

SEU Drug & Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program

I. Standards of Conduct

Southeastern University is committed to maintaining a Christ-centered and student-focused learning community that is free from alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs. Members of the Southeastern University community are expected to act in accordance with the University's Community Covenant as detailed in the Student Handbook or the Employee Handbook.

The University's position on alcohol, tobacco, and drugs is in compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989.

II. Legal Consequences Associated with Alcohol and Illegal Drugs

In addition to the potential sanctions from the University, federal and state criminal laws provide sanctions for the unlawful possession, use, and distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs. Some of the major Florida statutes imposing potential incarceration or fines for alcohol and drug related offenses are as follows:

FLORIDA STATUTES RELATING TO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES & DRUGS

Possession of Alcoholic Beverages by Persons Under 21 – Section 562.111, Florida Statutes

In Florida, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to have in his or her possession alcoholic beverages. Punishment can include 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Additionally, the court can suspend or revoke the driver's license or driving privileges of persons under the age of 21 who are convicted of possession of alcoholic beverages. A second conviction within one year increases these penalties to a fine of \$1,000 and up to one year in jail.

Selling, Giving, or Serving Alcohol to Persons under 21; Misrepresenting Name or Age to Obtain Alcohol – Section 562.11, Florida Statutes

Florida law makes it illegal to sell, give, or serve alcoholic beverages to a person under 21 years of age. It is also illegal to misrepresent one's name or age to induce the improper sale or service of alcohol to a person under the age of 21. Punishment can include 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine. A second conviction within one year increases these penalties to a fine of \$1,000 and up to one year in jail.

Driving Under the Influence – Section 316.193, Florida Statutes

In Florida, it is illegal to operate a motor vehicle under the influence of alcoholic beverages or other intoxicating substances. Sanctions may include a fine of up to \$1,000, up to six months in

jail, mandatory participation in a DUI program and/or substance abuse treatment program, and probation for the first offense. The potential fines and jail time escalate for multiple offenses, if impairment level is above certain thresholds, or if an accident resulting in injury or death occurs while driving under the influence. Multiple offenses may also result in the loss of driving privileges for a long period of time and installation of an ignition interlock device on the vehicle. A person convicted of driving under the influence can have his or her vehicle impounded. If a person while driving under the influence is involved in an accident and someone sustains serious bodily injury, the person could spend up to 5 years in prison. If someone is killed, the person driving under the influence will spend a minimum of 4 years, and could spend up to life, in prison. Regardless of the ultimate outcome of a person's case, if a person is arrested for DUI, the person will spend time locked up in jail and usually will not be released from custody until at least 8 hours from the time he or she was arrested or his or her blood alcohol or other substance impairment levels return to normal.

Possession of Open Containers of Alcoholic Beverages in Vehicles – Section 316.1936, Florida Statutes

It is also unlawful in Florida to possess an open container of an alcoholic beverage or drink an alcoholic beverage while operating a vehicle or while a passenger of a vehicle. In other words, a person who is just a passenger in a vehicle must not have an open container in his or her possession or drink any alcoholic beverage in that vehicle, even if that vehicle is parked or stopped. If a person violates this statute, he or she may be required to pay a significant monetary fine.

Disorderly Intoxication – Section 856.011, Florida Statutes

In Florida, it is illegal to drink any alcoholic beverage in a public place or in a public conveyance and cause a public disturbance. If a person is convicted of even a first offense of disorderly intoxication, he or she could face up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Open House Parties – Section 856.015, Florida Statutes

If a person allows a party to take place in his or her residence and if alcoholic beverages or drugs are possessed or used by a minor at that party, the person could face up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Sale of Drugs – Section 893.13, Florida Statutes

The sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession with intent to sell, manufacture, or deliver illegal drugs in Florida is a very serious offense. Depending upon the circumstance and quantity of drugs sold, manufactured, or possessed, a person could be sentenced to spend 30 or more years in prison. In Florida, conviction of many drug offenses carry mandatory minimum sentences and if a person

is convicted, the court will have no discretion and the person must be sentenced to serve time in jail or prison.

Use, Possession, Manufacture, Delivery, Transportation or Advertisement of Drug Paraphernalia – 893.147, Florida Statutes

In Florida, it is illegal to inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce an illegal drug into the human body. It is also illegal to use, possess with the intent to use, manufacture, deliver, or possess with the intent to deliver, drug paraphernalia. The definition of drug paraphernalia is very broad and a person could face an additional penalty or prison sentence just for possession of items which, if not connected to drugs, would be legal to use or possess. For example, if a person possesses a hypodermic syringe, with intent to use it in connection with drugs, the person could face up to a year in jail for such possession, even if the person were not convicted of using drugs. In some circumstances, violations of this statute could require a person to serve up to 15 years in prison.

The above is not a complete listing of all laws in Florida relating to the use of alcoholic beverages and to the possession, sale or manufacture of drugs and drug paraphernalia. The main point to understand is that the use or abuse of alcoholic beverages and the possession, use or manufacture of illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia can have serious and far reaching legal consequences, as well as health risks associated with alcohol and drugs.

FEDERAL STATUTES RELATING TO DRUGS

In addition to the State of Florida laws pertaining to the use, possession or sale of drugs, there are numerous federal laws, which in some cases, are even more stringent than those in Florida and which could require a person to serve many years in a federal prison facility. For example, depending on the type of drug, even conviction of a first offense could result in a sentence to a federal prison for up to 20 years. Depending on the quantity of the drugs, even the sale of marijuana could carry a minimum mandatory sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison. Many federal statutes related to drugs could result in a sentence of life imprisonment in a federal prison. A list of potential Federal sanctions for drug trafficking can also be viewed at https://www.campusdrugprevention.gov/sites/default/files/2022-07/Federal_Trafficking_Penalties_Chart_6-23-22.pdf.

