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**TO:** Applicants to Mount Sinai Residency and Fellowship Programs

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Mount Sinai always attempts to ensure that the work environment remains free from hazards to patients, employees, and visitors. In keeping with the requirements of the New York State Department of Health, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations, and the Drug-Free Workplace Act. All new employees, including house staff are required to complete a health screening process before beginning work.

The adverse impact of substance abuse on workplace safety, efficiency and productivity is well documented and continues to be a primary concern of employers, employees and the public. Since July 1997, the screening process for all incoming house staff has included urine toxicology testing. This test screens for amphetamines, barbiturates, benzodiazepines, cannabinoids, cocaine, opiates and phencyclidine.

All positive specimens are confirmed by gas chromatography and reviewed by a certified Medical Review Officer. Any information related to toxicology screenings is confidential, and a strict chain of custody is followed.

The implementation of toxicology screening for new employees assists us in continuing to deliver the best possible medical care. Thank you for your cooperation in this important effort.

Policy Reference: <http://policies.mountsinai.org/web/human-resources/policies/-/policy-management/viewPolicy/83488>