

CT Statewide Drug and Alcohol Testing Consortium Newsletter

June 2023

Oral Fluid Update

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has recently issued its final rule to amend regulations, allowing oral fluid testing for employees in the transportation industry. This development is set to streamline the drug testing process, offering a more efficient alternative to existing procedures, particularly in shy-bladder scenarios. This notice can be found at the following link:

<https://public-inspection.federalregister.gov/2023-08041.pdf>

Oral fluid testing will soon become an option for drug testing DOT employees. However; before it can be implemented, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) must certify at least two oral fluid laboratories. At this time, this certification has not yet occurred.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	Page #
Oral Fluid Update	1
Upcoming FTA Substance Abuse Training	2
Program Orientations	2
Reasonable Suspicion Training	3
Consortium Random Selection	3
Third Party Administrator	4
Employee Assistance Program	5
Contact & Resource Info	6

We will keep Consortium Members informed on further update.



FTA Substance Abuse Training Session in Worcester, MA!

The FTA Drug and Alcohol Program is hosting an in-person **Substance Abuse Training Session!**

This one-day training seminar will provide attendees with an overview of FTA Drug and Alcohol regulations, program requirements, and current issues with regard to Part 655 and Part 40. The presenter will be available to take questions from attendees. **Seminar Information:**

Online Registration: <https://transit-safety.fta.dot.gov/DrugAndAlcohol/Training/CourseRegistration/Register.aspx?ID=48>

Location: Worcester, MA

Host: FTA Drug and Alcohol Program Office

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 18, 2023
9:00am to 4:30pm

Training Site: Hilton Garden Inn
35 Major Taylor Boulevard
Worcester, MA
Meeting Room: Perennials AB



Program Orientations: New Designated Employer Representative (DER) and/or new Alternate DER

Our Consortium Program Orientations are aimed at familiarizing new DER and/or Alternate DER with the common things about the federal drug and alcohol testing. It enables the new DER/Alternate DER to successfully manage your agency's drug and alcohol testing program.

To schedule these program orientations, contact Consortium Coordinator, Nhan Vo-Le, at nhvole@ghtd.org.

Reasonable Suspicion Training

This training is offered to Designated Employer Representatives (DERs), Drug and Alcohol Program Managers (DAPMs), Transit Supervisors and Transit Officials who are authorized to determine when it is appropriate to administer Reasonable Suspicion testing.

Training Information:

Online Training

**Provided By: DISA Global
Solutions, Inc.**

**For registration, contact
Consortium Coordinator, Nhan Vo-
Le, at nhvole@ghtd.org**

Consortium Random Selection

The Consortium 3rd quarter random selection has been generated and sent to all applicable Members. This selection is now available to view in the DISA360 portal.

Note: The testing window for this selection is July 1st through September 30th, 2023.

Should you have any questions about the selection, please reach out to Candice Rouisse, Program Administrator, at DISA. Her contact info can be found on page 4 of this newsletter.

Drug and Alcohol Testing Program Third DISA Global Solutions, Inc.

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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.