10 CFR PAR 712
HUMAN RELIABILITY PROGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Subpart A – Establishment of and Procedures for the Human Reliability Program

General Provisions

§ 712.1 Purpose.
This part establishes the policies and procedures for a Human Reliability Program (HRP) in the Department of Energy (DOE), including the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). The HRP is a security and safety reliability program designed to ensure that individuals who occupy positions affording access to certain materials, nuclear explosive devices, facilities, and programs meet the highest standards of reliability and physical and mental suitability. This objective is accomplished under this part through a system of continuous evaluation that identifies individuals whose judgment and reliability may be impaired by physical or mental/personality disorders, alcohol abuse, use of illegal drugs or the abuse of legal drugs or other substances, or any other condition or circumstance that may be of a security or safety concern.

§ 712.2 Applicability.
The HRP applies to all applicants for, or current employees of DOE or a DOE contractor or subcontractor in a position defined or designated under Sec. 712.10 of this subpart as an HRP position. Individuals currently in a Personnel Assurance Program or Personnel Security Assurance Program position will be grandfathered into the HRP.

§ 712.3 Definitions.
The following definitions are used in this part:

Accelerated Access Authorization Program means the DOE program for granting interim access to classified matter and special nuclear material based on a drug test, a National Agency Check, a psychological assessment, a counterintelligence-scope polygraph examination in accordance with 10 CFR part 709, and a review of the applicant's completed "Questionnaire for National Security Positions" (Standard Form 86).

Access means:
(1) A situation that may provide an individual proximity to or control over Category I special nuclear material (SNM); or

(2) The proximity to a nuclear explosive and/or Category I SNM that allows the opportunity to divert, steal, tamper with, and/or damage the nuclear explosive or material in spite of any controls that have been established to prevent such unauthorized actions. Alcohol means the intoxicating agent in beverage alcohol, ethyl alcohol, or other low molecular weight alcohol.

Alcohol abuse means consumption of any beverage, mixture, or preparation, including any medication containing alcohol that results in impaired social or occupational functioning.

Alcohol concentration means the alcohol in a volume of breath expressed in terms of grams of alcohol per 210 liters of breath as indicated by a breath test.

Alcohol use disorder means a maladaptive pattern in which a person's intake of alcohol is great enough to damage or adversely affect physical or mental health or personal, social, or occupational function; or when alcohol has become a prerequisite to normal function.

Certification means the formal action the HRP certifying official takes that permits an individual to perform HRP duties after it is determined that the individual meets the requirements for certification under this part.

Contractor means subcontractors at all tiers and any industrial, educational, commercial, or other entity, grantee, or licensee, including an employee that has executed an agreement with the Federal government for the purpose of performing under a contract, license, or other arrangement.

Designated Physician means a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy who has been nominated by the Site Occupational Medical Director (SOMD) and approved by the Manager or designee, with the concurrence of the Director, Office of Health and Safety, to provide professional expertise in occupational medicine for the HRP.

Designated Psychologist means a licensed Ph.D., or Psy.D., in clinical psychology who has been nominated by the SOMD and approved by the Manager or designee, with the concurrence of the Director, Office of Health and Safety, to provide professional expertise in the area of psychological assessment for the HRP.

Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders means the current version of the American Psychiatric Association's manual containing definitions of psychiatric terms and diagnostic criteria of mental disorders.

Director, Office of Health and Safety means the DOE individual with responsibility for policy and quality assurance for DOE occupational medical programs.

Drug abuse means use of an illegal drug or misuse of legal drugs.

Evidential-grade breath alcohol device means a device that conforms to the model standards for an evidential breath-testing device as listed on the Conforming Products List of Evidential Breath Measurement Devices published by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Flashback means an involuntary, spontaneous recurrence of some aspect of a hallucinatory experience or perceptual distortion that occurs long after taking the hallucinogen that produced the original effect; also referred to as hallucinogen persisting perception disorder.

Hallucinogen means a drug or substance that produces hallucinations, distortions in perception of sights and sounds, and disturbances in emotion, judgment, and memory.

HRP candidate means an individual being considered for assignment to an HRP position.

HRP-certified individual means an individual who has successfully completed the HRP requirements.

HRP certifying official means the Manager or the Manager's designee who certifies, recertifies, temporarily removes, reviews the circumstances of an individual's removal from an HRP position, and directs reinstatement.

HRP management official means an individual designated by the DOE or a DOE contractor, as appropriate, who has programmatic responsibility for HRP positions.

Illegal drug means a controlled substance, as specified in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 811 and 812; the term does not apply to the use of a controlled substance in accordance with the terms of a valid prescription, or other uses authorized by Federal law.

Impaired or impairment means a decrease in functional capacity of a person that is caused by a physical, mental, emotional, substance abuse, or behavioral disorder.

Incident means an unplanned, undesired event that interrupts the completion of an activity and that may include property damage or injury.

Job task analysis means the formal process of defining the requirements of a position and identifying the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to effectively perform the duties of the position.

Manager means the Manager of the Chicago, Idaho, Oak Ridge, Richland, and Savannah River Operations Offices; Manager of the Pittsburgh Naval Reactors Office and the Schenectady Naval Reactors Office; Site Office Managers for Livermore, Los Alamos, Sandia, Y-12, Nevada, Pantex, Kansas City, and Savannah River; Director of the Service Center, Albuquerque; Assistant Deputy Administrator for the Office of Secure Transportation, Albuquerque; and for the Washington, DC area, the Deputy Chief for Operations, Office of Health, Safety and Security.

