



Marijuana Use by Health Science Students Participating in Training/Practicum Experiences

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PURPOSE

This policy provides guidance about marijuana use and its possible impact for students participating in training/practicum experiences. While the state of Minnesota has legalized prescription and recreational marijuana use, marijuana is still illegal under federal law. Health systems set the requirements for students participating in a training or practicum experience in their settings, and students must meet and comply with health system requirements. Some systems have requirements for a negative drug test or attestation, including marijuana. A positive test for marijuana, regardless of prescription status, may negatively impact a student's ability to participate in training or practicum experiences and on their progress towards graduation.

This policy applies to learners in the following programs/schools:

- School of Dentistry
- Earl E Bakken Center for Spirituality & Healing
- College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences – Dietetic Internship Program
- Medical School (Twin Cities and Duluth), including Undergraduate Medical Education, the Division of Physical Therapy, Mortuary Science, Medical Physics, and Graduate Medical Education
- School of Nursing (Twin Cities and Rochester)
- College of Pharmacy (Twin Cities and Duluth), including the Center for Allied Health Programs, which includes Occupational Therapy (Twin Cities and Rochester) and Medical Laboratory Sciences
- School of Public Health
- Speech Language Hearing Sciences, including Speech Language Pathology and Audiology
- College of Veterinary Medicine

POLICY

Academic Health Sciences students placed in a training or practicum experience within at a training site must be eligible to participate in such experience at that site. To be eligible at a site, students must comply with the site's policies and requirements. Some training sites have requirements for a negative drug test or negative attestation including for marijuana. Although Minnesota state law now allows both prescription and recreational

use of marijuana, these uses are still illegal under federal law, and may be prohibited by an employer or health care facility. A student may be or become ineligible to participate in a training or practicum experience at the site because the student has failed a drug test required by a site due to either prescription or recreational marijuana use. Should the student be or become ineligible to participate in a training or practicum experience at a site due to their drug test results, the school or program has no obligation to reschedule the student for another site. If the school or program reschedules a student at another site, there is no obligation to reschedule at the same time or at a site with similar characteristics. This may negatively impact the student's ability to progress towards graduation. *Academic Health Sciences students should consider abstaining from any marijuana use during their program to avoid disruptions in training or practicum experiences.*

PROCEDURE

This policy will be communicated to Academic Health Sciences students.

An Academic Health Sciences student who fails a drug test required by a training site as a condition of initial or continued placement in a training or practicum experience at such site, regardless of reason, may discuss with the health system whether they are eligible to continue their training or practicum experience at that site. The school or program has no obligation to reschedule the student for another site.

DEFINITIONS

Academic Health Sciences student: an individual enrolled in a University of Minnesota health science school/college/program.

Training or practicum experience: any clinical or non-clinical rotation, practicum, field experience, or any alternate term that may be used by a school/college/program to refer to an educational training experience where an Affiliation Agreement is in place with a training site.

RESOURCES/RELATED POLICIES

University of Minnesota Student Conduct Code:

http://regents.umn.edu/sites/regents.umn.edu/files/policies/Student_Conduct_Code.pdf