



Universal Drug-Testing Policy

Drug-Testing Policy

Legacy Christian Academy (LCA) is considered a drug, alcohol, steroid, and tobacco-free zone. The possession and/or use and/or distribution of drugs, controlled substances, over-the-counter drugs, alcohol, tobacco products, e-cigarettes, and vapor cigarettes are prohibited. LCA will protect its students and campus as it relates to the possession, use, and/or distribution of drugs (legal or illegal), alcohol, and substances mentioned above.

LCA's policy regarding prescription and/or nonprescription (over the counter) medications states "all medications, prescription or nonprescription, must be sent to the school clinic." Therefore, any student who possesses, uses, or shares his/her medication or receives another student's medication in violation of this policy will be referred to the administration who may take necessary action at its sole discretion.

LCA reserves the right to test any student with reasonable suspicion of substance abuse during on-campus or off-campus events. The method and timing of drug tests are at the school's sole discretion. Students who refuse to comply with testing requests will be asked to withdraw.

LCA employs a universal drug-testing policy for students grades 7-12 and all staff. The benefits of a universal policy are many including:

1. It encourages our students to be ever mindful of their health and the dangers of substance abuse;
2. It gives students a tool and a motive to resist cultural/peer pressure by greatly increasing their risk of being discovered;
3. It increases the likelihood that students will delay their use of drugs and alcohol, thereby decreasing the likelihood of potential long-term addiction. Long-standing and compelling research concludes that the longer a person delays the first use of drugs and alcohol, the greater the likelihood the individual will lead a healthy life free of addiction;
4. It eliminates a zero-tolerance policy and provides a path to redemption and restoration. Our focus centers on helping a student overcome a substance abuse problem rather than punishing them for it. Continued patterns of abuse, however, will not be tolerated.

Therefore, LCA universally drug tests students in grades 9-12 as well as conducts random testing throughout the school year in order to ensure consistent compliance with the drug-free philosophy of the school and for the protection of other students. A positive test sample will result in the required completion of the redemption protocol as stated in the Universal Drug-testing policy and procedures. All prospective students in grades 7-12 who apply to LCA will also be tested as a requirement for admission.

Drug-testing Procedure for Students in Grades 7-12

LCA will partner with industry-leading companies to test hair samples from all students enrolled in grades 9-12 as well as random students in grades 7-8. Once the initial universal test is administered within the first few weeks of a school year, a random selection of students will be tested at two other times throughout the same school year. All students must produce a hair sample. Failure or refusal to allow hair to be sampled will result in the immediate withdrawal of the student from school.

All prospective students grades 7th-12th will be required to submit a hair sample PRIOR to enrollment confirmation. Enrollment is contingent upon a negative test. A prospective student who submits a sample after June 30th will be exempt from submitting an additional sample in August but will remain subject to random testing later in the school year.

The drug test will screen upper school students for the following drugs: cocaine, opioids, phencyclidine, amphetamines, marijuana, Adderall, and benzodiazepines. In addition, students will be tested for nicotine and alcohol. All prospective students for grades 7-12 will be tested for the same drugs as a currently enrolled upper school student. A 50% sample of currently enrolled middle school students will be tested for either nicotine or alcohol. All test results shall remain a part of a student's file during the entirety of their time enrolled at LCA.

In the event of a positive result, the drug company notifies the school nurse. The school nurse will inquire regarding any needed prescription drug verifications. Students testing positive will be subject to LCA's drug-testing redemption policy in the event non-prescriptive substances were identified in the sample. The division principal will notify the student and family. The family is expected to cooperate fully with the redemption protocol policy of the school.