and Discipline of Employees Whose Positions Do Not Require a Commercial Driver's License

1. EMID may not discharge, discipline, discriminate against, request, or require rehabilitation of an employee on the basis of a positive test result from an initial screening test that has not been verified by a confirmatory test.
2. In the case of a positive test result on a confirmatory test, the employee shall be subject to discipline which includes, but is not limited to, immediate suspension without pay and immediate discharge, pursuant to the provisions of this policy.
3. EMID may not discharge an employee for whom a positive test result on a confirmatory test was the first such result for the employee on a drug or alcohol test requested by the district, unless the following conditions have been met:
  - a. EMID has first given the employee an opportunity to participate in,



at the employee's own expense or pursuant to coverage under an employee benefit plan, either a drug or alcohol counseling or rehabilitation program, whichever is more appropriate, as determined by EMID after consultation with a certified chemical abuse counselor or a physician trained in the diagnosis and treatment of chemical dependency; and

- b. The employee has either refused to participate in the counseling or rehabilitation program or has failed to successfully complete the program, as evidenced by withdrawal from the program before its completion or by a positive test result on a confirmatory test after completion of the program.
4. Notwithstanding Paragraph 1., EMID may temporarily suspend the tested employee or transfer that employee to another position at the same rate of pay pending the outcome of the confirmatory test and, if requested, the confirmatory retest, provided EMID believes that it is reasonably necessary to protect the health or safety of the employee, co-employees or the public. An employee who has been suspended without pay must be reinstated with back pay if the outcome of the confirmatory test or requested confirmatory retest is negative.
  5. EMID may not discharge, discipline, discriminate against, request, or require rehabilitation of an employee on the basis of medical history information or the employee's status as a patient enrolled in the medical cannabis registry program revealed to the district, unless the employee was under an affirmative duty to provide the information before, upon or after hire or failing to do so would violate federal law or regulations or cause the district to lose money or licensing-related benefit under federal law or regulation.
  6. EMID may not discriminate against any employee in termination, discharge, or any term of condition of employment or otherwise penalize an employee based upon an employee registered patient's positive drug test for cannabis components or metabolites, unless the employee used, possessed, or was impaired by medical cannabis during hours of employment.
  7. An employee must be given access to information in his or her personnel file relating to positive test result reports and other information acquired in the drug and alcohol testing process and conclusions drawn from and actions taken based on the reports or other acquired information.
- G. Withdrawal of Job Offer for an Applicant for a Position That Does Not Require a Commercial Driver's License



If a job applicant has received a job offer made contingent on the applicant's passing drug and alcohol testing, EMID may not withdraw the offer based on a positive test result from an initial screening test that has not been verified by a confirmatory test. In the case of a positive test result on a confirmatory test, the school district may withdraw the job offer.

#### H. Chain-of-Custody Procedures

EMID requires reliable chain-of-custody procedures to ensure proper record keeping, handling, labeling, and identification of the samples to be tested. The procedures require the following:

1. Possession of a sample must be traceable to the employee from whom the sample is collected, from the time the sample is collected through the time the sample is delivered to the laboratory;
2. The sample must always be in the possession of, must always be in view of, or must be placed in a secure area by a person authorized to handle the sample;
3. The sample must be accompanied by a written chain-of-custody record; and
4. Individuals relinquishing and accepting possession of the sample must record the time the possession of the sample was transferred and must sign and date the chain-of-custody record at the time of transfer.

#### I. Privacy, Confidentiality and Privilege Safeguards

##### 1. Privacy Limitations

A laboratory may only disclose to EMID test result data regarding the presence or absence of drugs, alcohol or their metabolites in a sample tested.

##### 2. Confidentiality Limitations

With respect to employees and job applicants, test result reports and other information acquired in the drug or alcohol testing process are private data on individuals as that phrase is defined in Minn. Stat. Ch. 13, and may not be disclosed by EMID or laboratory to another employer or to a third-party individual, governmental agency, or private organization without the written consent of the employee or job applicant tested.

##### 3. Exceptions to Privacy and Confidentiality Disclosure Limitations



Notwithstanding Paragraphs 1. and 2., evidence of a positive test result on a confirmatory test may be: (1) used in an arbitration proceeding pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement, an administrative hearing under Minn. Stat. Ch. 43A or other applicable state or local law, or a judicial proceeding, provided that information is relevant to the hearing or proceeding; (2) disclosed to any federal agency or other unit of the United States government as required under federal law, regulation or order, or in accordance with compliance requirements of a federal government contract; and/or (3) disclosed to a substance abuse treatment facility for the purpose of evaluation or treatment of the employee.

4. Privilege

Positive test results from EMID drug or alcohol testing program may not be used as evidence in a criminal action against the employee or job applicant tested.

J. Notice of Testing Policy to Affected Employees

EMID shall provide written notice of this drug and alcohol testing policy to all affected employees upon adoption of the policy, to a previously non-affected employee upon transfer to an affected position under the policy, and to a job applicant upon hire and before any testing of the applicant if the job offer is made contingent on the applicant's passing drug and alcohol testing. Affected employees and applicants will acknowledge in writing receipt of this written notice of this testing policy.

**V. POSTING**

The district shall post notice in an appropriate location at its district office that it has adopted a drug and alcohol testing policy and that copies of the policy are available for inspection during regular business hours by its employees or job applicants in the district office.

***Legal References:***

Minn. Stat. Ch. 13 (Minnesota Government Data Practices Act)  
Minn. Stat. Ch. 43A (State Personnel Management)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.22 (Medical Cannabis; Definitions)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.23 (Medical Cannabis; Limitations)  
Minn. Stat. § 152.32 (Protections for Registry Program Participation)  
Minn. Stat. §§ 181.950-181.957 (Drug and Alcohol Testing in the Workplace)  
Minn. Stat. § 221.031 (Motor Carrier Rules)  
49 U.S.C. § 31306 (Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991)  
49 U.S.C. § 521(b) (Civil and Criminal Penalties for Violations)  
49 C.F.R. Parts 40 and 382 (Department of Transportation Rules Implementing Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991)



***Cross-References:*** EMID Policy 403 (Discipline, Suspension, and Dismissal of EMID Employees)  
EMID Policy 406 (Public and Private Personnel Data)  
EMID Policy 417 (Chemical Use and Abuse)  
EMID Policy 418 (Drug-Free Workplace/Drug-Free School)