



## **Drug/Alcohol Free School Policy (Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program)**

The following provides information on drug and alcohol use including health risks, legal sanctions, federal drug sanctions, treatment resources, prevention education and assistance resources and other related information.

It is the policy of South College to maintain a safe and healthy environment for its students and employees. Thus, the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of drugs or alcohol is prohibited on any South College campus, in any of the college's buildings, or as a part of any college-related activities (such as field trips, internships, or social activities). Any student or employee who is intoxicated or under the influence of any drug or controlled substance is in violation of the South College Drug/Alcohol Free Campus Policy and subject to disciplinary action. Additionally, illegal use of drugs or alcohol is a violation of local, state, and federal laws. If any of these violations do occur, further disciplinary action may occur in the form of immediate dismissal from South College whether student or employee, and/or mandatory counseling or rehabilitation by an appropriate agency. Students with issues regarding drug or alcohol use are encouraged to make an appointment with the Director of Student Services for counseling information and/or referral to an appropriate program that can provide assistance. Employees with issues in this area are encouraged to discuss assistance programs with the Human Resources administrator.

In keeping with section 120(a) through (d) of The Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, including the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226), information is provided to all students, faculty, and staff of South College. Pursuant to federal and state drug laws, students are prohibited from the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, sale or use of illicit/illegal drugs. South College prohibits underage drinking. These prohibitions apply while on school property or when participating in any institutional activity. Students or employees who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including expulsion from school or termination of employment, and referral for prosecution.

South College is committed to providing a drug- and alcohol-free learning and working environment. The institution cares for the well-being, health and safety of our students and employees and is committed to educating students and employees about the dangers of the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs. In order to meet compliance with DFSCA, South College has adopted and implemented a proactive educational approach to prevention. The information contained in the program is intended to not only meet federal requirements but also make students and employees aware of the College's expectations regarding alcohol and other drugs.

The College has entered into a partnership with ComPsych. Through ComPsych students have counseling services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Students have the ability to talk to a counselor online or be connected with a counselor in their local community. In addition to counseling, ComPsych provides an extensive resource room center which covers a wide range of wellness topics.

Alcohol Awareness and Drug Awareness online training programs are issued to all students. All new students are expected to complete AlcoholEdu. AlcoholEdu is an online alcohol and drug education and sexual violence harm-reduction course. The course takes an informative, educational approach to assist students in making informed decisions for themselves, supporting their classmates and assisting their own family members.

Additional courses are assigned to continuing students on an annual basis. Subsequent courses build on the knowledge gained in AlcoholEdu and address additional topics in more depth. Additional courses include: Student Mental Health, Sexual Assault Prevention, and Alcohol and other Drug Abuse.

Educational materials, printed brochures, flyers, and other resources related to alcohol and drug abuse are available in the Student Centers, Student Services, and online through the ComPsych Resource Center. Student Services staff work closely with students to ensure they are aware of the available campus and community support systems, resources and services.

South College encourages students to get involved on campus in order to maximize their college experience. Through a variety of events, services, and resources, students are provided opportunities to connect to the college and to other students. Student Activities promotes a sense of community and loyalty to the college while serving to enhance the social, intellectual, and developmental growth of students as individuals and members of the South College community. All college sponsored events are alcohol and drug free and designed to enhance students' overall experience and support their educational pursuits.

A Drug/Alcohol Free Workplace online training program is issued faculty and staff via the Paylocity Learning Management System. The training covers the effects of substance abuse, signs of substance abuse, and a description of the health risks and symptoms of commonly abused drugs.

To assist students and employees in determining if they or someone they know may have a problem or potential problem related to drug or alcohol abuse, the following questions may be answered.

*Do you or does someone you know...*

1. Drink or use drugs to forget about problems?
2. Drink or use drugs to feel relaxed or comfortable around other people?
3. Have family members with drug or alcohol problems?
4. Ever feel guilty about drinking, drug use or behavior exhibited while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs?
5. Have conflicts with friends after drinking or using other drugs?
6. Ever have trouble remembering what was done or said while drinking or using other drugs?