Material access area means a type of Security Area that is authorized to contain a Category I quantity of special nuclear material and that has specifically defined physical barriers, is located within a Protected Area, and is subject to specific access controls.
Medical assessment means an evaluation of an HRP candidate and HRP-certified individual's present health status and health risk factors by means of:

1. Medical history review;
2. Job task analysis;
3. Physical examination;
4. Appropriate laboratory tests and measurements; and
5. Appropriate psychological and psychiatric evaluations.

Nuclear explosive means an assembly of fissionable and/or fusible and/or fissionable materials and main charge high explosive parts or propellants that is capable of producing a nuclear detonation.

Nuclear explosive duties means work assignments that allow custody of a nuclear explosive or access to a nuclear explosive device or area.

Occurrence means any event or incident that is a deviation from the planned or expected behavior or course of events in connection with any DOE or DOE-controlled operation if the deviation has environmental, public health and safety, or national security protection significance, including (but not limited to) incidents involving:

1. Injury or fatality to any person involving actions of a DOE employee or contractor employee;
2. An explosion, fire, spread of radioactive material, personal injury or death, or damage to property that involves nuclear explosives under DOE jurisdiction;
3. Accidental release of pollutants that results from, or could result in, a significant effect on the public or environment; or
4. Accidental release of radioactive material above regulatory limits.

Psychological assessment or test means a scientifically validated instrument designed to detect psychiatric, personality, and behavioral tendencies that would indicate problems with reliability and judgment.

Random alcohol testing means the unscheduled, unannounced alcohol testing of randomly selected employees by a process designed to ensure that selections are made in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Random drug testing means the unscheduled, unannounced drug testing of randomly selected employees by a process designed to ensure that selections are made in a nondiscriminatory manner.

Reasonable suspicion means a suspicion based on an articulable belief that an individual uses illegal drugs or is under the influence of alcohol, drawn from reasonable inferences from particular facts, as detailed further in part 707 of this title.

Recertification means the formal action the HRP certifying official takes annually, not to exceed 12 months, that permits an employee to remain in the HRP and perform HRP duties.

Reinstatement means the action the HRP certifying official takes after it has been determined that an employee who has been temporarily removed from the HRP meets the certification requirements of this part and can be returned to HRP duties.

Reliability means an individual's ability to adhere to security and safety rules and regulations.

Safety concern means any condition, practice, or violation that causes a substantial probability of physical harm, property loss, and/or environmental impact.

Security concern means the presence of information regarding an individual applying for or holding an HRP position that may be considered derogatory under the criteria listed in 10 CFR part 710, subpart A.

Semi-structured interview means an interview by a Designated Psychologist, or a psychologist under his or her supervision, who has the latitude to vary the focus and content of the questions depending on the interviewee's responses.

Site Occupational Medical Director (SOMD) means the physician responsible for the overall direction and operation of the occupational medical program at a particular site.

Supervisor means the individual who has oversight and organizational responsibility for a person holding an HRP position, and whose duties include evaluating the behavior and performance of the HRP-certified individual.

Transfer means an HRP-certified individual moving from one site to another site.

Unacceptable damage means an incident that could result in a nuclear detonation; high-explosive detonation or deflagration from a nuclear explosive; the diversion, misuse, or removal of Category I special nuclear material; or an interruption of nuclear explosive operations with a significant impact on national security.

Unsafe practice means either a human action departing from prescribed hazard controls or job procedures or practices, or an action causing a person unnecessary exposure to a hazard.


PROCEDURES

§ 712.10 Designation of HRP positions.

(a) HRP certification is required for each individual assigned to, or applying for, a position that:

1. Affords access to Category I SNM or has responsibility for transportation or protection of Category I quantities of SNM;
2. Involves nuclear explosive duties or has responsibility for working with, protecting, or transporting nuclear explosives, nuclear devices, or selected components;
3. Affords access to information concerning vulnerabilities in protective systems when transporting nuclear explosives, nuclear devices, selected components, or Category I quantities of SNM; or
4. Is not included in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) of this section but affords the potential to significantly impact national security or cause unacceptable damage and is approved pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section.
§ 712.11 General requirements for HRP certification.

(a) The following certification requirements apply to each individual applying for or in an HRP position:

(1) A DOE "Q" access authorization based on a background investigation, except for security police officers who have been granted an interim "Q" through the Accelerated Access Authorization Program;

(2) The annual submission of SF-86, OMB Control No. 3206-0007, Questionnaire for National Security Positions, Part 2, and an annual review of the personnel security file;

(3) Signed releases, acknowledgments, and waivers to participate in the HRP on forms provided by DOE;

(4) Completion of initial and annual HRP instruction as provided in Sec. 712.17;

(5) Successful completion of an initial and annual supervisory review, medical assessment, management evaluation, and a DOE personnel security review for certification and recertification in accordance with this part. With respect to the DOE personnel security review:

(i) If the DOE personnel security review is not completed within the 12-month time period and the individual’s access authorization is not suspended, the HRP certification form shall be forwarded to the HRP certifying official for recertification or temporary removal, contingent upon a favorable security review;

(ii) If a final determination has been made by DOE personnel security that is favorable, this information shall be forwarded to the HRP certifying official and so noted on the certification form or

(iii) If the final determination has been made by DOE personnel security that the access authorization has been suspended, the individual shall be immediately removed from the HRP position, the HRP certifying official notified, the information noted on the certification form, and the procedures outlined in 10 CFR part 710, subpart A, shall be followed.

