

DRUG-FREE POLICY AND PREVENTION STATEMENT

Preventing Drug and Alcohol Abuse:

The first step in preventing drug and alcohol abuse is education. All campuses maintain fact sheets on alcohol and drugs. These fact sheets are available to students from the Admissions Office. The school also disseminates information to students annually on where to receive counseling. Information is also posted in student common areas for viewing. Guest speakers from local health agencies also speak with our students.

Standards of Conduct:

The Drug-free Policy applies to all students and all employees. The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs and/or alcohol are strictly prohibited at this institution. Students or employees not complying with this standard will be subject to institutional sanctions. In the event that the school suspects usage, all students and employees may be subject to drug testing at their expense. Failure to comply will result in termination. The prohibitions for use, possession, and distribution of illegal drugs and/or alcohol apply to all persons on school property or as part of any school activity.

Institution Sanctions:

If the student/employee is found to have violated the institution's Drug-free Policy, then immediate termination may take place. The school may make referral to local and state authorities for prosecution.

These measures will be imposed for use, distribution or possession of illegal drugs and alcohol.

The institution will notify the student or employee in writing if the institution becomes aware of any violation of this policy. The student and/or employee may request a formal hearing after receiving said notice. Two (2) members from the faculty and staff will comprise the hearing board. If the student or employee fails to request a hearing within three (3) business days, then immediate termination will take place.

If a student or employee requests a hearing, the board will notify the student/employee of the date the hearing will take place. The student/employee has the right to be represented by legal counsel for this purpose. The hearing board will take testimony from all individuals involved in the case.

The institution's administration will then be notified of the board's decision. In all cases, the hearing board's decision will be final. The institution's administration will then notify the student/employee of the board's decision.

Counseling Information:

A variety of counseling services and treatment centers is available throughout the state for anyone experiencing problems related to substance abuse. Although most counseling and treatment centers charge for their services, some programs are free of charge. Faculty, staff, and students should avail themselves of the following referral sources to identify the services or programs which most closely meet their specific needs.

The following are phone numbers and/or websites for various counseling needs:

South Carolina Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services

Choose your county under "Treatment Providers."

<http://www.daodas.state.sc.us/>

Drug and Alcohol Rehab Centers in South Carolina

1-877-421-9659

<http://www.drug-alcohol-rehabs.org/south-carolina-rehab-centers.html>

Alcoholics Anonymous of the Carolinas

Choose your county for specific locations and contact information

<http://www.aa-carolina.org/>

Health Risks:

Below is a listing of health risks related to alcohol and other drugs. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or complete statement of all the possible health consequences of substance abuse.

Alcohol Use and Abuse

Alcohol is the most widely used and abused drug in the United States. Alcohol acts as a central nervous system depressant. Alcohol intake causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident.

- Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts.
- Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information.
- Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death.

If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol can be fatal. Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at a greater risk of developing alcohol dependency later in life. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life threatening. Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs, such as the brain and liver.

Mothers who consume alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. Because every woman metabolizes alcohol differently, even the smallest amount of alcohol could harm a developing baby. Infants with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. Alcohol can affect the baby during every trimester of pregnancy:

Drinking alcohol up to the 13th week of pregnancy can cause:

- severe brain damage;
- problems with the heart, liver and kidneys;
- miscarriage;
- facial malformations.

Drinking alcohol between weeks 14 and 26 can cause:

- brain damage;
- miscarriage;
- damaged muscles, skin, teeth, glands and bones.

Drinking alcohol between weeks 27 and 40 can cause:

- brain and lung damage;
- low birth weight;
- early labor and delivery.

Amphetamines/Other Stimulants

Amphetamines (speed, uppers), methamphetamines and other stimulants can cause increased heart and respiratory rate, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils and decreased appetite. In addition, users may experience sweating, headache, bad breath, blurred vision, dizziness, sleeplessness, and anxiety. Extremely high doses can cause a rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, loss of coordination, and even physical collapse. An amphetamine injection causes a sudden increase in blood pressure that can result in stroke, very high fever or heart failure. In addition to the physical effects listed above, stimulant users report feeling restless, anxious and moody. People who use large amounts of amphetamines over a long period of time can develop an amphetamine psychosis that includes hallucinations, delusions and paranoia.

