Office of the Secretary of Transportation

§ 40.15  May an employer use a service agent to meet DOT drug and alcohol testing requirements?

(a) As an employer, you may use a service agent to perform the tasks needed to comply with this part and DOT agency drug and alcohol testing regulations, consistent with the requirements of Subpart Q and other applicable provisions of this part.

(b) As an employer, you are responsible for ensuring that the service agents you use meet the qualifications set forth in this part (e.g., § 40.121 for MROs). You may require service agents to show you documentation that they

§ 40.14  What collection information must employers provide to collectors?

As an employer, or an employer’s service agent—for example a C/TPA, you must ensure the collector has the following information when conducting a urine specimen collection for you:

(a) Full name of the employee being tested.

(b) Employee SSN or ID number.

(c) Laboratory name and address (can be pre-printed on the CCF).

(d) Employer name, address, phone number, and fax number (can be pre-printed on the CCF at Step 1–A).

(e) DER information required at § 40.35 of this part.

(f) MRO name, address, phone number, and fax number (can be pre-printed on the CCF at Step 1–B).

(g) The DOT Agency which regulates the employee’s safety-sensitive duties (the checkmark can pre-printed in the appropriate box on the CCF at Step 1–D).

(h) Test reason, as appropriate: Pre-employment; Random; Reasonable Suspicion/Reasonable Cause; Post-Accident; Return-to-Duty; and Follow-up.

(i) Whether the test is to be observed or not (see § 40.67 of this part).

(j) (Optional) C/TPA name, address, phone, and fax number (can be pre-printed on the CCF).

§ 40.13  How do DOT drug and alcohol tests relate to non-DOT tests?

(a) DOT tests must be completely separate from non-DOT tests in all respects.

(b) DOT tests must take priority and must be conducted and completed before a non-DOT test is begun. For example, you must discard any excess urine left over from a DOT test and collect a separate void for the subsequent non-DOT test.

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, you must not perform any tests on DOT urine or breath specimens other than those specifically authorized by this part or DOT agency regulations. For example, you may not test a DOT urine specimen for additional drugs, and a laboratory is prohibited from making a DOT urine specimen available for a DNA test or other types of specimen identity testing.

(d) The single exception to paragraph (c) of this section is when a DOT drug test collection is conducted as part of a physical examination required by DOT agency regulations. It is permissible to conduct required medical tests related to this physical examination (e.g., for glucose) on any urine remaining in the collection container after the drug test urine specimens have been sealed into the specimen bottles.

(e) No one is permitted to change or disregard the results of DOT tests based on the results of non-DOT tests. For example, as an employer you must not disregard a verified positive DOT drug test result because the employee presents a negative test result from a blood or urine specimen collected by the employee’s physician or a DNA test result purporting to question the identity of the DOT specimen.

(f) As an employer, you must not use the CCF or the ATF in your non-DOT drug and alcohol testing programs. This prohibition includes the use of the DOT forms with references to DOT programs and agencies crossed out. You also must always use the CCF and ATF for all your DOT-mandated drug and alcohol tests.

§ 40.12  What is the minimum acceptable time for a DOT test collection?

An employer or service agent must maintain a DOT test collection for at least 90 minutes after the employee has completed the collection process. It is permissible to conduct required medical tests related to a DOT drug test collection as part of a physical examination required by DOT agency regulations. It is permissible to conduct related medical tests on any urine remaining in the collection container after the drug test urine specimens have been sealed into the specimen bottles.

§ 40.11  What is the minimum acceptable time for a DOT test analysis?

An employer or service agent must maintain a DOT test analysis for at least 60 minutes after the laboratory has completed the analysis process. It is permissible to conduct required medical tests related to a DOT drug test analysis as part of a physical examination required by DOT agency regulations. It is permissible to conduct related medical tests on any urine remaining in the collection container after the drug test urine specimens have been sealed into the specimen bottles.

§ 40.10  What is the minimum acceptable time for a DOT test result?

An employer or service agent must maintain a DOT test result for at least 60 minutes after the laboratory has issued the result. It is permissible to conduct related medical tests related to a DOT drug test result as part of a physical examination required by DOT agency regulations. It is permissible to conduct related medical tests on any urine remaining in the collection container after the drug test urine specimens have been sealed into the specimen bottles.

§ 40.9  What is the minimum acceptable time for a DOT test closure?

An employer or service agent must maintain a DOT test closure for at least 60 minutes after the laboratory has closed the test. It is permissible to conduct related medical tests related to a DOT drug test closure as part of a physical examination required by DOT agency regulations. It is permissible to conduct related medical tests on any urine remaining in the collection container after the drug test urine specimens have been sealed into the specimen bottles.