7. Ever get drunk or high after making a conscious decision to stay sober/straight?
8. Drink until there is nothing left to drink, or use other drugs until the supply is exhausted?
9. Ever miss class or work because of a hangover?

An answer of yes to two or three of these questions may indicate that you, or someone you know, could be at risk for an alcohol or other drug problem.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Referral Information is distributed to all students at Orientation. Students desiring assistance should contact the Dean of Student Services. Employees should contact the Human Resources Department.

#### Health Risks Associated with Alcohol Use

Ethyl alcohol, the form of alcohol found in beer, wine, and liquor, is a psychoactive drug as powerful as even the most notorious drugs. It is classified as a depressant and is capable of producing a general reversible depression of the central nervous system. Approximately one in ten people will find it difficult to control consumption, will have continuing problems associated with its use, and will develop the disease of alcoholism. Even those who do not eventually develop alcoholism can experience and/or cause considerable harm to themselves, others, and the community. Those individuals with a family history of chemical dependency face a significantly higher chance of developing alcoholism or other forms of drug addiction. Low doses of alcohol significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to safely operate a motor vehicle. Moderate to high doses cause marked impairments in higher mental functions and alter a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory problems and death.

Women who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, alcohol use has been found to be significantly related to the transmission of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, unplanned pregnancy, fighting, assaults, vandalism, and the occurrence of acquaintance rape and other crimes.

#### Health Risks Associated with Drug Use

- Cannabis (Marijuana, Hashish): The use of marijuana may impair or reduce short-term memory and comprehension, alter sense of time, and reduce coordination and energy level. Users often have a lowered immune system and an increased risk of lung cancer. The active ingredient in marijuana, THC, is stored in the fatty tissues of the brain and reproductive system for a minimum of 28 to 30 days.
- Hallucinogens: Lysergic acid (LSD), mescaline, and psilocybin cause illusions and hallucinations. The user may experience panic, confusion, suspicion, anxiety, and loss of control. Delayed effects, or flashbacks, can occur even when use has ceased. Phencyclidine (PCP) affects the section of the brain that controls the intellect and keeps instincts in check. Because the drug blocks pain receptors, violent PCP episodes may result in self-inflicted injuries.
- Cocaine/Crack: Cocaine users often have a stuffy, runny nose and may have a perforated nasal septum. The immediate effects of cocaine use include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperature, followed by depression.

Crack, or freebase rock cocaine, is extremely addictive and can cause delirium, hallucinations, blurred vision, severe chest pain, muscle spasms, convulsions, and even death.

- Amphetamines: Amphetamines can cause a rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, loss of coordination, collapse, and death. Heavy users are prone to irrational acts.
- Heroin: Heroin is an opiate drug that causes the body to have diminished pain reactions. The use of heroin can result in coma, or death due to a reduction in heart rate.

### Penalties and Sanctions for Illegal Possession of a Controlled Substance

#### Alcohol

It is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to buy, possess, transport (unless in the course of his or her employment), or consume alcoholic beverages, wine or beer. Such offenses are classified as Class A misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than 11 months, 29 days, or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both. It is further an offense to provide alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one (21), such offense being classified as a Class A Misdemeanor. The offense of public intoxication is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment of not more than 30 days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both. Public intoxication is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by 11 hours of community service, possible revocation of driver's license, imprisonment of not more than thirty (30) days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both. Possession or casual exchange of a controlled substance is considered a Class A Misdemeanor. For the second or greater offense, punishment is one (1) to six (6) years of imprisonment and a fine of up to \$3,000.00.

#### Controlled Substances

Various federal and state statutes make it unlawful to manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, sell, or possess controlled substances. The penalty imposed depends upon many factors which include the type and amount of controlled substance involved, the number of prior offenses, whether death or serious bodily injury resulted from the use of such substance, and whether any other crimes were committed in connection with the use of the controlled substance.

**21 U.S.C. 844(a)** \*1st conviction: Up to one-year imprisonment and fined at least \$1,000 but not more than \$100,000, or both.

