

**MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS**

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**SUBJECT: TESTING OF STUDENT-ATHLETES FOR USE OF NCAA BANNED SUBSTANCES .**

**POLICY 4.8**

Montana State University Billings supports the NCAA's prohibition of student-athletes using specific illegal and dangerous drugs and other identified substances and, consequently, is committed to testing student-athletes, both at random (as does the NCAA) and with reasonable suspicion anytime during the calendar year to determine whether student-athletes are in compliance with the NCAA's ban on using these substances.

**PROCEDURES/RATIONALE**

MSUB student-athletes are prohibited from using all illegal drugs, performance-enhancing drugs, and prescription drugs unless prescribed by their physicians or the MSUB team physician. Similarly, large quantities of caffeine, some supplements, and various over-the-counter medications are also prohibited by the NCAA, and therefore MSUB, on a year-round basis in doses specified by the NCAA. MSUB Athletics provides its student-athletes each year with a detailed list of all NCAA-banned substances.

NCAA Division II conducts random drug tests of student-athletes throughout the calendar year to determine whether they are in compliance with the NCAA substance use and abuse policies. In addition, NCAA Division II conducts random drug tests at various post-season, regional championship sites. MSUB may conduct similar tests either at random or with reasonable suspicion anytime during the calendar year using a testing agency selected by MSUB Athletics, using the testing protocol of the selected agency, or by MSUB Athletics itself, using the MSUB Athletics designated drug testing coordinator. These tests will be facilitated by the MSUB Head Athletic Trainer and his or her assistants. Student-athletes selected for drug testing by MSUB Athletics will be given verbal notice to report immediately to the athletic training room or other identified site to provide a urine sample for testing purposes.

Student-athletes selected for drug testing by MSUB Athletics will provide a urine sample. This sample will be divided into two portions (1A and 1B). This process is designed to guard against any false positives that might occur from the initial test of one of the portions (1A). If portion 1A tests positive, and if the subsequent test of the second portion (1B) is positive, the student-athlete will undergo a substance use assessment and screening process by an agency selected by MSUB Athletics. The student-athlete will be responsible for paying the costs, if any, related to this assessment. Based upon the results of this assessment, a counselor will complete a behavioral contract with the student-athlete. This contract, which will stipulate expectations and related behaviors for the student-athlete to meet, will be discussed in confidence with the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics (AD), the Senior Woman Administrator (SWA), the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR), the Head Athletic Trainer, and the respective Head Coach.

The behavioral contract, depending upon the assessment results, may include individual counseling as well as participation in substance use/abuse classes paid for by the student-athlete. The student-athlete may have the costs of screening, counseling, and classes, if any, reimbursed by MSUB Athletics upon successful completion by making a written request stating why these costs should be reimbursed. In addition to participating in these remedial activities, the student-athlete will be suspended from all athletic program activities for up to 60 days. The student-athlete will also be subject to continued drug testing within the suspension period. Any subsequent positive drug test (second positive; sample 2A and 2B) will result in the student-athlete being suspended from all MSUB Athletics program activities for 365 days. His or her athletic aid may also be reduced or eliminated during the 365-day period of suspension.

To return to participation after the time period of suspension (60 days or 365 days) will require the student-athlete to achieve a negative drug test and positive recommendations from the Substance Abuse Counselor, the respective Head Coach, and the MSUB Head Athletic Trainer. Any positive drug test (third positive; 3A and 3B) after return to participation will result in the student-athlete being dismissed from the MSUB Athletics program as well as having his or her athletic scholarship terminated. Refusal to provide a urine sample when directed, failure to show up for a drug test, or failure to sign the MSUB drug testing consent form will cause the student-athlete to be declared ineligible to participate in all MSUB Athletics program activities until such time as the student-athlete complies with these requirements.