

## Illegal Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy

Reviewed September 2019

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Public Law 101-226, require that Midwestern Career College, an institution of higher education, certify that it has adopted and implemented, and will administer in good faith, a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol, the misuse of prescription drugs, and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. This certification is a condition of receiving funds, grants or any other form of financial assistance under any Federal program, including all Federally Funded Student Financial Aid.

### **Standards of Conduct**

Students and employees (faculty, staff or any other individual receiving a salary, wage, or other compensation) of Midwestern Career College are expected to abide by local, state and federal laws relating to the use of alcohol and other drugs, including State of Illinois underage drinking laws. The College prohibits the unlawful manufacture, possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, and alcohol, the misuse of prescription drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees while on College property, or while representing the College, or while participating in College activities whether on or off College property. The College supports the enforcement of all Federal and State drug laws.

While on campus or at any school-sponsored event, faculty, staff, and students may not possess, use, deliver, sell, or distribute any illegally controlled substance. Further, faculty, staff, and students may not possess or consume alcoholic beverages on school property or at school-sponsored events, nor be present on school property or at school-sponsored events while visibly under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances.

The College will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and may administratively withdraw from classes those who violate this policy. This policy shall be interpreted consistently with the Drug-Free Work Place Act and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.

### **Annual Distribution to Students and Employees**

Although the Drug and Alcohol policy is included on the school website <https://mccollege.edu/consumer-information/> and in the catalog, the CEO shall ensure that an email notification is provided annually to all students and employees as part of the campus security report.

### **Penalties and Disciplinary Actions**

Persons who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by the school, with penalties up to and including the termination of enrollment/employment (dismissal). Individuals will also be subject to penalties and sanctions imposed by local, state, and federal laws. Students should be aware that substance abuse carries legal consequences, which may include imprisonment, fines, and/or loss of property. The drug abuse statutes for Illinois can be found at the following links:

- Illinois Controlled Substances Laws:  
<http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1941&ChapterID=53>
- Illinois Laws Regarding Possession of Alcohol by Person Under 21 Years of Age:  
<https://www.illinois.gov/ilcc/Education/Pages/Under21Laws.aspx>

### **Dangers of Addiction and Substance Abuse**

All students should be aware that substance abuse causes serious health risks, including altered moods, altered behavior, sleep disorders, distorted senses, and permanent damage to the liver, heart, and central nervous system.

More information about addiction and the health risks of substance abuse can be found at the following links:

- National Institutes of Health - Facts about Addiction:  
<https://www.addiction.com/a-z/national-institutes-of-health/>
- National Institutes of Health - The Drugs of Addiction:  
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/>
- Illinois Department of Human Services Alcoholism and Addiction Services:  
<https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=32300>

### **Rehabilitation**

MCC will encourage and assist employees with chemical dependencies to seek self-help or professional treatment and will provide students with information about local agencies and community resources to assist persons with dependency problems. There are local government and charitable agencies and resources available to assist individuals with dependency issues:

<http://treatmentcenters.com/local/illinois/>

### **Authorized Use of Prescribed Medicine**

Students or employees undergoing prescribed medical treatment with any drug or controlled substance which interferes with student or work activity must report such treatment to the Student Services Department and the immediate supervisor in the case of staff employees. Prescribed medicine should be kept in its original container, which identifies the drug, date of prescription, prescribing doctor, and the person for whom the drug is prescribed.