



**OREGON YOUTH AUTHORITY**  
**Policy Statement**  
**Part III – Youth Services (Community)**



*Subject:*

**Substance Use Screening Youth (Community)**

*Section – Policy Number:*

**D: Case Management – 3.3**

*Supersedes:*

**III-D-3.3 (04/18)**

**III-D-3.3 (06/08)**

*Effective Date:*

**06/30/2021**

*Date of Last*

*Revision:*

**10/13/2023**

**Related Standards and References:**

- [ORS 420A.010](#) (Oregon Youth Authority, creation and duties)
- [ORS 420A.125](#) (Adjudicated youths; intake assessments; reformation plan; placement)
- [OYA policy](#): I-C-8.1 (Bloodborne Pathogens)  
 I-E-2.1 (Public Records Requests for Agency Records)  
 I-E-2.3 (Requests for Youth Information and Records)  
 II-D-2.1 (Substance Use Screening Youth - Facilities)  
 III-A-4.0 (Searches of Youth and Areas; Processing of Contraband or Evidence in Community Placements)
- JJIS form: Assessment OYA 4460 Substance Use Screen Report

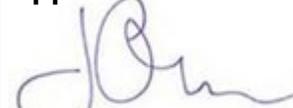
**Related Procedures:**

- None

**Policy Owner:**

Community Services Assistant  
 Director

**Approved:**

  
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 Joseph O'Leary, Director

**I. PURPOSE:**

This policy provides guidelines for substance use testing OYA youth on community supervision.

**II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:**

None.

**III. POLICY:**

OYA has identified diversity, equity and inclusion as an agency priority and initiative with a goal to build a respectful, diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment for youth and staff that is free from harassment, discrimination, and bias. Data shows youth of color and LGBTQ+ youth are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system. While OYA is only one part of that system, we play a critical role in addressing the historical and systemic inequities it perpetuates. Substance use screening must be used in a respectful and equitable manner.

OYA's responsibilities include holding youth accountable and providing opportunities for reformation in safe environments. Detection of a youth's illegal substance use is an important tool as staff work to fulfill the agency's mission.

The purpose of youth substance screening is to:

- Assess, monitor and treat a youth's substance use;
- Assist in case planning by identifying youth who need substance abuse treatment services or other interventions;
- Deter a youth's substance use; and
- Monitor and maintain compliance with court orders, parole/probation agreements, case plans, and substance use treatment programs.

#### **IV. GENERAL STANDARDS:**

A. Staff must notify youth of any substance screening procedures that are used and the consequences that may occur if a youth refuses to participate in screening.

1. Random or scheduled youth substance screening is allowed in the following instances:

- a) As authorized in a case plan, court order, or parole/probation agreement;
- b) In conjunction with a youth's treatment plan; and
- c) When staff have reasonable suspicion that a youth is using substances. This includes when a youth has been away from a program and may have had access to substances, or when behavior or other evidence suggests a youth may have used substances.

2. Substance use screening procedures must ensure the reliability of the test, accuracy of the results, and the safety of those involved.

- a) Chain of custody procedures must be followed as the specimen is processed. The chain of custody requirement ensures the specimen obtained from the youth is the same that is tested, and the result of such screen is what is presented as evidence in court.
- b) Staff must be instructed on screening methods and procedures prior to conducting a screening.

Staff must follow the manufacturer's recommendations when using screening products.

- c) Following a positive screening, a second testing method may be necessary to confirm results, especially if the sanction includes loss of liberty or the results will be used as evidence in court.

Local court requirements differ regarding confirmation tests. OYA staff must be aware of their local court's policy related to evidence of positive substance screens and tests.

- d) Screening procedures must be respectful of the youth, while maintaining the test integrity.
  - 1) The urine sample collection must be monitored by a same-sex staff (except for circumstances described in section B below) in a place and manner that will avoid undue embarrassment to the youth while safeguarding against sample tampering.
  - 2) Once the sample is provided, staff will keep it within their control to minimize opportunities for tampering.
- e) Staff must use universal precautions when conducting screens and tests.

- B. Staff must ask a transgender, gender diverse, or intersex youth to identify whether the youth prefers that a male or female staff conduct the youth's urine collection process when a urine sample is required for substance use screening.

If the stated preference is not the same sex as the youth, staff will use oral testing (e.g., mouth swab) to complete the substance use screen.

- C. Staff must protect confidential information regarding screening, and results. Appropriate information must be documented on an assessment OYA 4460 Substance Use Screen Report in JJIS and disclosed in compliance with OYA policy and procedures.

- D. Youth must be notified of screening results as soon as possible.

Adjustments to services and behavior reinforcement to support the youth's case plan goals may be needed and will be applied at the discretion of the youth's assigned juvenile parole/probation officer (JPPO) and treatment team.

- E. Staff must review this policy and related procedures prior to their initial substance use screening of youth.

**V. OYA GENERAL PROCEDURE REQUIRED: NO**

**VI. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO**