



**Title:** Drug-Free Schools Policy Statement  
**Category:** President  
**Applies to:** Staff, Faculty, Student, Department  
**Contact:** UCO Office of Legal Counsel (405) 974-3377

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**Purpose:**

I. Purpose

A. The University of Central Oklahoma recognizes its responsibility as an educational and public service institution, and as an employer, to promote a productive and healthy environment. This responsibility demands implementation of programs and services which facilitate that effort. This policy has been developed to promote a productive and healthy environment for students and employees (both faculty and staff) and to ensure compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989.

B. Along with health consequences and criminal and civil penalties imposed as a result of various federal, state and local laws, the University of Central Oklahoma recognizes that drug and alcohol abuse on the part of its students and employees generally detracts from its educational mission. It is the intent of the University to educate students and employees about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and to discourage the illegal possession and distribution of drugs and alcohol.

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**Policy Statement:**

II. General Policy Statement

A. "Controlled dangerous substance" means a drug, substance, or immediate precursor in Schedules I through V of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substances Act (63 O.S. Section 2-101 et seq.). Also referred to as "illegal drugs" or alcohol, which includes alcoholic beverages or low-point beer.

B. The unlawful possession, use or distribution of a controlled dangerous substance by students or employees on University property, or as a part of any University – sponsored activity is hereby prohibited. Continued enrollment by students and continued employment and/or employment following receipt of this policy constitute acceptance of the policy.

C. This policy shall not prohibit consumption of alcoholic beverages and/or low-point beer otherwise allowed by University policy regarding the purchase of the purchase of alcoholic beverages and/or low-point beer through the University's food service provider or any approved and licensed caterer.

D. Student employees of the University, for purposes of violations of this policy, shall be subject to the disciplinary procedures and sanctions outlined in both the Code of Student Conduct and the Employee Handbook.

### III. University Sanctions

A. Violations of this policy shall result in University sanctions including but not limited to:

1. Students: Reprimand, restriction of activities, conduct probation, suspension, and expulsion.
2. Employees: Reprimand, restriction of activities, employment probation, termination of employment.

B. The University may also require the completion of an approved rehabilitation program at the employee's or student's own expense.

C. Any disciplinary action taken by the University shall be taken in accordance with applicable policies of the University.

D. The University, in its discretion, may also refer any violations to appropriate law enforcement authorities for criminal prosecution.

### IV. Legal Sanctions

A. Local, state, and federal laws provide for a variety of legal sanctions, both civil and criminal, for the unlawful possession and/or distribution of illegal drugs or alcohol. As an example of a civil penalty, 70 O.S. Section 624 provides that student loans, grants fellowships, teaching fellowships, or other means of financial assistance may be revoked or terminated for the unlawful manufacture, preparation, delivery, sale, offering for sale, barter, furnishing, giving away, possession, control, use or administering of narcotic drugs, marijuana, barbiturates, or stimulants.

B. Examples of the conduct prohibited by the Oklahoma Uniformed Controlled Dangerous Substances Act (63 O.S. Section 2-101 et seq.) include:

1. Except as authorized by the Uniformed Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, possession of a controlled dangerous substance is prohibited by 63 O.S. Section 2-402
  - a. Possession of a Schedule I or II substance, except marijuana is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than ten (10) years. A second or subsequent offense is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than four (4) years nor more than twenty (20) years.
  - b. Possession of a Schedule III, IV, or V substance, or marijuana, is a misdemeanor punishable by confinement for not more than one (1) year. A second or subsequent offense is a felony punishable by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than ten (10) years.
2. Except as authorized by the Uniform Dangerous Substances Act under 63 O.S. 2-401 it is unlawful for any person to distribute, dispense, transport with intent to distribute or dispense, or possess with intent to distribute or dispense, a controlled dangerous substance.

a. As to a Schedule I or II substance which is a narcotic drug, lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), gamma butyrolactone, gamma hydroxyvalerate, gamma valerolactone, 1, 4 butanediol, or gamma-hydroxybutyric acid as defined by 63 O.S. Sections 2-204 and 2-208, a violation is a felony and punishable by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than life and a fine of not more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000).

b. As to a Schedule I, II, III, or IV substance, other than in 2.a above, a violation is a felony and punishable by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than life and a fine of not more than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000).

c. As to a Schedule V substance, a violation is a felony and punishable by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years and a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000).

## V. Health Risks

A. Health risks associated with alcohol and drug abuse include lowered immune system, damage to nerve cells, physical dependency, psychological dependency, lung damage, heart damage, liver disease, physical and mental depression, increased risk of infection, memory loss, personality changes and thought disorders.

B. Specific health risks include:

1. Stimulants (speed, uppers, crank, caffeine, ecstasy, etc.) speed up the nervous system which can cause increased heart and breathing rates, higher blood pressure, decreased appetite, headaches, blurred vision, dizziness, sleeplessness, anxiety, hallucinations, paranoia, depression, convulsions, and death due to stroke or heart failure.

2. Anabolic Steroids seriously affect the liver, cardiovascular, and reproductive systems. Can cause sterility in males and females, as well as impotency in males.

3. Barbiturates/Depressants/Benzodiazepines (downers, Quaaludes, Valium, etc.) slow down the central nervous system which can cause decreased heart and breathing rates, lower blood pressure, slow reactions, confusion, distortion of reality, convulsions, respiratory depression, coma, and death. Depressants combined with alcohol can be lethal.

4. Cocaine/Crack/Ice stimulates the central nervous system and is extremely addictive, both psychologically and physically. Effects include dilated pupils, increased heart rate, elevated blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, hallucinations, paranoia, seizures, and death due to cardiac arrest or respiratory failure.

5. Hallucinogens (PCP, angel dust, LSD, etc.) interrupt the functions of the part of the brain which controls the intellect and instincts. May result in self-inflicted injuries, impaired coordination, dulled senses, incoherent speech, depression, anxiety, violent behavior, paranoia, hallucinations, increased heart rate and blood pressure, convulsions, coma, and heart and lung failure.

6. Cannabis (marijuana, hashish, hash, etc.) impairs short-term memory, comprehension, coordination, and motivation. May also cause paranoia and psychosis. Marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing agents than tobacco smoke. The way in which marijuana is smoked - deeply inhaled and held in the lungs for a long period - enhances the risk of getting cancer. Combined with alcohol, marijuana can produce a dangerous multiplied effect.

7. Narcotics (heroin, morphine, Demerol, Percodan, etc.) initially produce feelings of euphoria often followed by drowsiness, nausea, and vomiting. An overdose may result in convulsions, coma, and death. Tolerance develops rapidly and dependence is likely. Using contaminated syringes to inject such drugs may result in AIDS.

8. Alcohol causes short-term changes in behavior, impairment of judgment and coordination, greater likelihood of aggressive acts, respiratory depression, irreversible physical and mental abnormalities in newborns (fetal alcohol syndrome), and death. Long-term effects of alcohol abuse include damage to the liver, heart, and brain; ulcers; gastritis; malnutrition; delirium tremors; and cancer. Alcohol combined with other barbiturates/ depressants can prove to be a deadly mixture.

9. Tobacco/Nicotine causes the death of about 170,000 people in the United States each year from smoking-related coronary heart disease. About 30 percent of the 130,000 cancer deaths each year are linked to smoking. Lung, larynx, esophagus, bladder, pancreas, and kidney cancers strike smokers at increased rates. Emphysema and chronic bronchitis are ten times more likely among smokers.

C. Further information concerning health risks may be found in the Student Affairs area. Individuals should also consult their personal physician about alcohol and drug-related health risks.

## VI. Drug and Alcohol Programs

A. Employees interested in drug and alcohol programs are referred to the University's Employee Assistance Program provider, Deer Oaks EAP. Deer Oaks EAP may be reached 24 hours per day, 365 days per year at 1-866-327-2400.

B. Students interested in drug and alcohol programs are referred to the Student Counseling Center located in the Nigh University Center, Room 402. The Student Counseling Center may be reached by telephone at 405-974-2215.

C. Other community resources include:

1. Alcoholics Anonymous Referral Service: 1-800-711-6375

2. Narcotics Anonymous Referral Service: 1-800-711-6375

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**Legal**

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**Campus**

**Links:**

**FAQs:**

**Formally**

**known as:**

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