(6) No use of any hallucinogen in the preceding five years and no experience of flashback resulting from the use of any hallucinogen more than five years before applying for certification or recertification;

(7) A psychological evaluation consisting of a generally accepted psychological assessment (test) and a semi-structured interview;

(8) An initial drug test and random drug tests for the use of illegal drugs at least once each 12 months in accordance with DOE policies implementing Executive order 12564 or the relevant provisions of 10 CFR part 707 for DOE contractors, and DOE Order 3792.3, "Drug-Free Federal Workplace Testing Implementation Program," for DOE employees;

(9) An initial alcohol test and random alcohol tests at least once each 12 months using an evidential-grade breath alcohol device, as listed without asterisks on the Conforming Products List of Evidential Breath Measurement Devices published by the NHTSA (49 CFR part 40); and

(10) Successful completion of a counterintelligence evaluation, which includes a counterintelligence-scope polygraph examination in accordance with DOE's Polygraph Examination Regulation, 10 CFR part 709, and any subsequent revisions to that regulation.

(b) The Manager or the HRP management official may nominate positions for the HRP that are not specified in paragraphs (a)(1) through (3) of this section or that have not previously been designated HRP positions. All such nominations must be submitted to and approved by either the NNSA Administrator, his or her designee, the Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer, or the appropriate Lead Program Secretarial Officer, or his or her designee.

(c) Before nominating a position for designation as an HRP position, the Manager or the HRP management official must analyze the risks the position poses for the participant operational program. If the analysis shows that more restrictive physical, administrative, or other controls could be implemented that would prevent the position from being designated an HRP position, those controls will be implemented, if practicable.

(d) Nothing in this part prohibits contractors from establishing stricter employment standards for individuals who are nominated to DOE for certification or recertification in the HRP.

and (e) if they are involved in an incident, unsafe practice, or an occurrence, or if there is reasonable suspicion that they may be impaired.

§ 712.12 HRP implementation.

(a) The implementation of the HRP is the responsibility of the appropriate Manager or his or her designee. The Manager or designee must fully implement the HRP by April 22, 2004.

(b) The HRP Management Official must:

(1) Prepare an initial HRP implementation plan and submit it by March 23, 2004, to the applicable Manager for review and site approval. The implementation plan must:

(i) Be reviewed and updated every two years;
(ii) Include the four annual components of the HRP process: supervisory review, medical assessment, management evaluation (which includes random drug and alcohol testing), and a DOE personnel security determination; and
(iii) Include the HRP instruction and education component described in Sec. 712.17 of this part.
(2) Approve the temporary removal and the reinstatement after temporary removal of an HRP-certified individual if the removal was based on a nonsecurity concern and the HRP-certified individual continues to meet the certification requirements and notify the HRP certifying official of these actions.

(c) The Deputy Administrator for Defense Programs, NNSA must:

(1) Provide advice and assistance to the Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer, regarding policies, standards, and guidance for all nuclear explosive duty requirements; and
(2) Be responsible for implementation of all nuclear explosive duty safety requirements.

(d) The DOE Deputy Secretary, based on a recommendation of the Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer, makes the final decision for any appeal of denial or revocation of certification or recertification from HRP.

(e) The Director, Office of Policy, is responsible for HRP policy and must:

(1) Ensure consistency of the HRP throughout the DOE and NNSA;
(2) Review and comment on all HRP implementation plans to ensure consistency with policy; and
(3) Provide policies and guidance, including instructional materials, to NNSA and non-NNSA field elements concerning the HRP, as appropriate.

(f) The Manager must:

(1) Review and approve the HRP implementation plan for sites/facilities under their cognizance and forward the plan to the Director, Office of Policy; and
(2) Ensure that the HRP is implemented at the sites/facilities under their cognizance.

(g) The HRP certifying official must:

(1) Approve placement, certification, reinstatement, and recertification of individuals into HRP positions; for unresolved temporary removals, follow the process in Sec. 712.19(c)(5);
(2) Ensure that instructional requirements are implemented;
(3) Immediately notify (for the purpose of limiting access) the appropriate HRP management official of a personnel security action that results in the suspension of access authorization; and
(4) Ensure that the supervisory review, medical assessment, and management evaluation, including drug and alcohol testing, are conducted on an annual basis (not to exceed 12 months).

(h) Individuals assigned to HRP duties must:

(1) Execute HRP releases, acknowledgments, and waivers to facilitate the collection and dissemination of information, the performance of drug and alcohol testing, and medical examinations;
(2) Notify the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD immediately of a physical or mental condition requiring medication or treatment;
(3) Provide full, frank, and truthful answers to relevant and material questions, and when requested, furnish, or authorize others to furnish, information that DOE deems pertinent to reach a decision regarding HRP certification or recertification;
(4) Report any observed or reported behavior or condition of another HRP-certified individual that could indicate a reliability concern, including those behaviors and conditions listed in Sec. 712.13(c), to a supervisor, the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, the SOMD, or the HRP management official; and
(5) Report to a supervisor, the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, the SOMD, or the HRP management official, any behavior or condition, including those listed in Sec. 712.13(c), that may affect his or her ability to perform HRP duties.


§ 712.13 Supervisory review.

(a) The supervisor must ensure that each HRP candidate and each individual occupying an HRP position but not yet HRP certified, executes the appropriate HRP releases, acknowledgments, and waivers. If these documents are not executed:

(1) The request for HRP certification may not be further processed until these requirements are completed; and
(2) The individual is immediately removed from the position.

(b) Each supervisor of HRP-certified personnel must conduct an annual review of each HRP-certified individual during which the supervisor must evaluate information (including security concerns) relevant to the individual's suitability to perform HRP tasks in a reliable and safe manner.

