

**2009-2010**

**DRUG TESTING**

**AND**

**EDUCATION/REHABILITATION**

**PROGRAM**

**ELON UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE**

**ATHLETICS**



Elon University recognizes the fact that drug use and abuse is a problem on every campus throughout the United States. Consequently, the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at Elon University will operate a drug testing and education/rehabilitation program. The purpose of this paper is to explain to the athletes and their parents all phases of this drug testing and education/rehabilitation program including:

- the program itself
- the objectives
- the sanctions
- the education/rehabilitation program

## **THE PROGRAM**

### **I. OBJECTIVES**

- A. To serve as a means of deterrence for our student-athletes regarding illegal drug use.
- B. To identify those student-athletes who participate in illegal drug use, as defined by the NCAA.
- C. To provide a program of education/rehabilitation for those student-athletes who test positive
- D. To revoke the privilege of participation in intercollegiate athletics at Elon University for those student athletes, who despite the education/rehabilitation program, continue to abuse illegal drugs.

### **II. ADMINISTRATION**

Any student-athlete who has a drug abuse problem is encouraged to seek help before punitive action is taken by the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics. Student-athletes may receive on campus counseling through Elon University Counseling Services (in conjunction with the Office of Student Life). A number of off-campus, private facilities are available in the Burlington/Elon University/Alamance County area.

At various times throughout the academic year, student-athletes will be selected to participate in the drug-testing program. Upon notification the student-athlete will be directed to report to the R. N. Ellington Campus Health Center (infirmary) where they will be asked to provide a sample for drug screening purposes. All male and female student-athletes are subject to drug testing. The urine samples will be collected in accordance with chain of custody procedures established by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Transportation then sent to an independent laboratory for testing. Each sample will be tested to determine if drugs are present. In the event that a positive test indicates the presence of one or more substances, the sample will be re-tested immediately to validate the initial test reliability. All positive results will be communicated to the athletic department's Medical Review Officer (MRO) who will inform the Athletics Director, the Head Athletic Trainer and the Coach for that athlete's particular sport. Little or no notice may be given for a forthcoming drug test. However, all athletes are expected to provide a urine sample of sufficient quantity to be properly tested.

In the event the sample is still of insufficient quantity the participant may be suspended from any team activity, practice, or game. Re-test will be administered at the discretion of the Department of Athletics. The drug screening process includes, but is not limited to the following substances:

Amphetamines  
Marijuana (Cannabinoid)  
Cocaine (Benzoyllecgonine)  
Opiates  
PCP (Phencyclidine)

### III. SANCTIONS

#### A. First Offense

1. Following the first positive drug test, the following athletic personnel will be informed by the Medical Review Officer (M.R.O).
  - a. Athletics Director
  - b. Head Athletic Trainer
  - c. Head Coach of the Athlete's Sport
  - d. The Student-Athlete
2. The parents will be informed by the student-athlete in the presence of the Head Coach and Head Athletic Trainer via telephone.
3. Mandatory participation and completion of the drug education/rehabilitation program.
4. The student-athlete is suspended for ten percent of his or her championship season participation. (Not to be less than one contest and any fraction of a game will be rounded up to the next number. For example: 1.10 contests would result in a two game suspension.)
5. A second rug test given within six months of the first positive test.

#### B. Second Offense

1. Following a second positive drug test, the following athletic personnel will be informed by the MRO:
  - a. Athletic Director
  - b. Head Athletic Trainer
  - c. Head Coach of that Sport
  - d. Student-Athlete
2. The parents will be informed by the student-athlete in the presence of the head coach and head athletic trainer.
3. Termination of participation in intercollegiate athletics at Elon University
4. Forfeiture of athletic grant-in-aid.

#### C. Cocaine/Heroin/Hallucinogens

Due to the well-documented dangers of cocaine, heroin, and hallucinogens, the Department of Athletics has chosen to put these substances in a special class of substance abuse. Anyone testing positive for cocaine, heroin, or hallucinogens will automatically be dealt with in the same manner as a second-time offender—Immediate dismissal and termination of athletic grant-in-aid.

#### D. Driving While Impaired

Whereas cocaine, heroin, and hallucinogens have the ability to lead one to self-destruction, driving while impaired can cause harm to others as well as the offender. Consequently, the Department of Athletics will deal with anyone convicted of Driving While Impaired as a first-time offender.

It should be noted that any athlete who fails to willingly participate in the drug testing program and/or fails to comply with the program is treated the same as an athlete with a first or initial positive drug test. Also, any student-athlete that does not complete and/or participate in the education/rehabilitation program is considered to have sustained a second positive drug test and the student-athlete is subjected to the sanctions of that offense. Lastly, all positive drug tests for drugs are cumulative throughout an athlete's career at Elon University.

### IV. EDUCATION/REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Within 72 hours after the initial positive drug test and notification by the athletic department a student-athlete will be referred to the counseling services in conjunction with the Office of Student Life.

Following the initial assessment the counseling service staff will make a recommendation as to follow-up based on the outcome of the assessment and the individual needs of the student-athlete referred. Treatment regimes would typically follow one of the following:

- A. Referral to an on-campus counselor for individual sessions. Sessions typically last up to eight weeks. If the student-athlete needs longer term therapy he or she will be recommended to an off-campus practitioner.
- B. Independent of or perhaps in conjunction with individual therapy, the student-athlete may be required to attend an on-campus group. These groups are usually psycho-educational and last six to eight weeks.
- C. Referral to an outpatient therapy group. Local facilities include Alamance Regional Medical Center and Fellowship Hall in Greensboro, N.C. Every effort will be made to work with the parent/guardian of the student/athlete in the selection of a facility that is acceptable both to the family and the athletic department.
- D. Referral to an in-patient treatment program. These programs usually last 28 days at a minimum. Local facilities include Alamance Regional Medical Center and Fellowship Hall in Greensboro, N.C. Every effort will be made to work with the parent/guardian of the student-athlete on the selection of a facility that is both acceptable to the family and the athletic department.

***It should be noted that regimes A. and B. do not result in cost to the student-athlete, unless a student is referred off campus. Regimes C. and D. do generate a cost and will be the responsibility of the parents and student-athlete. The secondary/excess athletic insurance policy offered by the athletic department would not cover such costs. Cost estimates for off-campus (outpatient) treatment are available on request.***

Because the minimum length of time for the education/rehabilitation program is eight weeks, it is recommended that student-athlete serves his or her game or games suspension and be allowed to resume athletic competition as long as the student-athlete continues the education/rehabilitation program to completion. If at any time the student-athlete violates any provision of the education/rehabilitation program, that would constitute a second positive offense and student-athlete would be dismissed from the program (See Section III SANCTIONS).

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the Head Athletic Trainer of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at Elon University. Otherwise, please indicate that you have read and understand this program by signing, dating, and returning the student wavier form to:

Athletic Insurance Coordinator  
Elon University Athletics  
2500 Campus Box  
Elon, NC 27244  
(336) 278-6800