



SIUSDM POLICY REGARDING THE ILLICIT USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, PRESCRIBED CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, AND OVER-THE-COUNTER DRUGS

I. POLICY

Southern Illinois School of Dental Medicine acknowledges that the trust placed in the delivery of health care services by students is critical to the community and our patients. It is, therefore, the policy of the School of Dental Medicine and the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs to ensure a drug free educational environment and that the delivery of health care services provided by students is safe. Students who interact with patients and their peers while under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol are not only risking their own well-being, but also endangering the safety of patients, peers, and health care team members. In an effort to maintain public trust and to provide a safe campus environment, the School of Dental Medicine has developed the following policy regarding the misuse of drugs and alcohol.

Any degree of impairment of a student in a class, clinical environment or extramural site due to the use of medication whether illegal, prescribed or over-the-counter, or alcohol compromises patient safety, violates professional ethical standards, and shall not be tolerated. In addition, distribution of drugs while on school premises is forbidden.

All violations of this policy will be addressed by the School of Dental Medicine, or, if appropriate, referred to the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs for adjudication pursuant to the Student Conduct Code or other relevant procedures. Disciplinary sanctions, up to and including dismissal from the School of Dental Medicine and/or separation from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, may be imposed upon any SIU School of Dental Medicine Student found to be in violation of the law or University policies.

II. ROUTINE DRUG SCREENING PROCEDURES

The School of Dental Medicine may require students to submit to urine, blood or hair sample drug screening prior to or at any time during their enrollment at SIUSDM. The screening may test for the presence of the following substances and any others deemed appropriate for the individual circumstances at hand:

- MDMA/Ecstasy
- Amphetamines
- Cocaine Metabolites
- Marijuana Metabolites
- Opiates



- Phencyclidine
- Barbiturates
- Benzodiazepines
- Methadone
- Propoxyphene
- Methaqualone

Applicants to the School of Dental Medicine may be required to submit to a routine pre-admission screening exam. Fees for initial screening will be paid by the student applicant. The screening must be completed and satisfactory results received by SIUSDM within 30 days after matriculation.

The School of Dental Medicine also supports drug screening, where applicable, as a condition of the legal affiliation agreements executed between the School or its programs and affiliate sites. Fees for these screenings of current students will be at the Dental School's expense.

III. USE OF PRESCRIBED AND/OR NON-PRESCRIBED DRUGS FOR MEDICAL REASONS

A side effect of taking a prescribed or non-prescribed medication for medical treatment may be physical or mental impairment. Any student who may be experiencing impairment must notify the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs immediately. Continued participation in the clinical course experience shall be dependent upon the informed decision of School of Dental Medicine regarding potential impairment of the student clinician. Failure to comply with the notification requirement of this policy may result in dismissal from the program or other disciplinary action.

IV. DRUG SCREENING FOR CAUSE

- a. It is the desire and intent of the School of Dental Medicine that a student self-report drug or alcohol dependency issues and voluntarily enter a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program. Early detection, intervention, and treatment of substance abuse enhance the likelihood of a successful treatment outcome. Following successful voluntary rehabilitation the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may recommend to the Dean an appropriate plan for the student to return to the program in a Special Modified Curriculum Program. At the discretion of the Student Progress and Awards Committee and the administration, the student may or may not be reenrolled at the same level that he or she left the program and may be required to successfully complete a hand skills recertification program. If reasonable suspicion exists at any time during the period of re-enrollment that the student is using or under the influence of drugs or alcohol, the student shall be



subject to conduct charges and an administrative hearing by the Student Conduct Committee which may lead to dismissal from the program, mandatory screening for drugs or alcohol or other consequences as deemed appropriate by the Student Conduct Committee.

- b. If reasonable suspicion exists that a student is impaired or that drug or alcohol dependency issues exist and the student has not self-disclosed, it is incumbent upon the School to take appropriate action. Reasonable suspicion, as determined by the Dental School shall be based upon the following list which is not all inclusive:

- student behaviors (observed or reported)
- objective, quantifiable symptoms such as alcohol on breath, slurred speech, flushed face, dilated pupils, mood swings, motor incapacities
- deterioration of academic or work performance
- excessive absenteeism.

