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Search Medications & Ingredients

[Click here for information specific to the UFC Anti-Doping Program.](#)

TESTING

Understanding the Testing Process

Testing is an important part of any effective anti-doping program and is the area that most often comes to mind when thinking about anti-doping. From test planning and collection of a urine or blood sample, through the results managements process, USADA provides a thorough program, with policies and procedures in accordance with the World Anti-Doping Code, the WADA International Standards,

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the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee Anti-Doping Rules, and the USADA Protocol for Olympic and Paralympic Movement Testing.

TESTING DURING COVID-19

SAMPLE COLLECTION

Sample collection is one of the most important aspects of USADA's testing efforts.

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URINE COLLECTION PROCESS



BLOOD COLLECTION PROCESS



WHEREABOUTS

Whereabouts information allows an athlete to be located for out-of-competition testing. Athletes can be tested 365 days a year without advance notice. Testing pool athletes are required to provide Whereabouts filings to USADA and report changes.

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**THERAPEUTIC USE
EXEMPTIONS**

**NATIONAL & WORLD
RECORD TESTING
PROCESS**



In some situations, an athlete may have an illness or condition that requires the use of substances or methods listed on the World Anti-Doping Agency's Prohibited List. USADA may grant a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) in these situations in compliance with the World Anti-Doping Agency International Standard for TUEs. The TUE application process is thorough and designed to balance the need to provide athletes access to critical medication while protecting the rights of clean athletes to complete on a level playing field.

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USADA has seen a significant increase of national and world records broken by U.S. athletes and international athletes at events hosted in the U.S. To better assist athletes who break a record and require testing to ratify a record, USADA now has the Record Hotline that allows athletes, athlete support personnel, and event organizers to contact USADA after-hours and on weekends to request testing.

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IMPORTANT TESTING GUIDANCE DOCUMENTS



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WORLD ANTI-DOPING CODE

Outlines anti-doping rules, policies, and procedures globally.



WADA ISTI

Ensures effective testing processes, from test distribution planning to transporting samples for analysis.



USOPC ANTI-DOPING POLICIES

Outlines the anti-doping policies for the National Olympic & Paralympic Committee of the United States.



USADA PROTOCOL

Outlines USADA's policies and procedures for testing.

TEST DISTRIBUTION PLANNING

Click on the question to drop down the answer.

— What athletes fall under USADA's testing and results management authority?

The United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), USOPC-recognized National Governing Bodies (NGBs) for sport, and the World Anti-Doping Code have authorized USADA to test, as well as adjudicate anti-doping rule violations for any athlete who...

authorized USADA to test, as well as adjudicate anti-doping rule violations for any athlete who:

- Is a member or a license holder of a USOPC-recognized sport NGB.
- Is participating at an event or competition sanctioned by the USOPC or a USOPC-recognized sport NGB or participating at an event or competition in the United States sanctioned by an International Olympic Committee-recognized International Federation (IF) for sport.
- Is a foreign athlete who is present in the United States.
- Has given his/her consent to testing by USADA or who has submitted a Whereabouts filing to USADA or an IF within the previous 12 months and has not given his/her NGB written notice of retirement.
- Has been named by the USOPC or an NGB to an international team or who is included in a USADA testing pool or is competing in a qualifying event to represent the USOPC or NGB in international competition.
- Is a United States athlete or foreign athlete present in the United States who is serving a period of ineligibility on account of an anti-doping rule violation and has not given prior written notice of retirement to the his/her NGB and USADA or the applicable foreign anti-doping agency or foreign sport association.
- Is being tested by USADA under authorization from the USOPC, an NGB, an IF, any National Anti-Doping Organization (NADO), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), or the organizing committee of any event or competition.

- + **How does USADA determine whom it will test?**
- + **How is in-competition testing determined?**
- + **How are out-of-competition tests assigned?**
- + **Does USADA have an athlete testing pool?**

