

# Ways Job Applicants Avoid Drug Testing



Substance abuse of employees is detrimental to a company's welfare. According to a statement of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration, employees who use illegal drugs are 30% less productive and are, on the average, absent for five days a month. They are also four times more prone to be mixed up in office accidents and then file a claim. According to the study, one out of every twelve full time employees whose age falls within the 18-64 range have used prohibited drugs in the recent months. Furthermore, they are more likely to adversely affect their workmates and induce violence.

This is the reason why nowadays, more than 80% of Fortune 500 companies require a test for illicit drug use before hiring a prospective employee. Consequently, applicants under substance abuse opt to apply to smaller companies to minimize the chances of them getting caught.

As stated by Tom Lawson, pioneer of background checks in 1980 and present CEO of APSCREEN, attempts to get off scot-free from testing has improved. Consuming large amounts of cranberry to pickle juice, herbal mixtures and other food and beverages that will help cleanse their system. Nevertheless, there are some substances that include metabolites which can still be detected even after several days of intake. Even what they drink and eat will not help to hide these metabolites.

Another way of preventing the detection of drug use is by avoiding the test itself. Some claim that they are unable to provide the necessary specimen, expecting to secure the job first. Lawson said they

patiently wait up to three hours until the applicant is ready to produce the urine. An applicant's inability to provide the specimen is suspicious so a medical explanation is also requested from the applicant. Sometimes, the person asks for up to 90 days before affirming for the test. This is also a suspicious move, so they recommend the immediate testing of the individual.

A popular method of applicants is presenting a sample that did not come from their body. However, a step-by-step process is employed by Lawson's company, so any strange activity is quickly monitored and flagged. Several people have already been caught attempting to use even prosthetic devices. Their tests can determine if the specimen is authentic human urine.

Some applicants claim that drug testing is an invasion of their privacy to prevent the company from having them tested for substance abuse. However, a well-written company policy stating that refusal to submit to the test is a basis for not getting hired or being released from employment will stand in any court throughout the country. Aside from drug testing, Lawson's company also double checks the applicant's background, including the applicant's credit history, references, driving and criminal activities and the like. A complete report is submitted to the employer to guide them into making a wise decision.

**Reference:** <https://marijuana101.org/drug-test/detox-products/synthetic-urine/fake-urine-drug-test>