(c) The supervisor must report any concerns resulting from his or her review to the appropriate HRP
management official. Types of behavior and conditions that would indicate a concern include, but are not limited to:

1. Psychological or physical disorders that impair performance of assigned duties;
2. Conduct that warrants referral for a criminal investigation or results in arrest or conviction;
3. Indications of deceitful or delinquent behavior;
4. Attempted or threatened destruction of property or life;
5. Suicidal tendencies or attempted suicide;
6. Use of illegal drugs or the abuse of legal drugs or other substances;
7. Alcohol use disorders;
8. Recurring financial irresponsibility;
9. Irresponsibility in performing assigned duties;
10. Inability to deal with stress, or the appearance of being under unusual stress;
11. Failure to comply with work directives, hostility or aggression toward fellow workers or authority, uncontrolled anger, violation of safety or security procedures, or repeated absenteeism; and
12. Significant behavioral changes, moodiness, depression, or other evidence of loss of emotional control.

(d) The supervisor must immediately remove an HRP-certified individual from HRP duties, pursuant to Sec. 712.19, and temporarily reassign the individual to a non-HRP position if the supervisor believes the individual has demonstrated a security or safety concern that warrants such removal. If temporary removal is based on a security concern, the HRP management official must immediately notify the applicable DOE personnel security office and the HRP certifying official.

(1) Based on the DOE personnel security office recommendation, the HRP certifying official will make the final decision about whether to reinstate an individual into an HRP position.

(2) If temporary removal is based on a medical concern, the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD must immediately recommend the medical removal or medical restriction in writing to the appropriate HRP management official, who will make the final determination in temporary removal actions and immediately notify the appropriate HRP certifying official.

(e) The supervisor must immediately remove from HRP duties any Federal employee who does not obtain HRP recertification. The supervisor may reassign the individual or realign the individual’s current duties. If these actions are not feasible, the supervisor must contact the appropriate personnel office for guidance.

(f) The supervisor who has been informed by the breath alcohol technician that an HRP-certified individual’s confirmatory breath alcohol test result is at or above an alcohol concentration of 0.02 percent shall send the individual home and not allow that individual to perform HRP duties for 24 hours, and inform the HRP management official of this action.

§ 712.14 Medical assessment.

(a) Purpose. The HRP medical assessment is performed to evaluate whether an HRP candidate or an HRP-certified individual:

1. Represents a security concern; or
2. Has a condition that may prevent the individual from performing HRP duties in a reliable and safe manner.

(b) When performed.

1. The medical assessment is performed initially on HRP candidates and individuals occupying HRP positions who have not yet received HRP certification. The medical assessment is performed annually for HRP-certified individuals, or more often as required by the SOMD.

2. The Designated Physician and other examiners working under the direction of the Designated Physician also will conduct an evaluation:

   (i) If an HRP-certified individual requests an evaluation (i.e., self-referral); or
   (ii) If an HRP-certified individual is referred by management for an evaluation.

(c) Process. The Designated Physician, under the supervision of the SOMD, is responsible for the medical assessment of HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals. In performing this responsibility, the Designated Physician or the SOMD must integrate the medical evaluations, available testing results, psychological evaluations, any psychiatric evaluations, a review of current legal drug use, and any other relevant information. This information is used to determine if a reliability, safety, or security concern exists and if the individual is medically qualified for his or her assigned duties. If a security concern is identified, the Designated Physician or SOMD must immediately notify the HRP management official, who notifies the applicable DOE personnel security office and appropriate HRP certifying official.

(d) Evaluation. The Designated Physician, with the assistance of the Designated Psychologist, must determine the existence or nature of any of the following:

1. Physical or medical disabilities, such as a lack of visual acuity, defective color vision, impaired hearing, musculoskeletal deformities, and neuromuscular impairment;
2. Mental/personality disorders or behavioral problems, including alcohol and other substance use disorders, as described in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders;
3. Use of illegal drugs or the abuse of legal drugs or other substances, as identified by self-reporting or by medical or psychological evaluation or testing;
4. Threat of suicide, homicide, or physical harm; or
5. Medical conditions such as cardiovascular disease, endocrine disease, cerebrovascular or other neurologic disease, or the use of drugs for the treatment of conditions that may adversely affect the judgment or ability of an individual to perform assigned duties in a reliable and safe manner.
(e) Job task analysis. Before the initial or annual medical assessment and psychological evaluation, employers must provide, to both the Designated Physician and Designated Psychologist, a job task analysis for each HRP candidate or HRP-certified individual. Medical assessments and psychological evaluations may not be performed if a job task analysis has not been provided.

(f) Psychological evaluations. Psychological evaluations must be conducted:

(1) For initial HRP certification. This psychological evaluation consists of a psychological assessment (test), approved by the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee, and a semi-structured interview.

(2) For recertification. This psychological evaluation consists of a semi-structured interview. A psychological assessment (test) may also be conducted as warranted.

(3) Every third year. The medical assessment for recertification must include a psychological assessment (test) approved by the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee. This requirement can be implemented over a three-year period for individuals who are currently in an HRP position.

(4) When additional psychological or psychiatric evaluations are required by the SOMD to resolve any concerns.

(g) Return to work after sick leave. HRP-certified individuals who have been on sick leave for five or more consecutive days, or an equivalent time period for those individuals on an alternative work schedule, must report in person to the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD before being allowed to return to normal duties. The Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD must provide a written recommendation to the appropriate HRP supervisor regarding the individual’s return to work. An HRP-certified individual also may be required to report to the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD for written recommendation to return to normal duties after any period of sick leave.

