



DRUG TESTING FAQs

Where do I get the form?

Start your order on CastleBranch per your program. CastleBranch will provide you with the form you take to get tested.

When do I have to have the drug test by?

New NUNM students must complete their drug test within 30 days prior to matriculation. You will be informed of the official date range and deadline to complete the required drug testing.

Do we have to be tested before every new clinical or field experience?

No. Students need to complete the drug test only once. The time of testing will be prior to matriculation.

What if I complete the drug testing more than 30 days prior to matriculation?

You will be required to take the drug test again within the 30 day range prior to matriculation. You will be responsible for any additional testing costs.

Any drug testing completed **prior to 30 days** of matriculation **will not be valid** for admission nor count as the first attempt.

Can we have the drug test taken at an alternative lab other than Labcorp?

Yes. Please reach out to the CastleBranch team at service@castlebranch.com and request they give you an order form for Quest Diagnostics.

What is the process for validating medical usage of medications prescribed by a doctor for medical reasons?

Castlebranch sends all non-negative urinary drug screens (including positive, dilute and invalid results) directly to NUNM's Chief Medical Officer (CMO). The CMO will view the non-negative results and contact the student. It is at this time that a student's doctor or pharmacist will fax a copy of the appropriate prescription(s) to NUNM's CMO.

If individuals come back positive, but have a prescription for the medication and it has been submitted to the CMO, there is no corrective action taken unless they are visibly inebriated or incapacitated. Medications that fall in this category include prescription pharmaceuticals and exclude medical marijuana cards.

What if I test positive for a medication that is not validated by the CMO?

The office of the Chief Medical Officer will contact the student. The student is responsible to take a subsequent drug test within 30 days of the void result. This could result in delayed matriculation.

If the second urinary drug screen comes back anything other than "negative", the student's offer of admission will be revoked, and the student will forfeit his or her enrollment deposit.

The student will be required to retake the drug test via CastleBranch using one of the following codes (dependent on their program):

Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine: VT55dt

Classical Chinese Medicine: VT56dt

Master of Science in Nutrition: VT54dt

What if I have a medical marijuana card?

Students with medical marijuana cards are not exempt from the policy. We encourage students to consult with their healthcare provider to explore alternative treatment options that align with the policy requirements while addressing their medical needs.

What about the alternative/medicinal nature of marijuana? Isn't it against our philosophy to not allow the medicinal marijuana users to use this medicine?

This is not a philosophical debate but rather a compliance with Oregon State and Federal laws, with which all students enrolled in clinical medical programs are required to comply. This includes NUNM's Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine, Classical Chinese Medicine, and Master of Science in Nutrition Clinical Track programs.

Isn't marijuana legal in Oregon?

While Oregon legalized the sale and private use of marijuana as of July 1, 2015, marijuana remains classified as a Schedule I controlled substance under Federal law, meaning it is illegal to purchase, possess, or use marijuana nationwide.

Because NUNM receives Federal funds (including funding tied to student loans), we are required to comply with Federal laws regarding drug use. Specifically, NUNM is legally obligated and professionally committed to maintaining a drug-free environment under the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, the Improving America's Schools Act, and the Drug-Free Workplace Act. This includes preventing the use of marijuana and alcohol by students and employees.