

St. Tammany Parish School System
Internal Audit Report
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Report Related To The
St. Tammany Parish School System
Student Drug Testing
May 16, 2025

I have performed the procedures below over the St. Tammany Parish School System Student Drug Testing as of April 2025. The St. Tammany Parish School System's (School System) management is responsible for reviewing all information related to student drug testing in order to ensure they are in compliance with internal policy.

This report is intended to be used by management and the applicable user to ensure the School System is accountable to the public and all related reporting bodies as required by all applicable regulations.

The procedures and results are as follows:

Student Drug Testing Confidentiality

Internal Policy Reference: IDFAA-P

IDFAA-P: This policy lists the procedures for illegal substance testing of high school students participating in interscholastic sports. It defines that testing may be done as frequently as weekly. It also defines the consequences for the first positive result and the second positive result. Additionally, it states that drug testing should be random. This policy also has the confidentiality statement for random drug testing.

Related Law/Audit Guidance: N/A

Review: All high schools were reviewed to ensure student athlete medical information and drug testing information is properly secured.

Findings: Two of the schools were noted to not have student athlete medical and drug testing information properly secured under lock and key.

Recommendation: I recommend that management ensure all high school athletic directors are aware of their responsibility to keep student athlete information secured. This should be locked at all times when the athletic director is not in their office.

Haphazardness of Student Drug Testing

Internal Policy Reference: IDFAA-P

IDFAA-P: This policy lists the procedures for illegal substance testing of high school students participating in interscholastic sports. It defines that testing may be done as frequently as weekly. It also defines the consequences for the first positive result and the second positive result. Additionally, it states that drug testing should be random. This policy also has the confidentiality statement for random drug testing.

Related Law/Audit Guidance: N/A

Review: All high school spring sports were reviewed to ensure all student drug testing is random. I reviewed all students selected and noted the vendor is responsible for making selections based on rosters provided to them by athletic directors. It was determined based on evidence and review that the selection process is random as it is performed by someone completely unrelated to the school system.

Findings: N/A

Recommendation: N/A

Completeness of Student Rosters Provided to Testing Vendor

Internal Policy Reference: IDFAA-P

IDFAA-P: This policy lists the procedures for illegal substance testing of high school students participating in interscholastic sports. It defines that testing may be done as frequently as weekly. It also defines the consequences for the first positive result and the second positive result. Additionally, it states that drug testing should be random. This policy also has the confidentiality statement for random drug testing.

Related Law/Audit Guidance: N/A

Review: All high school spring sports were reviewed to ensure all student drug testing is complete. Upon my review of the randomness of student drug testing I noted the potential for a student athlete to not be included in the testing population. This could happen if a student was not included in the population provided to the testing vendor. Should this occur the testing population would be considered incomplete. Currently student athletes are tested by season (fall, winter, and spring). Should a student athlete not be included in their respective season

there would be no potential for this athlete to get tested unless they participate in another season's sport. I went onsite and observed each athletic director generating the current roster from LHSAA that listed all active student athletes along with their respective sports. While onsite, I also had each athletic director forward me the populations of spring sports they sent to the testing vendor. I compared the list sent to the testing vendor a week prior to the active spring sport rosters they generated while I was onsite.

Findings: Three schools were noted to have missing student athletes from their roster they provided the testing vendor that they could not explain. This could be due to the amount of human error in compiling multiple sports into one list to send since the students are tested by season and the LHSAA roster does not automatically sort by season.

Recommendation: I recommend that management consider testing on a calendar basis instead of seasonal basis. Upon review of policy IDFAA-P, it defines the athletic year as "The athletic year begins the date of the first official physical examination, if any, for that sport, and continues for 365 days thereafter. Otherwise, the athletic year begins one (1) week prior to the first practice session for that sport, and continues for 365 days thereafter." I would recommend all student athletes who are active on the roster and eligible be tested according to this calendar year in order to improve accurate populations to the testing vendor. This would also be more in line with the current policy.

Review of Drug Testing Policy

Internal Policy Reference: IDFAA-P

IDFAA-P: This policy lists the procedures for illegal substance testing of high school students participating in interscholastic sports. It defines that testing may be done as frequently as weekly. It also defines the consequences for the first positive result and the second positive result. Additionally, it states that drug testing should be random. This policy also has the confidentiality statement for random drug testing.

Related Law/Audit Guidance: N/A

Review: Policy IDFAA-P was reviewed to see how it compared to other school districts in the state.

Conclusion: It was noted that policy IDFAA-P was less detailed when compared to other school districts policies. The main differences included which student athletes were included in the testing population, how students were selected, and the amount of communication with parents of student athletes.

Recommendation: I recommend that the school system consider revising policy IDFAA-P to be more detailed including further communication to parents about the testing process. I also recommend this policy include more provisions for retesting a student athlete who has already tested positive within the system. Additionally, I recommend management consider adding something within this policy to address suspicion by a coach of drug use and how that process would take place.