

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

Coastal Carolina Community College is dedicated to the dissemination of knowledge and to the provision of quality educational opportunities by maintaining a teaching/learning environment which is conducive to that purpose. That environment is damaged by the use of alcohol and other drugs. Therefore, all members of the academic community - students, faculty members, administrators, and other employees - share the responsibility for protecting and maintaining that environment.

Accordingly, every student of Coastal Carolina Community College is responsible for being familiar with and complying with the terms of this policy, which has been adopted by the Board of Trustees. This policy is applicable to all other places and events controlled or sanctioned by the institution.

It is the policy of this college that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use, or being under the influence of an illegal drug or alcohol on the college's property or as a part of any of its activities is prohibited. Coastal Carolina Community College's policy and programs are intended to accomplish the following:

1. Prevent substance abuse through a strong educational effort;
2. Inform members of the academic community about counseling services and rehabilitation programs such as substance abuse counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation programs which are available to them;
3. Provide a description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law;
4. Provide information concerning health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol.

EDUCATION

Coastal Carolina Community College is committed to the education and development of students, faculty, and staff regarding alcohol and other drug use by establishing and maintaining a drug- and alcohol-free awareness program.

The program will include information about the incompatibility of alcohol abuse and the use of illegal drugs with the goals of Coastal Carolina Community College, the health risks associated with illegal drug use, and the potential legal consequences of involvement with alcohol and other drugs.

COUNSELING AND REHABILITATION SERVICES TO PREVENT SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Students, faculty, administration, and staff may seek assistance with an alcohol or other drug-related problem through Coastal Carolina Community College. A listing of available services and referrals will be provided.

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

Coastal Carolina Community College will take necessary action to comply with state and federal law and applicable campus policy in eliminating alcohol and other drugs from the college community. The penalties that may be imposed range from probation to expulsion. However, the following minimum penalties shall be imposed for the particular offenses described:

Alcohol

1. A student shall not knowingly possess, use, transit, or be under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicant on the college campus or any college sanctioned activity, function, or event;
2. For a first offense of knowingly possessing, use of, transit or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or intoxicant, the student will be escorted off the campus or from the college activity, function, or event and must meet with the director of admissions and counseling services for counseling prior to returning to class;
3. For second or other subsequent offenses involving alcohol, progressively more severe penalties shall be imposed, including expulsion.

Trafficking in Illegal Drugs

1. For the illegal manufacture, sale or delivery of, or possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver any controlled substance identified in Schedule I, NC General Statutes 90-89, or Schedule II, NC General Statutes 90-90 (including, but not limited to heroin, mescaline, lysergic acid diethylamide, opium, cocaine, amphetamine, methaqualone), the student shall be expelled;

2. For a first offense involving the illegal manufacture, sale or delivery or possession with intent to manufacture, sell, or deliver any controlled substance identified in Schedules III through VI, NC General Statutes 90-91 through 90-94 (including, but not limited to, marijuana, phenobarbital, codeine), the minimum penalty shall be suspension from enrollment for a period of at least one semester. For a second offense, any student shall be expelled.

Illegal Possession of Drugs

1. For a first offense involving the illegal possession of any controlled substance identified in Schedule I, NC General Statutes 90-89 or Schedule II, NC General Statutes 90-90, the minimum penalty shall be suspension from enrollment for a period of at least one semester or its equivalent;
2. For a first offense involving the illegal possession of any controlled substance identified in Schedules III through VI, NC General Statutes 90-91 through 90-94, the minimum penalty shall be probation, for a period to be determined on a case-by-case basis. A student on probation must agree to participate in a drug education and counseling program, consent to regular drug testing, and accept such other conditions and restrictions, including a program of community service, as the division chair for student services or designee of the president deems appropriate. Refusal or failure to abide by the terms of probation shall result in suspension from enrollment for any unexpired balance of the prescribed period of probation;
3. For second or other subsequent offenses involving the illegal possession of controlled substances, progressively more severe penalties shall be imposed, including expulsion.

SUSPENSION PENDING FINAL DISPOSITION

When a student has been charged by the college with a violation of policies concerning illegal drugs or alcohol, he/she may be suspended from enrollment before initiation or completion of regular disciplinary proceedings if, assuming the truth of the charges, the division chair for student services (or in his/her absence, the president's designee) concludes that the person's continued presence within the college community would constitute a clear and immediate danger to the health or welfare of other members of the college community. If such a suspension is imposed, an appropriate hearing of the charges against the suspended person shall be held in accordance with discipline procedures as outlined in the college catalog.

It is the responsibility of all students to be informed of and abide by the provisions of this policy.