

# CONNORS STATE COLLEGE

## DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS POLICY STATEMENT

### PURPOSE

The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 require an institution of higher education to certify to the U.S. Department of Education by 10-1-90, that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees in order to remain eligible for federal financial assistance of any kind. This policy is adopted by Connors State College to comply with this statutory directive.

### POLICY

As set forth in local, state, and federal laws, and the rules and regulations of the College, Connors State College prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs<sup>1</sup> and alcohol by students and employees in buildings, facilities, grounds, or other property owned and/or controlled by the College or as part of College activities.

### INTERNAL SANCTIONS

Any student or employee of the College alleged to have violated this probation shall be subject to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, expulsion, termination of the employment, referral for prosecution and/or completion, at the individual's expense, of an appropriate rehabilitation program<sup>2</sup>. Any disciplinary action shall be taken in accordance with applicable policies of the College.

### EXTERANAL SANCTIONS

Location, state, and federal laws provide for a variety of legal sanctions for the unlawful possession and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. These sanctions include, but are not limited to, incarceration and monetary fines.

Federal law provides rather severe penalties for distributing or dispensing, possessing with the intent to distribute or dispense, a controlled substance<sup>3</sup>, and penalties of a less severe nature for simple possession of a controlled substance. The type and quantity of the drug, whether the convicted person has any prior convictions, and whether death or previous injury resulted from use of the drug in question (this however, is not a factor in a case of simple possession) all affect the sentence. For example, if less than 50 kilograms of marijuana are involved and it is your first offense (no prior convictions), then you are subject to imprisonment of not more than 5 years, a fine of \$250,000, or both. If, however, 50-100 kilograms of marijuana are involved instead of 50, and all other factors are the same as in the preceding example, you are subject to imprisonment of not more than 20 years, unless death or serious injury results from the marijuana use, then you are subject to not less than 20 years or life, a fine of \$1,000,000, or both. While the penalties for simple possession are less severe, the first conviction still carries a sentence of up to a year imprisonment, a fine of at least \$1,000 but "not more than \$100,000, or both. With regard to simple possession, the number of convictions makes both the minimum period of

<sup>1</sup> "Illicit drug use" is defined as the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of the other drugs and alcohol, including anabolic steroids.

<sup>2</sup> A drug and/or alcohol abuse assistance/rehabilitation previously approved and/or certified by such purpose(s) by a federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

<sup>3</sup> Cocaine, marijuana, opiates, amphetamines, and other designated substances as set forth in Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.c., Sec. 812).

imprisonment and fines greater. Under special provisions for possession of crack, a person may be sentenced to a mandatory term of at least 5 years in prison and not more than 20 years, a fine of \$250,000 or both.

State law provides similar penalties with regard to the simple possession, distribution, or possession with the intent to distribute a controlled dangerous substance<sup>4</sup>. Simple possession of marijuana is a misdemeanor and carries a punishment of up to 1 year in the county jail. A second or subsequent conviction for a simple possession of marijuana carries 2-10 years in the state penitentiary. Possession of marijuana with the intent to distribute is a felony and carries a punishment of 2 year to life in the penitentiary and a fine of up to \$20,000 for the first conviction. A second or subsequent conviction carries a punishment of 4 years to life in prison and a fine of up to \$40,000. Depending upon the quantity involved, a convicted individual could be sentenced under the Oklahoma "Trafficking in Illegal Drugs Act" which provides for much harsher penalties.

In addition, state law provides that possession of or possession with the intent to consume 3.2 beer by someone under 21 years old in a public place is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100.00 or by appropriate community service not to exceed 20 hours. Possession of other alcohol/intoxicating beverages by someone under 21 years old in a public place is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in county jail for not more than 30 days, a fine not to exceed \$100.00, or both<sup>5</sup>. There are also state laws concerning driving under the influence of alcohol and using a false driver's license to obtain 3.2 beer or other alcoholic beverages. Depending upon the number of previous convictions or gravity of the circumstances you may be convicted of a felony or misdemeanor for such an offense. It is most likely that you will also forfeit your driving privileges in the event you are convicted of such an offense.

There are also local (municipal/city) laws similar to those described above. If drugs are involved the city will, most likely, defer to the state or federal authorities because their penalties are more severe. If alcohol is involved, you may be convicted of violating both local and state law and punished according to both laws.

