UWSOM Policy on the Use and Possession of Cannabis

As medical students engaged in clinical activities you are expected to abide by the same policies that apply to University of Washington employees as well as the policies of your Foundations Campus (if not Seattle). In addition, many of the sites at which you have clinical rotations require drug testing, often for cannabis (marijuana), including major clinical sites in each of the states. A positive drug test for cannabis or other substances will result in an automatic referral to the Washington Physicians Health Plan (WPHP) and may be grounds for your not being able to participate in clinical activities at that site, including clerkships, preceptorships, shadowing experiences, and college tutorials. There may be other consequences as well.

Clinical sites may ask students to complete a drug test with little or no notice.

Please review the UW Policy on Use and Possession of Cannabis in the M.D. Program Handbook.

UW Policy on Use and Possession of Cannabis
Regardless of the laws of the state in which the students reside, UW policy prohibits the production, distribution, possession, and use of cannabis on university property or during university-sponsored activities. A number of university employees are subject to drug and alcohol testing because of the type of work they perform. Violating these policies or testing positive for cannabis may lead to sanctions, including termination, under the applicable general code of conduct, even if the use occurred outside of work hours and otherwise in accordance with state law. It is still a federal crime to possess and use even small amounts of cannabis on or in any university facilities or vehicles. In addition, failure to comply with federal laws and regulations on cannabis possession and use on campus jeopardizes the UW’s continued receipt of federal funds. See the University’s Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy for more information...

WPHP Policy Statement on the use of Cannabis by Healthcare Providers (hyperlink to attached PDF).

SOM Drug Testing Policy and Procedures webpage