

AP 3550 Drug Free Environment and Drug Prevention Program

References:

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989;
20 U.S. Code Section 1145g;
34 Code of Federal Regulations 86.1 et seq.;
Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988;
41 U.S. Code Section 702

The District is committed to providing its employees, students, student workers, and volunteers with a drug free workplace and campus environment. It emphasizes prevention and intervention through education.

NOTICE

The District will provide annual notice to employees, students, student workers, and volunteers of the District's drug and alcohol free campus and workplace environment. The District will provide written and/or electronic notice of its policies through:

- Publication of the policy in class schedules on on-line;
- Annual print notification to employees;
- Print notification to all student workers and volunteers upon board approval of assignment; and
- On-line publication of Board Policies.

HEALTH RISKS

The following are commonly abused drugs and their associated health risks:

Alcohol

- Brain, heart, liver disease
- Fetal alcohol syndrome
- Some forms of cancer
- Addiction
- Reduced life expectancy
- Death from severe overdoses causing respiratory and heart shutdown

Alcohol is involved in two-thirds of violent behavior, one-half of all injuries, one-third of all emotional difficulties and one-third of all academic problems on college campuses. The use of alcohol is detrimental to athletic and academic skills, and impairs concentration, judgment and body coordination.

Marijuana

- Breast enlargement in men
- Increased appetite
- Loss of motivation and purpose
- Heavy psychological dependence
- Loss of sex drive and reduced fertility
- May cause heart and lung damage
- Insomnia for up to 6 months after quit using

Cocaine

- Excitability and restlessness
- False feeling of self-confidence
- Painful nose bleeds and nasal erosion
- Quick addiction
- Depression
- Easy overdose leading to heart failure
- Crack babies
- Behavior leading to exposure to the AIDS virus and syphilis

Stimulants

- Loss of appetite
- Insomnia
- High distractibility
- Anxiety and severe depression
- Suicidal tendencies, anger, violence, and psychotic or criminal behavior.

In addition to the above, opiates, depressants, deliriants, hallucinogens and tobacco have significant health risks.

Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of disease and premature death in the United States. Tobacco use causes more deaths each year than alcohol use, car crashes, suicide, AIDS, homicide, and illegal drug use combined. Save your health and your money: schedule a free appointment with the tobacco cessation counselor at the Student Health and Wellness Center (661)362-3259.

Therapeutic drugs, when used for medical treatment, can have beneficial and predictable results. Drugs used for nonmedical reasons can cause serious physical and psychological problems.

APPLICABLE LEGAL SANCTIONS

Laws and regulations forbidding substance abuse include the Federal Controlled Standards Act, the California State Business and Professional Code, and the California State Penal Code. Legal sanctions may be taken against you if you are:

- Driving under the influence of any drug,
- In possession of illegal drugs or controlled substances,
- Using a false I.D. to obtain alcohol,
- Obtaining or providing alcohol for people under legal age,
- Giving prescription drugs to others,
- Selling any drug

PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

The Health Center provides confidential individual counseling for students who have questions or concerns about their use of alcohol or use of other substances, referral to community resources such as Alcoholics Anonymous or Narcotics Anonymous, and smoking-cessation information and referral.

**Valencia Campus
Student Health and
Wellness Center**
(661) 362-3259

**Canyon Country Campus
Student Health and
Wellness Center**
(661) 476-3812

OFF-CAMPUS RESOURCES

**National Council on
Alcoholism and Drug
Dependence of Santa Clarita**
24460 Lynons Avenue
Santa Clarita, CA 91321
(661) 299-2888

National Alcohol Hotline
800-ALCOHOL

Cocaine Anonymous (CA)
(818) 760-8402

Narcotics Anonymous (NA)
(661) 299-5599

Alcoholics Anonymous
(661) 250-9922

**Substance Abuse and
Mental Health Services
Administration**
(800) 662-HELP(4357)

Personal health insurance policies may have their own treatment or referral services.

Pre-employment drug testing

As part of the pre-employment physical prior to becoming employed with the district, employees in safety sensitive positions are required to pass a drug screening test. Failure to pass a drug screening test may be grounds to deny employment.

Prohibition of Drugs

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of alcohol or any controlled substance is prohibited on district property, during district-sponsored field trips, activities, or workshops, and in any facility or vehicle operated by the district, except as permitted in Board Policy 3560 and Administrative Procedure 3560, Alcoholic Beverages.

Violation of this prohibition will result in appropriate action up to and including termination of employment, expulsion, and referral for prosecution, or, as permitted by law, may require satisfactory participation in an alcohol or drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program.

As a condition of employment, employees must notify the District within ten (10) calendar days of any conviction for violating a criminal drug statute while in the workplace. The District is required to inform any agencies that require this drug-free policy within ten (10) calendar days after receiving notice of a workplace drug conviction.

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