(h) Temporary removal or restrictions. The Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD may recommend temporary removal of an individual from an HRP position or restrictions on an individual’s work in an HRP position if a medical condition or circumstance develops that affects the individual’s ability to perform assigned job duties. The Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD must immediately recommend medical removal or medical restrictions in writing to the appropriate HRP management official. If the HRP management official concurs, he or she will then notify the appropriate HRP certifying official. To reinstate or remove such restrictions, the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD must make written recommendation to the HRP management official for concurrence. The HRP management official will then notify the appropriate HRP certifying official.

(i) Medical evaluation after rehabilitation.

(1) Individuals who request reinstatement in the HRP following rehabilitative treatment for alcohol use disorder, use of illegal drugs, or the abuse of legal drugs or other substances, must undergo an evaluation, as prescribed by the SOMD, to ensure continued rehabilitation and adequate capability to perform their job duties.

(2) The HRP certifying official may reinstate HRP certification of an individual who successfully completes an SOMD-approved drug or alcohol rehabilitation program. Recertification is based on the SOMD's follow-up evaluation and recommendation. The individual is also subject to unannounced follow-up tests for illegal drugs or alcohol and relevant counseling for three years.

(j) Medication and treatment. HRP-certified individuals are required to immediately report to the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD any physical or mental condition requiring medication or treatment. The Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD determines if temporary removal of the individual from HRP duties is required and follows the procedures pursuant to Sec. 712.14(h).


§ 712.15 Management evaluation.

(a) Evaluation components. An evaluation by the HRP management official is required before an individual can be considered for initial certification or recertification in the HRP. This evaluation must be based on a careful review of the results of the supervisory review, medical assessment, and drug and alcohol testing. If a safety concern is identified, the HRP management official must require the supervisor to temporarily reassign the individual to non-HRP duties and forward this information to the HRP certifying official. If the management evaluation reveals a security concern, the HRP management official must notify the applicable DOE personnel security office.

(b) Drug testing. All HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals are subject to testing for the use of illegal drugs, as required by this part. Testing must be conducted in accordance with 10 CFR part 707, the workplace substance abuse program for DOE contractor employees, and DOE Order 3792.3, "Drug-Free Federal Workplace Testing Implementation Program," for DOE employees. The program must include an initial drug test, random drug tests at least once every 12 months from the previous test, and tests of HRP-certified individuals if they are involved in an incident, unsafe practice, occurrence, or based on reasonable suspicion. Failure to appear for unannounced testing within two hours of notification constitutes a refusal to submit to a test. Sites may establish a shorter time period between notification and testing but may not exceed the two-hour requirement. An HRP-certified individual who, based on a drug test, has been determined to use illegal drugs must
immediately be removed from HRP duties, and DOE personnel security must be notified immediately.

(c) Alcohol testing. All HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals are subject to testing for the use of alcohol, as required by this part. The alcohol testing program must include, as a minimum, an initial alcohol test prior to performing HRP duties and random alcohol tests at least once every 12 months from the previous test, and tests of HRP-certified individuals if they are involved in an incident, unsafe practice, occurrence, or based on reasonable suspicion. An HRP-certified individual who has been determined to have an alcohol concentration of 0.02 percent or greater shall be sent home and not allowed to perform HRP duties for 24 hours.

(1) Breath alcohol testing must be conducted by a certified breath alcohol technician and conform to the DOT procedures (49 CFR part 40, Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug and Alcohol Testing Programs, subparts J through N) for use of an evidentiary-grade breath analysis device approved for 0.02/0.04 cutoff levels, which conforms to the DOT model specifications and the most recent “Conforming Products List” issued by NHTSA.

(2) An individual required to undergo DOT alcohol testing is subject to the regulations of the DOT. If such an individual’s blood alcohol level exceeds DOT standards, the individual’s employer may take appropriate disciplinary action.

(3) The following constitutes a refusal to submit to a test and shall be considered as a positive alcohol concentration test of 0.02 percent, which requires the individual be sent home and not allowed to perform HRP duties for 24 hours:
   (i) Failure to appear for unannounced testing within two hours of notification (or established shorter time for the specific site);
   (ii) Failure to provide an adequate volume of breath in two attempts without a valid medical excuse; and
   (iii) Engaging in conduct that clearly obstructs the testing process, including failure to cooperate with reasonable instructions provided by the testing technician.

(d) Occurrence testing.
   (1) When an HRP-certified individual is involved in, or associated with, an occurrence requiring immediate reporting to the DOE, the following procedures must be implemented:
      (i) Testing for the use of illegal drugs in accordance with the provisions of the DOE policies implementing Executive Order 12564, and 10 CFR part 707 or DOE Order 3792.3, which establish workplace substance abuse programs for contractor and DOE employees, respectively.
      (ii) Testing for use of alcohol in accordance with this section.
   (2) Testing must be performed as soon as possible after an occurrence that requires immediate notification or reporting.

(3) The supervisor must remove an HRP-certified individual from HRP duties if the individual refuses to undergo the testing required by this section.

(e) Testing for reasonable suspicion.
   (1) If the behavior of an individual in an HRP position creates the basis for reasonable suspicion of the use of an illegal drug or alcohol, that individual must be tested if two or more supervisory or management officials, at least one of whom is in the direct chain of supervision of the individual or is the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD, agree that such testing is appropriate.