Any behavior that suggests impairment of a student's ability to meet standards of performance, competency, and safety in the clinical setting, office, or classroom justifies reasonable cause for drug screening and or conduct charges to be brought against a student.

V. DRUG SCREENING DOCUMENTATION PROCEDURE

1. When reasonable suspicion of impairment is observed, the student will be removed from the clinic or classroom. The philosophy of immediately removing the student from clinic is intended to protect our patients, and also the impaired student.
2. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs should be contacted immediately. If the incident occurs in the clinic, The Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs at the dental school shall also be notified immediately. If either Associate Dean is unable to be contacted directly, The Dean and the Director of Clinical Education (clinical incident) should be notified immediately.
3. A faculty member or clinical representative who observes the incident will document, in writing, the behavior(s) or the performance issues/concerns observed. A detailed description of the observation should be provided, including dates, times and names of all parties involved. This written documentation should be collected by the faculty member and provided to the SDM Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs if it is a clinical occurrence. If a fellow student observes the incident in the clinic, the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs or the Director of Clinical Education should be notified to corroborate and document the incident.
4. All written documentation and drug testing results shall be treated confidentially and placed in the student's confidential file.

5. The student will be informed by the administrator(s) of the behavior or performance issue observed. This meeting with the student, to be conducted in a private and confidential setting, should be attended and observed by a second faculty member or clinical representative.
6. The student will be asked to disclose any alcohol or drugs (prescribed, illicit, or over-the-counter) which he/she may be taking.
7. Substance abuse screening, if deemed necessary, will be performed immediately and at the dental school's expense. Types of testing may include urine, blood, hair or other methods. The type of testing requested is at the discretion of the School of Dental Medicine. Additional/follow-up testing will not be announced and may occur at any time of the day. The chain-of-custody screening process will be used. The taking of all samples will be observed by an independent party at the drug screening facility.
8. The student will be screened at an accredited health care facility that is approved by the School of Dental Medicine. A police escort will accompany the student to the test site. A valid ID will be required at the test site. The screening facility will be given specific instructions for the test(s) that is / are to be conducted.
9. The use of substances and methods that alter the integrity or validity of the samples provided during drug testing are also banned. Examples of banned methods include catheterization, urine substitution, sample tampering, and the use of masking or renal excretion modifying agents. Any sample that is tested for the presence of substances as described above may also be tested for these masking and altering agents. Any sample found to have a masking or altering agent shall be considered a positive test.
10. The student must sign a medical release form for the results of the test to be sent directly to the School of Dental Medicine Associate Dean's Office, (Office of Academic Affairs) as soon as the results are available.
11. If the student refuses testing or refuses to release the information to the School of Dental Medicine, the result will be deemed a positive test and the student will be subject to conduct charges with appropriate disciplinary action, which may include immediate dismissal from the program.
12. The Associate Dean of Clinics will inform the student that his/hers clinic privileges are suspended until further notice, pending actions of the Student Conduct Committee. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs will determine whether the student may continue to attend lecture classes while these proceedings occur.
13. A student will be immediately dismissed from the School of Dental Medicine if he or she is convicted or enters a plea of guilty to felony possession, trafficking or dealing illegal substances.

The decision of the Dean pertaining to academic status goes into effect at the time of the decision. The student has the right to appeal any decision of the Dean. Policies and procedures for appeal are listed in the Student Progress Document.



Students requesting readmission to the School of Dental Medicine following dismissal for violation of this policy must first show proof of successful completion of a formal rehabilitation program and test negative in a secure readmission drug screening test or tests. All screening test results will be reviewed by the Dean or his representative. Readmission is not guaranteed. The decision to require a formal hearing at the School of Dental Medicine, repeat drug testing, decline readmission or any other action will be determined by the Dean.

If a student is reinstated following dismissal for violation of this policy, the student must submit to random, observed drug screening throughout the remainder of his or her program. Violation of any part of this policy will result in immediate dismissal from the School of Dental Medicine.

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SIUSDM Office of Student Services