\*After one prior drug conviction: At least 15 days in prison, not to exceed two years and fined at least \$2,500 but not more than \$250,000, or both.

\*After two or more prior drug convictions: At least 90 days in prison, not to exceed three years and fined at least \$5,000 but not more than \$250,000, or both.

\*Special sentencing provision for possession of crack cocaine: Mandatory at least five years in prison, not to exceed 20 years and fined up to \$250,000, or both, if:

First conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds five grams.

Second crack conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceed three grams.

Third or subsequent crack conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds one gram.

**21 U.S.C. 853(a) (2) and 881(a) (7)** Forfeiture of personal and real property used to possess or to facilitate possession of a controlled substance if that offense is punishable by more than one

year imprisonment. (See special sentencing provisions re: crack)

**21 U.S.C. 881(a) (4)** Forfeiture of vehicles, boats, aircraft or any other conveyance used to transport or conceal a controlled substance.

**21 U.S.C. 844a** Civil fine of up to \$10,000 (pending adoption of final regulations).

**21 U.S.C. 853a** Denial of Federal benefits, such as student loans, grants, contracts, and professional and commercial licenses, up to one year for first offense, up to five years for second and subsequent offenses.

**18 U.S.C. 922(g)** Ineligible to receive or purchase a firearm.

**North Carolina Statutes Article 5. Section 90-86, et seq** – Prohibits for anyone to manufacture, sell, deliver or possess with the intention to manufacture, sell, or deliver a controlled substance; create, sell, or deliver, or possess with the intention to sell or deliver a counterfeit controlled substance; Possess a controlled substance; possess a chemical with the intention to manufacture a controlled substance or meth; or possess or distribute a chemical knowing (or reasonably believing) it'll be used to manufacture a controlled substance or meth. Penalties are very specific to the situation and includes punishment as Class 1, 2, or 3 misdemeanors in some circumstances or Class C, H, I felony in others.

**Georgia Code, Title 16, Chapter 13** - Georgia drug possession laws charge possession, apart from marijuana possession, as a felony. Penalties are as follows: *Possession of any Schedule I or narcotic Schedule II drugs*: punishable with 2-15 years in prison. Subsequent convictions are punishable with up to 30 years in prison.

*Possession of non-narcotic Schedule II drugs*: punishable with 2-15 years in prison.

Subsequent convictions are punishable with 5-30 years in prison. *Possession of Schedule III, IV, or V drugs*: punishable by 1-5 years in prison. Subsequent convictions are punishable with 1-10 years in prison.

**Tennessee Code Annotated Section 29-38-104, Section 39-17-417, Section 39-17-425** - In Tennessee, a simple possession charge is a misdemeanor, but all other violations of drug laws are felonies. It is an offense for a defendant to knowingly: Manufacture a controlled substance; Deliver a controlled substance; Sell a controlled substance; or Possess a controlled substance with intent to manufacture, deliver, or sell the controlled substance. The actual penalties will depend on numerous factors including criminal history. Possible penalties include: Forfeiture of property, Suspension of driver's license, Jail and/or prison time, Fines, Probation, Community service. Sentencing by Schedules: **Schedule I (heroin, psychedelics), and II (opiates/opioids, cocaine, methamphetamines) substances**: *Purchase or possession; first offense*: incarceration ranging from 2-15 years. *Purchase or possession; second offense*: incarceration ranging from 5-30 years, *Sale or intent to distribute; first offense*: incarceration ranging for 5-30 years, *Sale or intent to distribute; second offense*: incarceration ranging from 10-40 years or life. **Schedule III (anabolic steroids), IV (Xanax, Valium) and V (Tylenol with Codeine) substances**: *Purchase or possession; first offense*: incarceration ranging from 1-5 years, *Purchase or possession; second offense*: incarceration ranging from 1-10 years, *Sale or intent to distribute; first offense*: incarceration ranging for 1-10 years.