   (2) Reasonable suspicion must be based on an articulable belief, drawn from facts and reasonable inferences from those particular facts, that an HRP-certified individual is in possession of, or under the influence of, an illegal drug or alcohol. Such a belief may be based on, among other things:
      (i) Observable phenomena, such as direct observation of the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol, or the physical symptoms of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol;
      (ii) A pattern of abnormal conduct or erratic behavior;
      (iii) Information provided by a reliable and credible source that is independently corroborated; or
      (iv) Detection of alcohol odor on the breath.

   (f) Counterintelligence Evaluation. HRP candidates and, when selected, HRP-certified individuals, must submit to and successfully complete a counterintelligence evaluation, which includes a polygraph examination in accordance with 10 CFR part 709, Polygraph Examination Regulations and any subsequent revisions to that regulation.

§ 712.16 DOE security review.

(a) A personnel security specialist will perform a personnel security file review of an HRP candidate and HRP-certified individual upon receiving the supervisory review, medical assessment, and management evaluation and recommendation.

(b) If the personnel security file review is favorable, this information must be forwarded to the HRP certifying official. If the review reveals a security concern, or if a security concern is identified during another component of the HRP process, the HRP certifying official must be notified and the security concern evaluated in accordance with the criteria in 10 CFR part 710, subpart A. All security concerns must be resolved according to procedures outlined in 10 CFR part 710, subpart A, rather than through the procedures in this part.

(c) Any mental/personality disorder or behavioral issues found in a personnel security file, which could impact an HRP candidate or HRP-certified individual's ability to perform HRP duties, may be provided in writing to the SOMD, Designated Physician, and Designated Psychologist previously identified for receipt of this information. Medical personnel may not share any
information obtained from the personnel security file with anyone who is not an HRP certifying official.

§ 712.17 Instructional requirements.

(a) HRP management officials at each DOE site or facility with HRP positions must establish an initial and annual HRP instruction and education program. The program must provide:
   (1) HRP candidates, HRP-certified individuals, supervisors, and managers, and supervisors and managers responsible for HRP positions with the knowledge described in paragraph (b)(1) of this section; and
   (2) For all HRP medical personnel, a detailed explanation of HRP duties and responsibilities.

(b) The following program elements must be included in initial and annual instruction. The elements may be tailored to accommodate group differences and refresher training needs:
   (1) The objectives of the HRP and the role and responsibilities of each individual in the HRP to include recognizing and responding to behavioral change and aberrant or unusual behavior that may result in a risk to national security or nuclear explosive safety; recognizing and reporting security concerns and prescription drug use; and an explanation of return-to-work requirements and continuous evaluation of HRP participants; and
   (2) For those who have nuclear explosive responsibilities, a detailed explanation of duties and safety requirements.

§ 712.18 Transferring HRP certification.

(a) For HRP certification to be transferred, the individual must currently be certified in the HRP.

(b) Transferring the HRP certification from one site to another requires the following before the individual is allowed to perform HRP duties at the new site:
   (1) Verify that the individual is currently certified in the HRP and is transferring into a designated HRP position;
   (2) Incorporate the individual into the new site's alcohol and drug-testing program;
   (3) Ensure that the 12-month time period for HRP requirements that was established at the prior site is not exceeded; and
   (4) Provide site-specific instruction.

(c) Temporary assignment to HRP positions at other sites requires verification that the individual is currently enrolled in the HRP and has completed all site-specific instruction. The individual is required to return to the site that maintains his or her HRP certification for recertification.

§ 712.19 Removal from HRP.

(a) Immediate removal. A supervisor who has a reasonable belief that an HRP-certified individual is not reliable, based on either a safety or security concern, must immediately remove that individual from HRP duties pending a determination of the individual's reliability. A supervisor also must immediately remove an individual from HRP duties when requested to do so by the HRP certifying official. The supervisor must, at a minimum:
   (1) Require the individual to stop performing HRP duties;
   (2) Take action to ensure the individual is denied both escorted and unescorted access to the material access areas; and
   (3) Provide, within 24 hours, to the individual and the HRP management official, a written reason for these actions.

(b) The temporary removal of an HRP-certified individual from HRP duties pending a determination of the individual's reliability is an interim, precautionary action and does not constitute a determination that the individual is not fit to perform his or her required duties. Removal is not, in itself, cause for loss of pay, benefits, or other changes in employment status.

(c) Temporary removal.
   (1) If an HRP management official receives a supervisor's written notice of the immediate removal of an HRP-certified individual, that official must direct the temporary removal of the individual pending an evaluation and determination of the individual's reliability.

   (2) If removal is based on a security concern, the HRP management official must notify the HRP certifying official and the applicable DOE personnel security office. The security concern will be resolved under the criteria and procedures in 10 CFR part 710, subpart A.

   (3) If removal is based on a concern that is not security related, the HRP management official must conduct an evaluation of the circumstances or information that led the supervisor to remove the individual from HRP duties. The HRP management official must prepare a written report of the evaluation that includes a determination of the individual's reliability for continuing HRP certification.

   (4) If the HRP management official determines that an individual who has been temporarily removed continues to meet the requirements for certification, the HRP management official must:

   (i) Notify the individual's supervisor of the determination and direct that the individual be allowed to return to HRP duties;

   (ii) Notify the individual; and

   (iii) Notify the HRP certifying official.

   (5) If the HRP management official determines that an individual who has been temporarily removed does not meet the HRP requirements for certification, the HRP management official must forward the written report to the HRP certifying official. If the HRP certifying official is not the Manager, the HRP certifying official must review the written report and take one of the following actions:
§ 712.20 Request for reconsideration or certification review hearing.

