Policy

It is the policy of the Shasta College Health Sciences Division to adhere to all state and local regulations and JCAHO policies, as well as the policies of the clinical facilities with which the College affiliates for student clinical learning experiences. Accordingly, students will be required to adhere to the following policies regarding drug screening tests, criminal background checks, and criminal convictions.

Drug Screening Tests

All students in all Health Sciences Division clinical programs are subject to drug screening for cause if, in the opinion of a faculty member and the Health Sciences Division Dean, the student exhibits impaired behavior or judgment that may indicate the use of mind-altering substances. Such a student will be informed of the requirement for a drug screening test by the Health Sciences Division Dean and will be given both written and verbal instructions including a deadline for the test at that time.

Students are responsible for all costs associated with the drug screening. The College will designate the company to do the drug screening and will not accept drug screening results from any company other than the one so designated. Students must further agree that all results will be released to the Health Sciences Division Dean and the Dean’s designee.

A positive drug screening result or failure to comply with the instructions for the test will result in the student’s immediate removal from the Health Sciences clinical program in which he or she is enrolled. Such students are not eligible to reapply to the program.

(Note: the California Supreme Court has ruled that prescriptions for marijuana do not exempt users from workplace rules, and they may be fired for a drug test that is positive for marijuana. Accordingly, any student who tests positive will be removed from the program and will not be eligible to reapply).

Criminal Background Checks

In accordance with the policies of the clinical facilities with which the College affiliates for student clinical learning experiences, as well as other state and federal regulations, all students will have completed a criminal background check as detailed in the Health Sciences Division Pre-enrollment Criminal Background and Drug Screening Policy.
This policy is intended to ensure that any criminal convictions in the student's past are of such an age or nature that they will not interfere with the student's ability to participate at all clinical sites.

In the event that convictions that were not uncovered during the background check are proved to have occurred, and those convictions are of such an age or nature that they preclude the student from participating at all clinical sites, the student will be removed from the Health Sciences clinical program in which he or she is enrolled. Such students are not eligible to reapply to any Health Sciences Division clinical program. (The term conviction for these purposes includes probated sentences and deferred adjudications.)

**Criminal Convictions**

A student convicted of a criminal offense while enrolled in a Health Sciences Division clinical program must report the conviction to the Dean of Health Sciences within five days of the conviction. The term conviction for these purposes includes probated sentences and deferred adjudications. Such convictions are likely to render the student unable to participate at any clinical site, in which case the student will be removed from the Health Sciences clinical program in which he or she is enrolled.

**Note:** Even if a student is convicted of a criminal offense while enrolled in a Health Sciences clinical program and succeeds in completing the program because he or she did not disclose this conviction to the Dean, he or she will be subject to further background checks prior to testing for licensure and may be prevented from ever becoming licensed.

*Any student who has any concerns about drug screening, criminal background checks, or criminal convictions is encouraged to contact the Dean of the Health Sciences Division for confidential advising.*