6.10 Drug & Alcohol Abuse Policy for Students

Policy 6.10
Volume 6 Student Services
Chapter 10 Drug & Alcohol Abuse Policy for Students
Responsible Office: Campus Life Services
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Policy Statement

The use of illegal drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, and LSD carries serious penalties. Under State of Georgia law, mere possession of an illegal drug may constitute a felony and could result in serious monetary fines, as well as imprisonment for 20 years or more. Similarly, the unauthorized use of legal, prescription drugs may constitute a felony and also carries serious penalties. While not an illegal drug per se, alcohol may also be abused and may result in criminal penalties. State of Georgia law may impose serious sanctions for drug- or alcohol-related crimes, including loss of or ineligibility for a professional license, or employment with any state agency. In addition to legal penalties, Georgia Health Sciences University will suspend or expel any student convicted of a drug-related felony in any state, effective the date of the conviction.

Reason For Policy
All students enrolled at the Georgia Health Sciences University are subject to State of Georgia laws when physically present within the State of Georgia. State of Georgia law may impose serious sanctions for drug-related crimes, including loss of or ineligibility for a professional license, or employment with any state agency. Most of the educational programs at Georgia Health Sciences University prepare students for professions that require professional licensure. Thus, if students are convicted of a felony or are unable to obtain professional licensure, they will be unable to practice in their professions.

It is the policy of the Georgia Health Sciences University that students committing criminal acts on or off campus will be treated as citizens of the community. Clearly, Georgia Health Sciences University cannot protect members of its community—including faculty, staff and students—who commit criminal offenses. This applies to drug-related crimes as well.

**Entities Affected By This Policy**

All full-time and part-time students attending the Georgia Health Sciences University are affected by this policy. This includes students participating in distance education who may reside outside Augusta or outside the State of Georgia.

**Who Should Read This Policy**

All students and faculty at the Georgia Health Sciences University, whether they reside within Augusta and the State of Georgia or elsewhere should be aware of this policy.

**Contacts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>e-mail/URL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Campus Life Services</td>
<td>(706) 721-3356</td>
<td><a href="mailto:campuslifeservices@georgiahealth.eduhttp">mailto:campuslifeservices@georgiahealth.eduhttp</a>://www.georgiahealth.edu/students/campuslife/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Health Services</td>
<td>(706) 721-3448</td>
<td><a href="mailto:studenthealth@georgiahealth.eduhttp">mailto:studenthealth@georgiahealth.eduhttp</a>://www.georgiahealth.edu/shs/</td>
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**Related Documents**

Overview

The following statement of policy is designed to emphasize, in fairness to all members of the university community, the possible repercussions of the illicit use of drugs or alcohol. In addition to the policies of the Georgia Health Sciences University and the Board of Regents concerning abuse of drugs and alcohol, numerous and serious sanctions are imposed under state and federal laws regarding the unlawful possession, distribution or use of illicit drugs and alcohol. In addition to legal penalties, Georgia Health Sciences University will suspend or expel any student convicted of a drug-related felony in any state, effective the date of the conviction.

While not an illegal drug per se, alcohol may also be abused and may result in criminal penalties. Persons convicted of operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol may lose their driver’s license, receive substantial fines, or go to prison.

It is the policy of the Georgia Health Sciences University that students committing criminal acts on or off campus will be treated as citizens of the community. Clearly, the Georgia Health Sciences University cannot protect members of its community—including faculty, staff and students—who commit criminal offenses. This applies to drug- and alcohol-related crimes as well. It should not be inferred from the statements above that Georgia Health Sciences University is indifferent about what happens to members of its community; rather we have a deep concern for those who violate the law.

Process/Procedures

Students who violate this drug and alcohol abuse policy are subject to action under the Georgia Health Sciences University Student Conduct Code and Procedures.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities each party has in connection with Academic, Research, and Student Affairs Policy 6.10, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy for Students, are:

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<tr>
<th>Students at Georgia Health Sciences University</th>
<th>Know and obey all local, state, and federal laws regarding use of legal and illegal drugs and alcohol</th>
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<td>Campus Life Services</td>
<td>Adjudicate any violations of this policy under the Student</td>
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