Courts do not excuse individuals convicted of these offenses from a prison sentence to go to college or work. A conviction for such an offense is a serious blemish on your record, which could prevent you from entering many careers or obtaining that badly wanted job.

Further information regarding these local, state and federal laws may be found in the Offices of Student Services and Personnel Services and is available to students and employees. Students and employees are encouraged to review this information. The above-references examples of penalties and sanctions are based on the relevant laws at the time of adoption of this policy statement. Such laws are, of course, subject to revision or amendment by way of the legislative process.

### HEALTH RISKS

Alcohol and other drug use represent serious threats 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 probable that users will develop psychological and physical dependence. The general categories of drugs and their effects are as follows:

<sup>4</sup> Cocaine, marijuana, opiates, amphetamines, and any other drug or substance as set forth in Schedules 1 through V of the Uniform Controlled Dangerous Substance Act, 63 O.S. 1981, Sec. 2-101, et seq., as amended.

<sup>5</sup> Under College regulations, no 3.2 beer or other alcoholic beverage is allowed in College housing, except for married student housing, no matter your age. Furthermore, under the same regulations, the possession/consumption of 3.2 beer or alcohol by those of legal age (over21) is not allowed on the College campus, properties, and facilities except as noted in married student housing.

Alcohol- short-term effects 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 other barbiturates/depressants can prove to be a deadly mixture.

Amphetamines/Stimulants - (speed, uppers, crank, caffeine, etc.) speed up the nervous system which can cause increased heart and breathing rates, higher blood pressure, decreased appetite, headaches, blurred vision, dizziness, sleepiness, 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.) slows down the central nervous system which can cause decreased heart and breathing rates, lower blood pressure, slowed reactions, confusion, distortion of reality, convulsion, 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 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 failures.

Cannabis - (marijuana, hashish, has, 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 - (smack, horse, 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 - some 170,000 people in the United State die each year from smoking related coronary heart disease. Some 30% of the 130,000 cancer deaths each year are linked to smoking. Lung, larynx, esophagus, bladder, pancreas, and kidney cancers strikes smokers at increased rates. Emphysema and chronic bronchitis are ten times more likely among smokers.

Further information concerning health risks may be found in the [e.g., Student Health Center, Employee Assistant Program]. You should also consult your personal physician about the health risks associated with alcohol and drug use.

## DRUG COUNSELING & REHABILITATION ROGRAMS

At present, there are no drug/alcohol counseling or rehabilitative services available on campus. However, this institution does plan to establish a full time drug/alcohol counseling center as funds become available. In the interim, persons who are currently on the faculty/staff who are qualified as counselors will fill this need on a part-time basis. All persons who are identified as needing rehabilitation services will be referred to agencies listed below. Seeking help from, being referred

to or from these services is confidential, and will not, alone, result in disciplinary action. Individual privacy will, of course, be maintained in any counseling/rehabilitation process. In addition, the following toll-free hotline numbers may be of use to someone needing help or advice.

### LOCAL:

Harbor House of Muskogee 1-918-687-9651  
353 Callahan  
Muskogee, OK

Miracles Today Ministry 1-918-486-4153  
307 S. Broadway  
Coweta, OK

Monarch 1-918-683-0124  
501 Fredonia  
Muskogee, OK

### STATE:

Rolling Hills Hospital 1-405-436-3600  
1000 Rolling Hills Ln.  
Ada, OK

Green Country Mental Health Service 1-918-683-8407  
2719 Shawnee Ave. (HOTLINE)  
Muskogee, OK 1-918-683-8876

Recount Alcohol and Drug 1-800-522-9054  
Mental Health Dept.  
Oklahoma City, OK

Red Rock Mental Health 1-405-424-7711  
Oklahoma City, OK

### NATIONAL:

National Institution on Drug Abuse 1-800-662- HELP  
Information and Referral Line M-F, 8:30 - 4:30

The National Federation of Parents 1-800-554-KIDS  
For Drug-Free Young M-F, 8:00 - 5:00

Just Say No Foundation 1-800-258-2766

National Council on Alcoholism 1-800-622-2255  
7 days a week, 24 hours a day

National Drug Abuse Hotline 1-800-241-9746

Cocaine Helpline 1-800-COCAINE

Reach-Out Hotline 1-800-522-9054  
(alcohol, drug crisis intervention, mental health and referral)