

Drug Testing for Drivers

In an April 21, 2004, letter to the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a number of recommendations regarding transportation of children in 15-passenger vans. These recommendations apply to camps and clubs, too. (You can read the entire letter at http://www.nts.gov/recs/letters/2004/H04_16.pdf.)

We addressed most of these recommendations, and presented Markel's vehicle underwriting guidelines. However, we didn't address the issue of pre-employment and post-accident drug testing for drivers. California requires drug testing for everyone holding Commercial Drivers Licenses (required for 12 and 15- passenger vans), but most other states do not address this issue. Historically, Markel has had few claims involving drivers using drugs or alcohol improperly or illegally. Markel does not plan to establish requirements for drug testing beyond what your state already requires, but we advise programs to consider the potential benefits of driver drug testing.

If you have a safety or risk management question or a suggestion for a topic, please contact Markel's Risk Management Department at safety1st@markelcorp.com.