



## **DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION**

Eastern Oklahoma State College recognizes its responsibility as an educational and public service institution to promote a productive and healthy environment. This responsibility demands implementation of programs and services to facilitate that effort.

### **Standards of Conduct**

The college is committed to a program to prevent the abuse of alcohol and the illegal use of drugs and alcohol by its students and employees. The college prohibits illegal use of drugs and alcohol in the workplace, on college property, in college housing, or as part of any college-sponsored activities.

### **Description**

In order to meet these responsibilities, Eastern Oklahoma State College:

- Requires all students and employees to abide by the terms of this policy as a condition of an initial and continued enrollment or employment.
- Recognizes that the illegal use of drugs and alcohol is in direct violation of local, state and federal laws as well as college policies set forth within this policy, the staff and faculty handbooks, and the Student Code of Conduct. College policy strictly prohibits the illegal use, possession, manufacture, dispensing, or distribution of alcohol, drugs or controlled substances in the workplace, on its premises, or as a part of any university-sponsored activities.
- Considers a violation of this policy to be a major offense, which can result in requirement for satisfactory participation in a drug or alcohol rehabilitation program, referral for criminal prosecution, and/or immediate disciplinary action up to and including termination from employment and suspension or expulsion from the college. A criminal conviction is not required for sanctions to be imposed upon an employee or student for violations of this policy.
- Recognizes that violations of applicable local, state and federal laws may subject a student or employee to a variety of legal sanctions including but not limited to fines, incarceration, imprisonment and/or community service requirements. Convictions become a part of an individual's criminal record and may prohibit certain career and professional opportunities.
- Requires an employee to notify his or her supervisor in writing of a criminal conviction for drug or alcohol related offenses occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days following the conviction.

- Forbids an employee from performing sensitive safety functions while a prohibited drug(s) is in his or her system.

### **Sanctions:**

College Sanctions for Students: The following sanctions may be imposed by any person or board authorized to assign disciplinary sanctions. The severity of the imposed sanctions will be appropriate to the violation; possible sanctions include fines, probation, suspension, expulsion, loss of institutional aid, restriction of student's activities or privileges. Students will be charged for all damages or misappropriation of property, which occurs in the violation of a rule or regulation. Restitution may be monetary compensation, replacement or repair. Community service hours will be performed in an area of the College or a community agency for a specified number of hours. Professional counseling, referral to a rehabilitation program, and/or specific restrictions may be used in conjunction with various sanctions.

College Sanctions for Employees: Eastern Oklahoma State College, as a drug-free workplace, is to be free from illegal manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance. Such actions are grounds for disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment. A workplace is defined as any place an employee functions within the scope of his/her job responsibilities. Employees convicted of any workplace related drug offense, which does not result in discharge, or forfeiture of position may be required to successfully complete a recognized drug treatment or rehabilitation program. All employees must notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring while performing within the role and scope of their respective responsibilities. Any employee or student found to be in violation of the federal and/or state laws pertaining to the use or abuse of alcohol and/or illicit drugs may be referred to the legal system for prosecution.

### **Legal Sanctions - Drugs**

Federal and state laws impose grave penalties on those who illegally possess, use, or distribute drugs or alcohol. According to the Criminal Laws in the State of Oklahoma, a person found in possession of a controlled, dangerous substance, within this State, such as marijuana, cannabis, or methamphetamine, and/or drug paraphernalia (pipes, roach clips, cocaine spoons, etc..) may be placed under arrest. All vehicles, or any other means of transportation used to transport a controlled, dangerous substance and money, weapons, or devices therein, are subject to forfeiture. Upon conviction, penalties range from fines, to a year in the County Jail, to life in the State Penitentiary, and/or both.

The Uniform Controlled Substance Act sets up five schedules of controlled substances based on dangerousness and medical uses. It prohibits the manufacture, distribution, sale or acquisition by misrepresentation or forgery of controlled substances except in accordance with the Act as well as the knowing possession of controlled substances unlawfully acquired. Penalties for first-time violators of the Act range from not less than five years imprisonment and fines of not more than \$250,000 or both for possession or distribution of a small amount of marijuana or hashish, not for sale, to forty years or \$10 million or both for the manufacture or delivery of a Schedule I or II narcotic. (Marijuana is a Schedule I Controlled Substance.) Second offense penalties range from not more than 10 years imprisonment and

finer of \$500,000, to not less than ten years imprisonment and fines of not more than \$10 million or both, to not less than twenty years imprisonment and fines of not more than \$20 million or both.