(a) An HRP-certified individual who receives notification of the Manager's decision to revoke his or her HRP certification may choose one of the following options:

(1) Take no action;
(2) Submit a written request to the Manager for reconsideration of the decision to revoke certification. The request must include the individual's response to the information that gave rise to the concern. The request must be sent by certified mail to the Manager within 20 working days after the individual received notice of the Manager's decision; or

(3) Submit a written request to the Manager for a certification review hearing. The request for a hearing must be sent by certified mail to the Manager within 20 working days after the individual receives notice of the Manager's decision.

(b) If an individual requests reconsideration by the Manager but not a certification review hearing, the Manager must, within 20 working days after receipt of the individual's request, send by certified mail (return receipt requested) a final decision to the individual. This final decision about certification is based on the individual's response and other relevant information available to the Manager.

(c) If an individual requests a certification review hearing, the Manager must forward the request to the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

§ 712.21 Office of Hearings and Appeals.

(a) The certification review hearing is conducted by the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

(b) The hearing officer must have a DOE "Q" access authorization when hearing cases involving HRP duties.

(c) An individual who requests a certification review hearing has the right to appear personally before the hearing officer; to present evidence in his or her own behalf, through witnesses or by documents, or by both; and to be accompanied and represented at the hearing by counsel or any other person of the individual's choosing and at the individual's own expense.

(d) In conducting the proceedings, the hearing officer must:

(1) Receive all relevant and material information relating to the individual's fitness for HRP duties through witnesses or documentation;
(2) Ensure that the individual is permitted to offer information in his or her behalf; to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses and other persons who have made written or oral statements, and to present and examine documentary evidence;
(3) Require the testimony of the individual and all witnesses be given under oath or affirmation; and
(4) Ensure that a transcript of the certification review proceedings is made.

§ 712.22 Hearing officer's report and recommendation.

Within 30 calendar days of the receipt of the hearing transcript by the hearing officer or the closing of the record, whichever is later, the hearing officer must forward written findings, a supporting statement of reasons, and recommendation regarding the individual's eligibility for recertification in the HRP position to the Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer. The hearing officer's report and recommendation must be accompanied by a copy of the record of the proceedings.
The Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer shall forward to the DOE Deputy Secretary a recommendation to either recertify or revoke the certification of an individual in the HRP.


§ 712.23 Final decision by DOE Deputy Secretary.

Within 20 working days of the receipt of the Chief Health, Safety and Security Officer's recommendation, the Deputy Secretary should issue a final written decision. A copy of this decision must be sent by certified mail (return receipt requested) to the Manager and to the individual accompanied by a copy of the hearing officer's report and the transcript of the certification review proceedings.


Subpart B_Medical Standards

§ 712.30 Applicability.

This subpart establishes standards and procedures for conducting medical assessments of DOE and DOE contractor individuals in HRP positions.

§ 712.31 Purpose.

The standards and procedures set forth in this subpart are necessary for DOE to:
(a) Identify the presence of any mental/personality disorders, physical, or behavioral characteristics or conditions that present or are likely to present an unacceptable impairment in reliability;
(b) Facilitate the early diagnosis and treatment of disease or impairment and foster accommodation and rehabilitation;
(c) Determine what functions an HRP-certified individual may be able to perform and to facilitate the proper placement of individuals; and
(d) Provide for continuing monitoring of the health status of individuals to facilitate early detection and correction of adverse health effects, trends, or patterns.

§ 712.32 Designated Physician.

(a) The Designated Physician must be qualified to provide professional expertise in the area of occupational medicine as it relates to the HRP.
(b) The Designated Physician must:
(1) Be a graduate of an accredited school of medicine or osteopathy;
(2) Have a valid, unrestricted state license to practice medicine in the state where HRP medical assessments occur;
(3) Have met the applicable HRP instruction requirements; and
(4) Be eligible for the appropriate DOE access authorization.
(c) The Designated Physician is responsible for the medical assessments of HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals, including determining which components of the medical assessments may be performed by other qualified personnel. Although a portion of the assessment may be performed by another physician, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner, the Designated Physician remains responsible for:
(1) Supervising the evaluation process;
(2) Interpreting the results of evaluations;
(3) Documenting medical conditions or issues that may disqualify an individual from the HRP;
(4) Providing medical assessment information to the Designated Psychologist to assist in determining psychological fitness;
(5) Determining, in conjunction with DOE if appropriate, the location and date of the next required medical assessment; and
(6) Signing a recommendation about the medical fitness of an individual for certification or recertification.
(d) The Designated Physician must immediately report to the SOMD any of the following about himself or herself:
(1) Initiation of an adverse action by any state medical licensing board or any other professional licensing board;
(2) Initiation of an adverse action by any Federal regulatory board since the last designation;
(3) The withdrawal of the privilege to practice by any institution;
(4) Being named a defendant in any criminal proceedings (felony or misdemeanor) since the last designation;
(5) Being evaluated or treated for alcohol use disorder or drug dependency or abuse since the last designation; or
(6) Occurrence, since the last designation, of a physical, mental/personality disorder, or health condition that might affect his or her ability to perform professional duties.

§ 712.33 Designated Psychologist.

(a) The Designated Psychologist reports to the SOMD and determines the psychological fitness of an individual to participate in the HRP. The results of this evaluation may be provided only to the Designated Physician or the SOMD.
(b) The Designated Psychologist must:
(1) Hold a doctoral degree from a clinical psychology program that includes a one-year clinical internship approved by the American Psychological Association or an equivalent program;
(2) Have accumulated a minimum of three years postdoctoral clinical experience with a major emphasis in psychological assessment and testing;
§ 712.34 Site Occupational Medical Director.

