be denied employment as a crewmember or removed from duties which directly affect the safe operation of the vessel as soon as possible.

(e) An individual who has failed a required chemical test for dangerous drugs may not be re-employed aboard a vessel until the requirements of paragraph (f) of this section and 46 CFR Part 5, if applicable, have been satisfied.

(f) Before an individual who has failed a required chemical test for dangerous drugs may return to work aboard a vessel, the MRO must determine that the individual is drug-free and the risk of subsequent use of dangerous drugs by that person is sufficiently low to justify his or her return to work. In addition, the individual must agree to be subject to increased unannounced testing:

1. For a minimum of six (6) tests in the first year after the individual returns to work as required in 49 CFR part 40; and
2. For any additional period as determined by the MRO up to a total of 60 months.

§ 16.203 Employer, MRO, and SAP responsibilities.

(a) Employers. (1) Employers must ensure that they and their crewmembers meet the requirements of this part.

(2) Employers are responsible for all the actions of their officials, representatives, and agents in carrying out the requirements of this part.

(3) All agreements and arrangements, written or unwritten, between and among employers and service agents concerning the implementation of DOT drug testing requirements are deemed, as a matter of law, to require compliance with all applicable provisions of this part and DOT agency drug testing regulations. Compliance with these provisions is a material term of all such agreements and arrangements.

(b) Medical Review Officer (MRO). (1) Individuals performing MRO functions must meet the training requirements and follow the procedures in 49 CFR Part 40.

(2) MROs may report chemical drug test results to the Coast Guard for unemployed, self-employed, or individual mariners.

(c) Substance Abuse Professional (SAP). Individuals performing SAP functions must meet the training requirements and follow the procedures in 49 CFR Part 40.

§ 16.205 Implementation of chemical testing programs.

(a) When a vessel owned in the United States is operating in waters that are not subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, the testing requirements of §§ 16.210 and 16.230 do not apply to a citizen of a foreign country engaged or employed as pilot in accordance with the laws or customs of that foreign country.

(b) Upon written request of an employer, Commandant (CG-545) will review the employer’s chemical testing program to determine compliance with the provisions of this part.

§ 16.210 Pre-employment testing requirements.

(a) No marine employer shall engage or employ any individual to serve as a crewmember unless the individual passes a chemical test for dangerous drugs, required by this part, within the previous six months with no subsequent positive drug tests during the remainder of the six-month period; or

(b) Medical Review Officer (MRO). (1) Individuals performing MRO functions must meet the training requirements and follow the procedures in 49 CFR Part 40.