**This is only a summary of legal sanctions. Additional federal and state penalties may apply.**

### **Other Federal Sanctions**

In addition to fines and prison terms, federal sanctions for the possession or distribution of illicit drugs may include the forfeiture of federal Financial Aid eligibility for a period of one or more years. If the conviction occurs while the student is enrolled and receiving aid, the student may be required to repay all federal aid received. Eligibility may be regained by completing an acceptable drug rehabilitation program.

### **Legal Classifications**

Misdemeanors (M) are punishable by imprisonment in county jail for not more than one year and/or a fine not exceeding \$500 unless a different amount is specified for the Offense. Felonies (F) are punishable by imprisonment in the state corrections system for up to two years and/or a fine not exceeding \$1,000 unless a different amount is specified for the offense.

**Unlawfully selling/delivering alcoholic beverages (M):** Knowingly sell, deliver or furnish alcoholic beverages to any person under age 21.

**Unlawful possession of (drug) paraphernalia (M/F):** Deliver/use/possession/manufacture of drug paraphernalia to plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture, compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, test, analyze, pack, repack, store, contain, conceal, inject, ingest, inhale or otherwise introduce into the human body a dangerous substance. Delivery by a person age 18 or over to a person under 18 at least three years his junior is a felony. Otherwise, violation is a misdemeanor.

**Driving while impaired/intoxicated (M/F):** Any person operating a motor vehicle shall be deemed to have given consent to a test for alcohol concentration and/or presence and concentration of any other intoxicating substance. Any person may refuse a test, but refusal shall result in revocation of driving privileges for 180 days. Test results showing an alcohol concentration of .08 or greater shall result in revocation of driving privileges for 90 days. An alcohol concentration of more than .05 but less than .08 is relevant evidence that driving ability is impaired. An alcohol concentration of .08 or more is prima facie evidence that the person was under the influence of alcohol. First offense is a misdemeanor. Second and subsequent offenses may be felonies and may result in suspension of driving privileges for six months.

*Conviction of a felony can render person ineligible for licensure/certification/employment in their career profession; examples are law, medicine, engineering, architecture, accounting, teaching, law enforcement/public safety and military. It can also prevent acquisition of a security clearance necessary to many other jobs.*

### **Health Risks**

Health risks generally associated with alcohol and drug abuse can result in but are not limited to a lowered immune system, damage to critical nerve cells, physical dependency, lung damage, heart problems, liver disease, physical and mental depression, increased infection, irreversible memory loss, personality changes and thought disorders.

The use of alcohol and other drugs represents a serious threat to health and the quality of life. More than 25,000 people die each year from drug-related accidents or health problems. With most drugs, it is possible that users will develop psychological and physical dependence. The general categories of drugs and their effects are as follows:

**Alcohol** produces short-term effects that include behavioral changes, 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 tremens; and cancer. Alcohol combined with barbiturates and other depressants can prove to be a deadly mixture.

**Amphetamines/stimulants** (speed, uppers, crank, caffeine, etc.) speed up the nervous system and 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 a stroke or heart failure.

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

**Barbiturates/depressants** (downers, quaaludes, valium, etc.) slow down the central nervous system and can cause decreased heart and breathing rates, lowered blood pressure, slowed reactions, confusion, distortion of reality, convulsions, respiratory depression, coma and death. Depressants combined with alcohol can be lethal.

**Cocaine/crack** 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.

**Hallucinogens** (PCP, angel dust, LSD, etc.) interrupt the functions of the part of the brain that 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.

**Cannabis** (marijuana, hashish, hash, etc.) impairs short-term memory comprehension, concentration, 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.

**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.

**Tobacco/nicotine** causes death among some 170,000 people in the United States each year due to smoking-related coronary heart disease. Some 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 10 times more likely among smokers. Tobacco use is prohibited on all college property.

### **Referral and Hotline Information**

EOSC Counseling Center 465-1751, 465-1810  
Latimer County Health Department 465-5673  
Eastern Sky, PC (Personal Counseling) 465-0300  
National Institution on Drug Abuse 1 -800-662-HELP  
Information and Referral line (M-F, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.)  
National Alcohol & Drug Abuse Hotline 1-800-234-0420  
National Drug Hotline 1-800-662-HELP  
Cocaine Helpline 1-800-COCAINE  
Reach-Out Hotline 1-800-522-9054

If you have questions please call the EOSCP at ext. 718 or the Student Services Office at ext. 818.

*This information can also be found on pages 25-27 of Eastern Oklahoma State College's Student Handbook.*