I. PURPOSE:

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

II. POLICY DEFINITIONS:

None.

III. POLICY:

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 will be 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 will be instructed on screening methods and procedures prior to conducting a screening.
   Staff will 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 will 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 will use universal precautions when conducting screens and tests.

B. Staff must ask a transgender 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.

Behavior reinforcement 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 drug screening of youth.

V. OYA GENERAL PROCEDURE REQUIRED: NO

VI. LOCAL OPERATING PROTOCOL REQUIRED: NO