

CT Statewide Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium Newsletter

DECEMBER 2022

Random Testing during Holidays

Reminder:

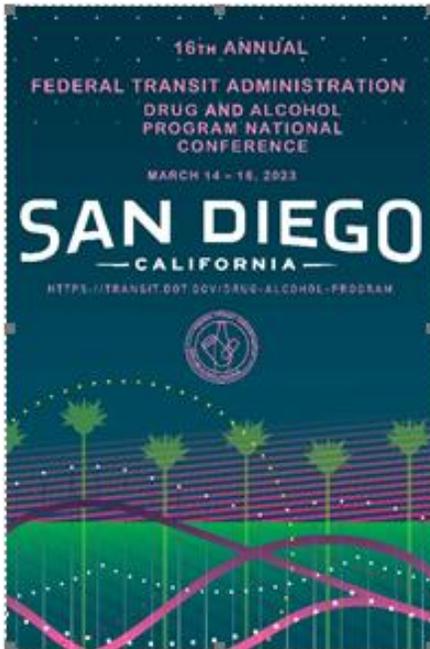
If your agency is operating on a holiday (i.e. Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day), we urge the DERs to schedule random testing on those days. The focus of testing during the winter holiday period is to make safety sensitive employees aware that they can be tested at any time during the Holidays.

DISA offices will be closed from December 23rd - December 26th, 2022, with the exception of the mobile units that will be available for emergency calls. Therefore; any random or follow-up testing will need to be scheduled in advance. This will allow them to better accommodate your scheduling request.

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The 1st quarter of 2023 Random selection is available on December 20th, 2022. That will give the DERs sufficient time to schedule the mobile unit for random testing on New Year's Day.

Save the Date—FTA Drug and Alcohol Program National Conference March 14-16, 2023



Save the date for the 16th Annual FTA Drug and Alcohol Program National Conference on March 14-16, 2023 in San Diego, CA.

This conference will be in-person with several sessions available virtually. Registration for the conference will open in January 2023 and a room block will be available at a discounted rate of \$181 per night at the conference hotel.

More information about the conference will be available in the coming weeks on the **FTA Drug & Alcohol Program** website.

FTA Drug and Alcohol Regulation Updates – Issue 76

<https://www.transit.dot.gov/regulations-and-programs/safety/fta-drug-and-alcohol-newsletter-october-2022-issue-76>

Check the above link for this FTA Issue 76 that includes the following updates:

- The FTA Audit Team is back on the road
- 2022 MIS Reporting
- Employers who operate seasonally must still meet minimum testing rates
- Common Follow-Up testing issues
- DOT tests are separate from and take priority over non-DOT tests
- Check with the Medical Review Officer (MRO) to determine cancellation due to collector error
- Factoring travel time into testing
- Refusal exemptions for pre-employment tests
- Taxicab exception
- More on found items: unauthorized items left in the restroom
- Employer discretion when scheduling random tests

Consortium 2022 MIS Reporting

Federal regulations require recipients of specific FTA funds establish and implement an anti-drug and alcohol misuse testing program. Recipients are required to annually prepare and maintain a summary of these results during the previous calendar year.

This report shall be submitted to FTA's Office of Transit Safety and Oversight or its designated agent. Each recipient shall be responsible for ensuring the accuracy and timeliness of each report prepared by DISA and submitted by the Consortium Coordinator acting on the recipient's behalf.

DISA will email you a copy of your agency's draft 2022 MIS report by early 2023. It will include all of your agency's drug and alcohol tests conducted through the Consortium during CY2022. In your review, please make any necessary changes and return the updated reports to DISA by mid-February 2023. DISA will be working closely with you during this process to rectify any discrepancies on the draft MIS report.

Your final MIS report will be submitted to FTA on your behalf by the Greater Hartford Transit District. A copy of the submitted report will be provided to you in March 2023 for your records.

Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Third Party Administrator (TPA) DISA Global Solutions, Inc.

