

Illegal Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy

Updated January 2020

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Public Law 101-226, require that Midwestern Career College (MCC), an institution of higher education, to adopt, implement, and 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.

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 illegal substance. Further, faculty, staff, and students may not possess or consume alcoholic beverages on College property, while on clinical or externship assignment, or at College-sponsored events, nor be present on College property, while on clinical or externship assignment, or at College-sponsored events while visibly under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances.

Effective January 1, 2020 recreational cannabis (marijuana) has been legalized in the state of Illinois pursuant to the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act. However, cannabis (marijuana) remains an illegal substance under Federal law and state law does not supersede Federal law in this area.

The physical presence of cannabis on the school property, while on clinical assignment or at any school-sponsored event remains banned in accordance with federal law.

MCC will not tolerate impaired students regardless of the legality or illegality of the intoxicating substance.

The College will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and may administratively withdraw those who violate this policy. Students who fail drug test before or while the clinical rotation will be withdrawn from the clinical course and, consequently, from their program of study.

This policy shall be interpreted consistently with the Drug-Free Workplace Act and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.

Annual Distribution to Students and Employees

In addition to being posted the school website <https://mccollege.edu/consumer-information/> and included in the catalog, Illegal Drug and Alcohol Prevention policy is provided annually to all students and employees as part of the campus security report.

Penalties/Disciplinary Actions

Persons who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action by the College, 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: www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs

Illinois Laws Regarding Possession of Alcohol by Person Under 21 Years of Age:
www.illinois.gov/ilcc/Education/Pages/Under21Laws

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, the drugs and substances of “substance abuse,” and the health risks of substance abuse can be found at the following links:

National Institutes of Health - Facts about Addiction:
www.addiction.com/a-z/national-institutes-of-health/

National Institutes of Health - The Drugs of Addiction: www.drugabuse.gov

Illinois Department of Human Services Alcoholism and Addiction Services: lifecenter.ric.org

Rehabilitation

MCC will encourage and assist students and 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.

Some of these resources can be found at the following link: treatmentcenters.com/local/illinois.

Enforcement

Disciplinary and administrative decisions regarding this policy shall be made in a manner consistent with applicable law and the College's policy. MCC reserves the right to make referrals to law enforcement authorities and may permit law enforcement officials to conduct searches of College's facilities at any time.

Authorized Use of Prescribed Medicine

Students or employees undergoing prescribed medical treatment with any drug or controlled substance which may interfere with student or work activity must report such treatment to the Campus Manager or Director of Academic Operations, or for staff and faculty members – to the immediate supervisor and HR Director. 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.