Barbiturates/Other Depressants

Barbiturates (downers), methaqualone (quaaludes), tranquilizers (valium and Rohypnol) and other depressants have many of the same effects as alcohol. Small or prescribed doses can produce calmness and relaxed muscles, but larger doses can cause slurred speech, staggering and altered perception. Very large doses can cause respiratory depression, coma and death. The combination of depressants and alcohol can multiply the effects of the drugs, thereby multiplying the risks. Use can also cause liver damage, convulsions, and coma.

Cannabis / Marijuana

The physical effects of marijuana include a substantial increase in heart rate, bloodshot eyes, a dry mouth and throat, and increased appetite. It may impair short-term memory and comprehension, alter sense of time and reduce ability to perform tasks requiring concentration and coordination, such as driving a car. Research also shows that motivation and cognition may be altered, making the acquisition of new information difficult. When marijuana contains 2 percent THC, it can cause severe psychological damage, including paranoia and psychosis. Since the early 1980's, most marijuana has contained from 4 to 6 percent THC - two or three times the amount capable of causing serious damage. Because users often inhale the unfiltered smoke deeply and then hold it in their lungs as long as possible, marijuana is damaging to the lungs and pulmonary system. Marijuana smoke contains more cancer causing agents than tobacco smoke. Long-term users of marijuana may develop psychological dependence and require more of the drug to get the same effect.

Cocaine / Crack

Cocaine stimulates the central nervous system. Its immediate effects include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, increased heart and respiratory rate, and elevated body temperature. Injecting cocaine with contaminated equipment can cause AIDS, hepatitis and other diseases. Crack or freebase rock is a purified form of cocaine that is smoked. Smoking crack provides intensified cocaine effects because higher doses of the drug reach the brain very quickly. Crack is far more addictive than heroin or barbiturates. Continued use can produce violent behavior and psychotic states similar to schizophrenia.

Health risks include malnutrition, respiratory problems, addiction, stroke, liver problems, seizures, heart and respiratory failure, psychosis, coma, convulsions, and sexual dysfunction. Cocaine in any form, but particularly in the purified form known as crack, can cause sudden death from cardiac arrest or respiratory failure.

Hallucinogens

Phencyclidine (PCP, angel dust), Mescaline, Peyote, LSD, and mushrooms interfere with the part of the brain that controls the intellect and keeps instincts in check. Hallucinogens are psychedelic, mind-altering drugs that affect a person's perceptions, feelings, thinking, and self-awareness. Use causes increased body temperature, heart rate and blood pressure, sweating, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, tremors, confusion, paranoia, and sometimes violence. Because PCP blocks pain receptors, violent PCP episodes may result in self-inflicted injuries. Large doses may produce convulsions and coma, as well as heart and lung failure. Psychological reactions may include panic, confusion, suspicion, anxiety and loss of control. Delayed effects or flashbacks can occur even after use has ceased.

Inhalants

The immediate negative effects of inhalants (laughing gas, whippets) include nausea, sneezing, coughing, nosebleeds, fatigue, and lack of coordination and loss of appetite. Solvents and aerosol sprays also decrease heart and respiratory rates and impair judgment. Amyl and butyl nitrite cause rapid pulse, headaches and involuntary passing of urine and feces. Long-term use may result in hepatitis or brain damage. Deeply inhaling the vapors or using large amounts over a short period of time may result in disorientation, violent behavior, unconsciousness, or death. High concentrations of inhalants can cause suffocation by displacing the oxygen in the lungs or by depressing the central nervous system to the point that breathing stops.

MDMA / Ecstasy

MDMA is a stimulant with psychedelic properties. Short-term effects include feelings of mental stimulation, emotional warmth, enhanced sensory perception, and increased physical energy. Adverse health effects can include nausea, chills, sweating, teeth clenching, muscle cramping, and blurred vision. Chronic use of MDMA may lead to changes in brain function.