COMPANY CONTACTS:

Mobile Operations

Scheduling Department

Jason Allen – Main Telephone #800-211-4469 Extension 6051. Email: Jason.Allen@disa.com

Taylor Leblanc - Main Telephone #800-211-4469 Extension 6041. Email: Scheduling@disa.com

Collectors

Nathan Rice

William Mauhs

Noelle Iglesias

Christopher Fitzpatrick

Senior Client Account Representative/Program Administrator

Candice Rouisse - Main Telephone #800-211-4469 Extension 6021

Email: DTCCAR@DISA.com or Candice.Rouisse@disa.com

Fax: 413-283-6945 or 413-284-0022

Accounting

Auberey Ramon - Main Telephone #800-211-4469. Email: Auberey.Ramon@disa.com

Area Leader

Candice Sanchez - Main Telephone #817-332-0044 Extension 3582. Email: Candice.sanchez@disa.com

24-Hour Drug & Alcohol Testing On-Site

Post-Accident

Reasonable Suspicion

1-800-967-3135 Toll-Free Emergency Line

Be prepared to provide the following information:

Your Name & Agency Name

Phone Number

Location of Incident

Reason for Call (Post-Accident or Reasonable Suspicion)

Medical Review Officer (MRO) Department

University Services

Richard Weinstein, MD

2800 Black Lake Place,

Suite A

Philadelphia, PA 19154

Phone: 800-624-3784

Fax: 215-637-6998

Enhance Awareness of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Note: This letter from The Lexington Group should be made available to safety-sensitive employees and posted in the break room



The Lexington Group

Your Employee Assistance Program

A Woman Owned Enterprise Since 2000

Dear CT Drug Consortium Employees and Family Members:

The Lexington Group Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides CONFIDENTIAL face-to-face and virtual counseling services to assist employees in identifying and resolving personal problems. Examples include marriage and family issues, job stress, alcohol and drug abuse, depression and other emotional concerns. The Lexington Group services also include referral resources for legal, financial, eldercare, and childcare through the Life Care program.

Because employee lives may be affected by problems with a spouse or other family members, this program is extended to household family members as well. You or your household family members may contact your EAP directly at any time. No matter what your situation, any assistance you seek through the EAP is held in the strictest confidence. Involvement will not jeopardize your job security, future promotional opportunities or reputation.

For confidential and immediate access, you may call The Lexington Group 24/7 at:

1-800-676-HELP (4357)

You may also request services or read more about the program online at:

www.The-Lexington-Group.com

Your unique employee password is "CTDrugConsort"

We hope you will share our enthusiasm for The Lexington Group, Employee Assistance Program, and the opportunity it presents to help you and your family.

Sincerely,
The Lexington Group



Scan to go to website

Contact & Resource Information

DISA Global Solutions, Inc.

Formerly Occupational Drug Testing (ODT)

www.Disa.com

Toll Free # 800-211-4469

The Lexington Group

www.The-Lexington-Group.com

Toll Free # 800-571-0197

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-676-HELP (4357)

Request clinical services online directly from the web site at:

www.The-Lexington-Group.com

To log on, your customer name is "CT Drug Consortium"

And your unique employee password is "CTDrugConsort"

Are you aware of the availability of program forms and resource documents on

GHTD's website? Go to:

<https://www.hartfordtransit.org/about/drug-alcohol-testing-consortium/>

Also, checkout the following materials:

What Employers Need to Know About DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing

What Employees Need to Know About DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing

Resources for The Designated Employer Representative (DER)

Lexington Newsletters

FTA Regulation Update Issues

The following FTA website provides a wealth of information such as trainings, newsletters, etc. on the Drug and Alcohol Testing Program that you might find very

helpful:

www.fta.dot.gov/12533.html

You may also find Title 49 Parts 40 and 655 (FTA regulations on the drug and alcohol testing program) by using the Search engine.