

Air National Guard Self-Referral Policy

What Do ATR Service Providers Need to Know...

What is the AF Self-Referral Policy?

- Prohibits the use of protected evidence in actions under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ)
- Limits the characterization of discharge to “honorable” if protected evidence is used.

3.7 Self-Identification [Regulation AFI44-121]

Self-Identification – occurs when an airman voluntarily admits to having a substance abuse (SA) problem before an upcoming drug test. Members with substance abuse problems are encouraged to seek assistance from the unit commander, first sergeant, SA counselor, or a military medical professional. Following the assessment, the ATR treatment coordinator should consult with the unit commander for appropriate action.

What does this mean for airmen? [Self-Identification 3.7]

- Airmen are encouraged by their superiors and the military to seek help.
- Airmen won't be penalized if they have no previous record of drug involvement.
- Commanders will grant limited protection for AF members who reveal this information with the intention of entering drug treatment.
- If an airman arrives voluntarily to your facility this is considered self-referral and the airman is not in jeopardy of harsh penalty of military superiors if reported to command.
- A member may voluntarily disclose evidence of personal drug use or possession to the unit commander, first sergeant, substance abuse counselor, or a military medical professional.

Disclosure is not voluntary if the member has previously been:

- Apprehended for drug involvement.
- Placed under investigation for drug abuse.
- Ordered to give a urine sample as part of drug-testing program in which results are pending or have been returned positive.
- Advised of a recommendation for administrative separation for drug abuse.
- Previously entered into treatment for abuse.

What questions should providers ask airmen seeking treatment?

- Have you ever served a day in the military?
- What branch of the military services?
- Who have you talked to?