Narcotics

Narcotics such as opium, demerol, heroin, codeine and morphine initially produce a feeling of euphoria that often is followed by drowsiness, nausea and vomiting. Users also may experience constricted pupils, watery eyes and itching. An overdose may produce slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma and possible death. Narcotics are extremely addictive.

Steroids

Steroids may contribute to increases in body weight and muscular strength. Steroids are injected directly into the muscle or taken orally. Steroids are illegal to possess without a prescription from a licensed physician. They are prescribed for specific medical conditions. Possible signs of use/abuse: sudden increase in muscle and weight; increase in aggression and combativeness; violence; hallucinations; depression; jaundice; purple or red spots on body, inside mouth, or nose;

swelling of feet or lower legs; tremors; and bad breath. Health risks include, but are not limited to high blood pressure; liver and kidney damage; heart disease; increased risk of injury to ligaments and tendons; bowel and urinary problems; gallstones and kidney stones; and liver cancer.

Additional information about the health risks of drug use and abuse can be accessed through the following web site: <http://www.daodas.state.sc.us/>

State Sanctions on Alcohol and Drugs:

Below is a listing of South Carolina sanctions related to alcohol and other drugs. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or complete list of all the possible sanctions.

Underage Drinking

Purchasing or possessing alcoholic liquor is illegal if you are under 21.

First offense: suspension of driver's license for 90 days and a fine between \$100 and \$200.

Second or subsequent offense: suspension of driver's license for six months and a fine between \$100 and \$200 or imprisonment of up to 30 days

S.C. Code Sections 20-7-8925, 56-1-746(a)

Open Container

To have an open container of alcohol in a moving vehicle of any kind except in the trunk.

First or subsequent offense: Up to \$100 fine or 30 days imprisonment.

S.C. Code Section 61-4-110

Using a Fake ID

To use someone else's driver's license or personal identification card.

First offense: Up to \$100 fine or 30 days imprisonment; driver's license suspended for 90 days. Second or subsequent offense: Up to \$100 fine or 30 days imprisonment; driver's license suspended for six months.

S.C. Code Sections 56-1-515(2), 56-1-515(4), 56-1-746

(a) using an altered id: To alter a driver's license so as to provide false information.

First offense: Up to \$2,500 fine and six months imprisonment; driver's license suspended for 90 days.

Second or subsequent offense: Up to \$2,500 fine and six months imprisonment; driver's license suspended for 6 months.

S.C. Code Sections 56-1-515(1), 56-1-515(3), 56-1-746(a)

Giving False Information for the Purpose of Buying Alcohol

It is illegal for a minor to lie to a clerk about his or her age in order to buy alcohol.

Penalty: Fine between \$50 and \$100 and up to 30 days imprisonment.

S.C. Code Section 61-4-60

Giving False Information to a Law Enforcement Officer

It is illegal to lie or give false information to a law enforcement officer.

First or subsequent offense: Up to \$200 fine or 30 days imprisonment.

S.C. Code Section 16-17-725

Driving Under the Influence

Operating a motor vehicle with a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) level of 0.10.

First offense: \$300 fine or imprisonment between 48 hours and 30 days; driver's license suspended for six months.

Second offense: Fine between \$2,000 and \$5,000; imprisonment between 48 hours and one year; driver's license suspended for one year.

Third offense: Fine between \$3,500 and \$6,000; imprisonment between 60 days and three years; driver's license suspended for two years.

Fourth or subsequent offense: Imprisonment for one to five years; driver's license permanently revoked; if the offender is the owner of the vehicle, then the vehicle can and will be confiscated at the time of arrest.