**Georgia - Possession** of less than an ounce of marijuana is a misdemeanor with potential penalties involving up to \$1,000 in fines and one year in prison. Being in **possession** of a

Schedule 1 or 2 **drugs** is a felony offense and sentencing can range from 2 to 15 years on a first offense, longer for second or subsequent offenses.

**North Carolina** marijuana **laws** assign the following **penalties** for illegal marijuana **possession**: Class 1 misdemeanor — .05 ounces or less — fines up to \$200 or 30 days in jail or both. Class 3 misdemeanor — .05 ounces to 1.5 ounces — fines up to \$500 or up to 120 days in jail or both.

**Tennessee Code Annotated 39-17-401, et seq.** - Possession or casual exchange of: Less than .5 oz.: Class A misdemeanor and attendance at drug offender school and minimum \$250 fine; Casual exchange to a minor from an adult 2 yrs. his senior and adult knows minor is a minor: felony; Subsequent offense: \$500 minimum; Third: \$750 minimum; Two or more prior convictions, then Class E felony; 20 plants to 99 plants: Class C felony, fined up to \$100,000.

The **Federal** Uniform **Drinking** Age Act of 1984 sets the minimum **legal drinking** age to 21 and every State abides by that standard. ... While every State abides by this standard, State **law** varies on specifics about possession and exceptions to the **law**, such as allowing people under 21 to drink with their parents.

**T.C.A. 39-17-417(21 U.S.C. 801, et. seq.; T.C.A. 39-17-417)** If there is an exchange between a minor and an adult at least two years the minor's senior, and the adult knows that the person is a minor, the offense is classified as a felony, as provided in. It is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to buy, possess, transport (unless in the course of his/her employment), or consume alcoholic beverages, wine or beer.

**T.C.A. 1- 3-113, 57-5-301** Such offenses are classified as Class A misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than 11 months and 29 days, or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both (). It further is an offense to provide alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one (21). Such an offense is classified as a Class A misdemeanor (T.C.A. 39-15-404).

**T.C.A. 39-17-310** The offense of public intoxication is a Class C misdemeanor and is punishable by imprisonment of not more than 30 days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both.

**GEORGIA LAW O.C.G.A. §16-11-41** A person who shall be and appear in an intoxicated condition in any public place or within the curtilage of any private residence not his own other than by invitation of the owner or lawful occupant, which condition is made manifest by boisterousness, by indecent condition or act, or by vulgar, profane, loud, or unbecoming language is guilty of public drunkenness. If convicted of public drunkenness, the defendant will be guilty of a misdemeanor. Misdemeanors carry a punishment of up to one year in jail or up to \$1,000 in fines, or both.

**GEORGIA LAW** It is illegal for an individual under 21 years of age to consume or possess alcoholic beverages, except, as follows: (1) for medical purposes pursuant to a prescription of a physician duly authorized to practice medicine in this state; (2) at a religious ceremony; or (3) when the parent or guardian of the person under 21 years of age gives the alcoholic beverage to the person and when possession is in the home of the parent or legal guardian and such parent or legal guardian is present. Serving or Selling Penalties: First offense: Misdemeanor punishable by up to \$100 fine, up to 12 months imprisonment, or both; or by up to 12 months imprisonment in a

state probation or diversion center. Subsequent offenses: Misdemeanor of high and aggravated nature punishable by up to \$5000 fine and/or 12 months imprisonment. Underage

**N.C. Gen. Stat. Ann. § § 14-444, 15A-1340.23.** - Being drunk and disorderly is a Class 3 misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of up to \$200 and one to ten days in jail if it is the defendant's first offense. If the defendant has prior convictions, being drunk and disorderly is punishable by up to 20 days in jail.

**North Carolina Law** It is illegal for an individual under 21 years of age to consume or possess alcoholic beverages. **Penalties for underage drinking charges in North Carolina** may include: Up to 120 days of jail time. Losing driver's license. **Fines** and financial **penalties** (\$200 – \$500).

**Local law enforcement** agencies work to enforce state and federal laws relating to drugs and alcohol. Some local counties have and enforce laws relating to the times businesses that sell alcohol may do so and/or the age of individuals that may be present in those businesses.