(a) The SOMD must nominate a physician to serve as the Designated Physician and a clinical psychologist to serve as the Designated Psychologist. The nominations must be sent through the Manager to the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee. Each nomination must describe the nominee's relevant training, experience, and licensure, and include a curriculum vitae and a copy of the nominee's current state or district license.

(b) The SOMD must submit a renomination report biennially through the Manager to the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee. This report must be submitted at least 60 days before the second anniversary of the initial designation or of the last redesignation, whichever applies. The report must include:

1. A statement evaluating the performance of the Designated Physician and Designated Psychologist during the previous designation period; and
2. A copy of the valid, unrestricted state or district license of the Designated Physician and Designated Psychologist.

(c) The SOMD must submit, annually, to the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee through the Manager, a written report summarizing HRP medical activity during the previous year. The SOMD must comply with any DOE directives specifying the form or contents of the annual report.

(d) The SOMD must investigate any reports of performance issues regarding a Designated Physician or Designated Psychologist, and the SOMD may suspend either official from HRP-related duties. If the SOMD suspends either official, the SOMD must notify the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee and provide supporting documentation and reasons for the action.

§ 712.35 Director, Office of Health and Safety.

The Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee must:

(a) Develop policies, standards, and guidance for the medical aspects of the HRP, including the psychological testing inventory to be used;

(b) Review the qualifications of Designated Physicians and Designated Psychologists, and concur or nonconcur with their designations by sending a statement to the Manager and an informational copy to the SOMD; and

(c) Provide technical assistance on medical aspects of the HRP to all DOE elements and DOE contractors.

§ 712.36 Medical assessment process.

(a) The Designated Physician, under the supervision of the SOMD, is responsible for the medical assessment of HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals. In carrying out this responsibility, the Designated Physician or the SOMD must integrate the medical evaluations, psychological evaluations, psychiatric evaluations, and any other relevant information to determine an individual's overall medical qualification for assigned duties.

(b) Employers must provide a job task analysis for those individuals involved in HRP duties to both the Designated Physician and the Designated Psychologist before each medical assessment and psychological evaluation. HRP medical assessments and psychological
evaluations may not be performed if a job task analysis has not been provided.

(c) The medical process by the Designated Physician includes:

(1) Medical assessments for initial certification, annual recertification, and evaluations for reinstatement following temporary removal from the HRP;
(2) Evaluations resulting from self-referrals and referrals by management;
(3) Routine medical contacts and occupational and nonoccupational health counseling sessions; and
(4) Review of current legal drug use.

(d) Psychological evaluations must be conducted:

(1) For initial certification. This psychological evaluation consists of a generally accepted psychological assessment (test) approved by the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee and a semi-structured interview.
(2) For recertification. This psychological evaluation consists of a semi-structured interview, which is conducted annually at the time of the medical examination.
(3) Every third year. The medical assessment for recertification must include a generally accepted psychological assessment (test) approved by the Director, Office of Health and Safety or his or her designee.
(4) When the SOMD determines that additional psychological or psychiatric evaluations are required to resolve HRP concerns as listed in Sec. 712.13(c).

(e) Following absences requiring return-to-work evaluations under applicable DOE directives, the Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD must determine whether a psychological evaluation is necessary.

(f) Except as provided in paragraph (g) of this section, the Designated Physician must forward the completed medical assessment of an HRP candidate and HRP-certified individual to the SOMD, who must make a recommendation, based on the assessment, to the individual's HRP management official. If the Designated Physician determines that a currently certified individual no longer meets the HRP requirements, the Designated Physician must immediately, orally, inform the HRP management official. A written explanation must follow within 24 hours.

(g) The Designated Physician, the Designated Psychologist, or the SOMD may make a medical recommendation for return to work and work accommodations for HRP-certified individuals.

(h) The following documentation is required after treatment of an individual for any disqualifying condition:

(1) A summary of the diagnosis, treatment, current status, and prognosis to be furnished by the treatment provider to the Designated Physician;
(2) The medical opinion of the Designated Physician advising the individual's supervisor whether the individual is able to return to work in either an HRP or non-HRP capacity; and
(3) Any periodic monitoring plan, approved by the Designated Physician or the Designated Psychologist and the SOMD, used to evaluate the reliability of the individual.

(i) If the disqualifying condition was of a security concern, the appropriate procedure described in 10 CFR part 710, subpart A, applies.


§ 712.37 Evaluation for hallucinogen use.

If DOE determines that an HRP candidate or HRP-certified individual has used any hallucinogen, the individual is not eligible for certification or recertification unless:

(a) Five years have passed since the last use of the hallucinogen;
(b) There is no evidence of any flashback within the last five years from the previous hallucinogen use; and
(c) The individual has a record of acceptable job performance and observed behavior.

§ 712.38 Maintenance of medical records.

(a) The medical records of HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals must be maintained in accordance with the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. 552a, and DOE implementing regulations in 10 CFR part 1008; the Department of Labor's regulations on access to individual exposure and medical records, 29 CFR 1910.1020; and applicable DOE directives. DOE contractors also may be subject to section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act, 29 U.S.C. 793, and its implementing rules, including confidentiality provisions in 41 CFR 60-741.23 (d).

(b) The psychological record of HRP candidates and HRP-certified individuals is a component of the medical record. The psychological record must:

(1) Contain any clinical reports, test protocols and data, notes of individual contacts and correspondence, and other information pertaining to an individual's contact with a psychologist;
(2) Be stored in a secure location in the custody of the Designated Psychologist; and
(3) Be kept separate from other medical record documents, with access limited to the SOMD and the Designated Physician.