S.C. Code Sections 56-5-2930, 56-5-2933, 56-5-2940, 56-5-2950, 56-5-2990, 56-5-6240

Marijuana Possession (*Pot, grass, weed, bhang, dope, joint, doobie, Mary Jane, reefer, hash*)

possession: One ounce or less of marijuana or 10 grams or less of hashish

first offense: Misdemeanor, up to 30 days and between \$100 and \$200

second or subsequent offense: Misdemeanor, up to one year and between \$200 and \$1000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(d)(3)

Marijuana Growing, Distributing or Possession with Intent to Distribute

More than one ounce of marijuana or 10 grams of hashish

first offense: Felony, up to five years and \$5,000

second offense: Felony, up to 10 years and \$10,000

third or subsequent offense: Felony, between five and 20 years and up to \$20,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(b)(3) 9

Cocaine Possession (*Coke, snow, flake, blow, free base, nose candy, rock and toot*)

possession: 10 grains or less of cocaine

first offense: Misdemeanor, up to two years and \$5,000

second offense: Felony, up to five years and \$5,000

third or subsequent offense: Felony, up to five years and \$10,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(d)(1)

Cocaine Manufacturing, Distributing or Possession with Intent to Distribute

More than 10 grains of cocaine

first offense: Felony, up to 15 years and \$25,000

second offense: Felony, between five and 30 years and up to \$50,000

third or subsequent offense: Felony, between 15 and 30 years and \$50,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(b)(1)

Heroin Possession (*H, horse, smack, junk, black tar*)

possession: two grains or less of heroin first offense: Misdemeanor, up to two years and \$5,000 second offense: Felony, up to five years and \$5,000 third or subsequent offense: Felony, up to five years and \$10,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(d)(1)

Heroin Manufacturing, Distributing or Possession with Intent to Distribute

More than two grains of heroin

first offense: Felony, up to 15 years and \$25,000

second offense: Felony, between five and 30 years and up to \$50,000

third or subsequent offense: Felony, between 15 and 30 years and \$50,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(b)(1)

LSD Possession (*Acid, dose, Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds*)

possession: 50 micrograms or less of LSD

first offense: Misdemeanor, up to two years and \$5,000

second offense: Felony, up to five years and \$5,000

third or subsequent offense: Felony, up to five years and \$10,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(d)(1)

LSD Manufacturing, Distributing or Possession with Intent to Distribute

More than 50 micrograms of LSD

first offense: Felony, up to 15 years and \$5,000

second offense: Felony, between five and 30 years and up to \$50,000

third or subsequent offense: Felony, between 15 and 30 years and up to \$50,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(d)(1)

Crack Possession (*Crack rock, crack cocaine, geek, moon-rock, 8-ball, boulders, gravel*)

possession: Felony possession of less than one gram of crack cocaine

first offense: Up to five years and not less than \$5,000

second offense: Up to 10 years and not less than \$10,000

third or subsequent offense: Between 10 and 15 years and not less than \$15,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-375(a)

Crack Manufacturing, Distributing or Possession with Intent to Distribute

Felony offense includes possessing one gram or more of crack cocaine

first offense: Up to 15 years and not less than \$25,000

second offense: Up to 25 years and not less than \$50,000

third or subsequent offense: Between 15 and 30 years and up to \$100,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(b)

Methamphetamines Possession (*Crystal meth, ice, crank, speed*)

possession: Felony possession of less than one gram of methamphetamines

first offense: Up to five years and not less than \$5,000

second offense: Up to 10 years and not less than \$10,000

third or subsequent offense: Between 10 and 15 years and not less than \$15,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-375(a)

Methamphetamines Manufacturing, Distributing or Possession with Intent to Distribute

Felony offense includes possessing one gram or more of methamphetamines

first offense: Up to 15 years and not less than \$25,000

second offense: Up to 25 years and not less than \$50,000

third or subsequent offense: Between 15 and 30 years and up to \$100,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-370(b)

Anabolic Steroids (*Juice, roids*)

Some people take steroids to build up strength and athletic ability. While they do build up muscles, steroids also damage the liver, heart and reproductive system. They can also cause people to become depressed or aggressive. Even years after people stop taking steroids, they can still have heart attacks and strokes because of steroid use. Steroids are legally available in some situations, but only by prescription. It is illegal to possess steroids without a valid prescription.

possession: 10 or fewer dosage units

first offense: Misdemeanor, up to six months in jail and fine of \$1,000

second or subsequent offense: Misdemeanor, up to one year in jail and fine of \$2,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-1530(2)

possession: More than 10 but less than 100 dosage units

first offense: Misdemeanor, up to one year in jail and fine of \$2,000

second or subsequent offense: Misdemeanor, up to two years in jail and fine of \$3,000

S.C. Code Section 44-53-1530(3)

*In addition to the above, the driver's license of any person convicted of a controlled substance violation must be suspended for a period of one year.