#### Assistance Programs

South College does not provide or support specific recovery programs.

The College has entered into a partnership with ComPsych. Through ComPsych, students have counseling services available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Students have the ability to talk to a counselor online or be connected with a counselor in their local community. In addition to counseling, ComPsych provides an extensive resource room center which covers a wide range of wellness topics. This resource may be helpful in determining a plan to address recovery needs.

Employees participating in the South College medical insurance program have benefits relating to counseling and recovery efforts.

The following are examples of local resources that may be helpful –

*Cornerstone of Recovery (4726 Airport Hwy, Louisville, TN 37777 – 866-865-3689)*

Provides treatment to individuals and their families to address substance use disorders.

Cornerstone provides medical detox, residential, intensive outpatient, outpatient, and support living programs.

*CenterPointe (5310 Ball Camp Pike, Knoxville, TN 37921, Main Office: (865) 523-4704)*

A program of Helen Ross McNabb Center that provides alcohol and drug residential services as well as medical detoxification and a crisis stabilization unit.

*Peninsula Outpatient Center (1451 Dowell Springs Blvd Suite 101, Knoxville, TN 37909, (865) 970-9800)*

Provides intensive outpatient programs for substance use disorders as well as outpatient therapy services.

*Tennova Behavioral Health Services (2800 Westside Dr NW, Cleveland, TN 37312, (423) 479-4673)*

Provides outpatient services including partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient programs for substance use disorders.

*Metro Drug Coalition (4930 Lyons View Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919, (865) 588-5550)*

This non-profit organization provides substance abuse prevention resources for family, teachers, businesses, faith leaders, and physicians in Knoxville.

*Cumberland Heights (PO Box 90727, Nashville, TN 37209, 615-356-2700)*

A nonprofit alcohol and drug-addiction recovery center located on the banks of the Cumberland River in Nashville, Tennessee.

*STARS Nashville TX/Recover (1704 Charlotte Avenue, Nashville, TN 37203, (615) 279-0058)*

Youth Overcoming Drug Abuse (YODA) is an intensive outpatient program of STARS for adolescents with substance use disorder and co-occurring disorders. Gender-Specific Intensive Outpatient Treatment Programs Services are free to youth ages 13 to 18 who are Tennessee residents and are uninsured or have insurance that will not pay for treatment. Length of program is based on individual needs.

*Lifecare Family Services (145 Thompson Lane, Nashville, TN 37211, (615) 781-0013)*

Areas of Care include case management, counseling, family preservation, family intake and assessment, psychiatric and nursing, psychological testing, and Child Care Supervised visitation. Payment is on a sliding fee scale base on income and other factors, also accepted in cash, self-payment, Medicaid, Medicare, state financed health insurance plan other than Medicaid, private health insurance, and military insurance.

*Asheville Recovery Center (9 Old Burnsville Hill Road Suite 7, Asheville, NC 28804, (828) 398-0181)*

Services include addiction treatment, individual therapy, group therapy, family counseling, trauma resolution therapy, holistic therapy, and aftercare.

*Mountain Treatment Center (370 North Louisiana Avenue, Asheville, NC 28806, (828) 255-8655)*

Substance abuse services for men and women are provided in an outpatient setting. Some of these services include individual and group counseling, behavioral therapy, substance abuse treatment, relapse prevention, and anger management.

*Road to Recover, Inc. Atlanta (3155 Presidential Drive, Atlanta, GA 30340. (770) 220-2885)*

Drug and Alcohol Abuse treatment (inpatient and outpatient) provided with treatment approaches including addiction treatment counseling therapy, counseling for anger management, relapse prevention planning, trauma-related counseling, and dialectical behavioral therapy.

*Metro Atlanta Recovery Residences Incorporated (2815 Clearview Place, Atlanta, GA, 30340, 877-969-2051)*

Types of care includes substance abuse treatment, Naltrexone oral, accepts clients on opioid medication, and medications for psychiatric disorders.