

The DOT Random Drug & Alcohol Testing Rates for 2009

The office of Drug and Alcohol Policy and Compliance (“ODAPC”), part of the U. S. Department of Transportation (“DOT”) and the United States Coast Guard (“USCG”) has released its minimum random drug and alcohol testing rates for calendar year 2009.

These random rates are determined by the individual agency’s administrator after reviewing data gathered by the DOT related to testing during the prior years. Across the board, rates for both drug and alcohol testing remain unchanged from calendar year 2008, and have been fairly constant since 2007.

For your convenience, the rates are provided below. Additionally, they can be found on the ODAPC website at <http://www.dot.gov/ost/dapc/rates.html>.

DOT Agency	2009 Random Drug Testing Rate	2009 Random Alcohol Testing Rate
Federal Aviation Administration [FAA]	25%	10%
Federal Motor Carrier Safety [FMCSA]	50%	10%
Federal Rail Road Administration [FRA]	25%	10%
Federal Transit Administration [FTA]	25%	10%
Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration [PHMSA]	25%	N/A
United States Coast Guard [USCG]*	50%	N/A

* While the USCG is now part of the Department of Homeland Security, USCG-covered employees may still be combined with DOT- covered employees in drug testing pools.

Although employers may be subject to more than one DOT agency, drug and alcohol testing rules may work to combine covered employees into a single random selection pool. Testing must also occur at or above the highest minimum annual random testing rates established by the DOT agencies under whose jurisdiction they fall under.