S.C. Code Section 56-1-745(a)

Ritalin (*Vitamin R, Methylphenidate*)

Ritalin is a Schedule II controlled substance that is strictly monitored for abuse. Schedule II drugs are the most restricted legal substances. Ritalin is included under that classification because, while it has legitimate medical purposes, it also has a high potential for abuse.

S.C. Code Sections 44-53-210, 44-53-360 and 44-53-370(c)

Inhalants (*"Huffing"*)

It is illegal, for the purposes of intoxication, inebriation, excitement, stupefaction or the dulling of someone's brain or nervous system to intentionally smell or inhale the fumes from any substance containing aromatic hydrocarbons (paint thinner, glue, etc.). Violation of this law carries a misdemeanor penalty of up to \$100 and 30 days in jail.

S.C. Code Section 44-53-1130

Federal Sanctions on Drugs:

Drug/Schedule	Quantity	Drug/Schedule	Quantity
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500 - 4999 gms mixture	Heroin (Schedule I)	100-999 gms mixture
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	5-49 gms mixture	LSD (Schedule I)	1-9 gms mixture
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40-399 gms mixture	Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5-49 gms pure or 50-499 gms mixture
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10-99 gms mixture	PCP (Schedule II)	10-99 gms pure or 100-999 gms mixture

Penalties

First Offense: Not less than 5 yrs, and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$2 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual

Second Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual

Drug/Schedule	Quantity	Drug/Schedule	Quantity
Cocaine (Schedule II)	5kgs or more mixture	Heroin (Schedule I)	1kg or more mixture
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	50 gms or more mixture	LSD (Schedule I)	10 gms or more mixture
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	400 gms or more mixture	Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	50 gms or more pure or 500 gms or more mix
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	100 gms or more mixture	PCP (Schedule II)	100 gms or more pure or 1 kg or more mix

Penalties

First Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual

Second Offense: Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$20 million if not an individual

2 or More Prior Offenses: Life imprisonment

Drug/Schedule	Quantity	Penalties
Other Schedule 1 & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any Amount	<p>First Offense: Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual</p> <p>Second Offense: Not more than 30 yrs. If death</p>
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gm or more	<p>or serious injury, not less than life. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual</p>
Other Schedule III drugs Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Any Amount 30 to 999 mgs	<p>First offense: Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second offense: Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual</p>
All other Schedule IV drugs	Any Amount	<p>First offense: Not more than 3 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.</p>
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Less than 30 mgs	<p>Second offense: Not more than 6 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual</p>
All Schedule V drugs	Any Amount	<p>First offense: Not more than 1 yr. Fine not more than \$100,000 if an individual, \$250,000 if not an individual</p> <p>Second offense: Not more than 2 yrs. Fine not more than \$200,000 if an individual, \$500,000 if not an individual</p>

Marijuana

Drug	Quantity	First Offense	Second Offense
Marijuana	1000 kg or more mixture; or 1000 or more plants	Not less than 10 yrs, not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, not more than life. Fine not more than \$4 million if an individual \$10 million if not an individual	Not less than 20 yrs, not more than life. If death or serious injury, mandatory life. Fine not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$20 million if not an individual
Marijuana	100 kg to 999 kg mixture; or 100 to 999 plants	Not less than 5 yrs, not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, not more than life. Fine not more than \$2 million if an individual \$5 million if other than an individual	Not less than 10 yrs, not more than life. If death or serious injury, mandatory life. Fine not more than \$4 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual
Marijuana	more than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg mixture more than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 plants	Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, not more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual	Not more than 30 yrs If death or serious injury, mandatory life Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual
Marijuana	1 to 49 plants; less than 50 kg mixture	Not more than 5 yrs Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual	Not more than 10 yrs. Fine \$500,000 if an individual. \$2 million if not an individual
Hashish	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil	1 kg or less		