

## Drug Test Requirements for a Merchant Mariner Credential

### **Finding a Test Site:**

1. Search for a provider by going to the [DOT Collection Site Locator | Foley \(foleyservices.com\)](#) or by performing a general internet search to locate a certified lab.
2. When using the [DOT Collection Site Locator | Foley \(foleyservices.com\)](#), enter your ZIP code or City & State under **Location** on the left side of the site.
3. Select **All sites** and **Drug testing: Urine, DOT** under **products or services**.
4. Click **Find Services**.

*This will bring up a list of collection facilities within your area.*

*NOTE: This directory is not maintained by the federal government and is provided to mariners as a convenience for informational purposes only. Mariners are advised to contact the testing facility of their choice directly to ensure it meets their needs as well as all Coast Guard requirements. The Coast Guard does not recommend or endorse any provider.*

5. Verify the following information with the facility to ensure that it will meet Coast Guard requirements:
  - a. Can perform DOT 5 Panel test that ONLY tests for Marijuana, Cocaine, Opiates, Phencyclidine, and Amphetamines.
  - b. Ensure the laboratory the specimen will be sent to is accredited by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).
  - c. Will be signed by a Certified Medical Review Officer (MRO).
6. You can obtain the MRO's name from the facility and visit [www.aamro.com](http://www.aamro.com) or <http://www.mrocc.org> to ensure the MRO is certified.
  - a. On the AAMRO website, click **Locate a Certified MRO**, enter the MRO's last name, and click **Search**. If the doctor is a certified MRO, beside their name it will state, "In good standing".

- b. On the MROCC website, click **MROCC Directory**, enter the MRO's last name, and click **Search Directory**. If the MRO is certified, their name will appear.
7. You can also obtain the name of the laboratory the sample will be sent to and verify the laboratory is SAMHSA certified by visiting the [NMC website](#), and clicking **Drug Testing**, and then **SAMSHA**. Choose one of the current lists of Certified Labs. If certified, the laboratory name and address will be on the list.

*NOTE: The business entity should be able to provide a one-stop service to include arranging for the collection of the specimen, laboratory analysis of the specimen at a SAMHSA-accredited laboratory, and MRO services for review of the specimen results.*

8. When arranging for the drug test services, ensure that you will be able to get the results (original or copy) back, or if you have an open application that the business will send the results to your local Regional Exam Center (REC) for processing.

## **Things to Look for:**

- The chain-of-custody form should have the words on the top line “Federal Drug Testing Custody and Control Form”. If those words are not present on the form in the top space, it is not a DOT (federal) drug test and will not be accepted.
- Make sure that the name, address, phone number, and fax number of the MRO appears in Step 1 on the top portion of the Custody and Control Form.

## **After Taking the Test or Having the Specimen Collected:**

1. You should be given **Copy 5 (Donor's copy)** to take with you. That is your copy and receipt that you have taken the drug test.

*NOTE: This does not have the test results on it.*

2. The test results should be available approximately 24 to 48 hours after the time you had your specimen collected.

3. These drug test results need to be submitted with your completed application package to your local REC.
4. Acceptable proof of a drug test result can be any one of the following:
  - a. Copy 2 of the Federal Drug Testing Custody and Control Form signed by the MRO. Make sure that the test result can be seen clearly.  
**OR**
  - b. Completion of the [DOT/USCG Periodic Drug Testing Form \(CG-719P\)](#), included in this application packet. The MRO needs to complete this form.  
**OR**
  - c. A letter from the drug testing facility that contains all required information and is signed by the MRO.
  - d. Option II or III listed on page 2 of the [DOT/USCG Periodic Drug Testing Form \(CG-719P\)](#).

**For questions, contact the National Maritime Center customer service center at (888) 427-5662.**