



Position Statement on Drug Testing in Schools

The United States Supreme Court ruled in July of 2002 to allow random drug testing for secondary school students participating in extracurricular and other privileged activities. The Association of Student Assistance Professionals of New Jersey (ASAP-NJ) and the National Student Assistance Association (NSAA) believe parents/guardians and educators must decide at the local level if random drug testing is an appropriate tool to address student drug use in their schools and neighborhoods. If schools choose to use random drug testing, it is essential that a comprehensive student assistance program (SAP) with a Substance Awareness Coordinator is in place in the school district. In its publication, "Drug Testing in Schools," the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) recognizes student assistance programs as a positive referral option for students identified through random drug testing. Schools that have student assistance programs in place play a positive role in ensuring that students receive appropriate support, referral and follow-up.

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