

## **General Related FAQs**

### **1. Where do I go to drop off our Command's urine samples?**

Answer: NDSL Jacksonville is located at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. It is in Bldg. H-2033 on Adams Avenue which is one block off of Mustin Road.

### **2. What are specimen drop-off hours?**

Answer: Specimens are accepted on a walk-in basis from 0600 to 1730, Monday through Friday.

### **3. What is the capacity of the Navy Drug Screening Lab Jacksonville?**

Answer: The current capacity is over 1,000,000 specimens per year with an average turn-around time of 1 to 3 days for negative samples and 3 to 5 days for positive samples.

### **4. How many tested specimens are positive?**

Answer: Less than 1% of the specimens are confirmed positive.

### **5. How are the urine samples processed?**

Answer: Regulated forensic drug testing laboratories employ immunoassay-based tests to quickly distinguish between two types of specimens: those which are negative and those which are presumptive positive. The negative specimens are reported negative while the presumptive positives go on for further testing. In the DoD laboratories, the next level of testing is a repeat of the immunoassay-based tests under more stringent administrative conditions. If the second test upholds the presumptive positive result obtained on the first test, then the laboratory is required to perform a confirmatory test by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS). GC/MS is considered to be the "gold standard" of tests and it will determine whether the presumptive positive specimen is truly positive. This combination of three tests employing two analytical methodologies based on different chemical principles is called multi-modal testing and when coupled with the requirement to use a separate aliquot of urine for each test, assures an error-free result. For a sample to be reported as positive, it must be above a cutoff level in all three independent tests. A sample is reported as negative if it is below a cutoff value in any of the three tests.

**6. What drug cutoff concentrations are used by the DoD laboratories to report a positive test result by GC/MS?**

Answer: A specimen is positive when the GC/MS result is equal to or greater than the cutoff concentration. The DoD guidelines include the following confirmatory test cutoffs for the specified drug/metabolites:

<u>Drug/Drug metabolite</u>	<u>Cutoff Concentration</u>
Cocaine metabolite (benzoylecgonine)	100 ng/mL
Heroin metabolite (6-AM)	10 ng/mL
<i>d</i> -Methamphetamine	100 ng/mL
<i>d</i> -Amphetamine	100 n/mL
Marijuana metabolite (THCA)	15 ng/mL
MDMA (Ecstasy)	500 ng/mL
MDA (Ecstasy metabolite)	500 ng/mL
Opiates:	
Codeine	2000 ng/mL
Morphine	4000 ng/mL
Oxycodone	100 ng/mL
Oxymorphone	100 ng/mL
Phencyclidine	25 ng/mL