III. Health Risks Associated with Alcohol and Drugs

All intoxicating substances have significant health risks associated with their use or abuse. The following is a mere summary of the potential risks associated with alcohol and drugs, and more information can be found at: <https://www.dea.gov/factsheets>.

Alcohol

Alcohol consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low amounts significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts. Moderate to high levels of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high levels can cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower levels of alcohol use can lead to dependence on alcohol. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life threatening. Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol can lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver. Prolonged alcohol abuse causes bleeding from the intestinal tract, damage to nerves and the brain, psychotic behavior, loss of memory and coordination, damage to the liver often resulting in cirrhosis, impotence, severe inflammation of the pancreas, and damage to the bone marrow, heart, testes, ovaries, and muscles. Damage to the nerves and organs is usually irreversible. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in alcoholics and is 10 times more frequent than in non-alcoholics. Females who drink during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental impairments.

Narcotics/Opioids

Narcotics/Opioids include drugs such as heroin, hydromorphone, methadone, morphine, opium, and oxycodone and may be ingested in pill form, crushed and inhaled, or injected. Narcotic/opioid use comes with a variety of unwanted effects, including drowsiness, inability to concentrate, and apathy. Tolerance to narcotics develops rapidly and dependence is likely. Some preparations of narcotics are so potent that a single dose can be lethal to an inexperienced user. Users may experience constricted pupils, watery eyes, and itching. An overdose may produce slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, and possible death.

Cocaine

Cocaine stimulates the central nervous system. The use of cocaine can cause death by cardiac arrest or respiratory failure. Its immediate effects include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperature. Occasional use can cause a stuffy or runny nose, while chronic use can ulcerate the mucous membrane of the nose. Injecting cocaine with contaminated equipment can increase the risk of AIDS, hepatitis, and other diseases. Cocaine can produce psychological and physical dependency, a feeling that the user cannot function without the drug. In addition, tolerance develops rapidly. Crack or freebase rock is extremely addictive, and its effects are felt within ten seconds. The physical effects include dilated pupils, increased pulse rate, elevated blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, tactile hallucinations, paranoia, and seizures.

Other Stimulants

In addition to cocaine, other stimulants include drugs such as amphetamines, khat, and methamphetamine and may be chewed, smoked, inhaled, or injected. Effects of use may include agitation, hostility, panic, aggression, suicidal or homicidal tendencies, and paranoia, sometimes accompanied by both auditory and visual hallucinations. Tolerance to stimulants develops rapidly and dependence is likely. Extended use or overdose may cause such physical side effects as dizziness, tremors, headache, flushed skin, chest pain with palpitations, excessive sweating, vomiting, and abdominal cramps. High fever, convulsions, and cardiovascular collapse may precede death.

Depressants

Depressants include drugs such as barbiturates, benzodiazepines, GHB, and rohypnol and may be ingested or injected. Effects of use may include amnesia, leaving no memory of events that occur while under the influence, reduction of reaction time, impairment of mental functioning and judgment, confusion, slurred speech, loss of motor coordination, weakness, headache, lightheadedness, blurred vision, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, low blood pressure, and slowed breathing. Prolonged use of depressants can lead to tolerance and both psychological and physical dependence.

Anabolic Steroids

Anabolic Steroids are synthetically produced variants of the naturally occurring male hormone testosterone and are typically ingested, absorbed topically, or injected. Effects of use may include dramatic mood swings, increased feelings of hostility, impaired judgment, increased levels of aggression and depression that may be severe enough to lead one to commit suicide. In women, anabolic steroid use can induce permanent physical changes, such as deepening of the voice, increased facial and body hair growth, menstrual irregularities, and male pattern baldness. In men, anabolic steroid use can cause shrinkage of the testicles, reduced sperm count, enlargement of the male breast tissue, sterility, and an increased risk of prostate cancer. In both men and women, anabolic steroid use can cause high cholesterol levels, which may increase the risk of coronary artery disease, strokes, and heart attacks. Anabolic steroid use can also cause acne and fluid retention. Oral preparations of anabolic steroids, in particular, can damage the liver. Anabolic steroid use may also cause psychological dependence and addiction.

Hallucinogens or Psychedelics

Hallucinogens or Psychedelics include drugs such as ecstasy, K2/spice, ketamine, Lysergic Acid (LSD), mescaline, peyote, and phencyclidine (PCP or “angel dust”), and mushrooms and are most frequently ingested, smoked, or absorbed through the skin via blotter paper. Use can cause illusions and hallucinations. Their use impairs and distorts one’s perception of surroundings, causes bizarre mood changes and results in visual hallucinations that involve geometric forms, colors, and persons or objects. The physical effects may include elevated heart rate, increased blood pressure

respiratory depression, coma, convulsions, seizures, and flashbacks. Deaths may occur due to respiratory distress, or suicide, accidents, and dangerous behavior while under the influence. Death can also occur when a user inadvertently eats poisonous plant material.

Designer Drugs

Some illegal drugs are defined in terms of their chemical formulas. To circumvent these legal restrictions, underground chemists modify the molecular structure of certain illegal drugs to produce analogs known as designer drugs. These drugs can be several hundred times stronger than the drugs they are designed to imitate. Many of the so-called designer drugs are related to amphetamines (MDMA, X, speed). Bootleg manufacture creates overdose and contamination risks. These substances can produce severe neuron chemical damage to the brain. The narcotic analogs (fentanyl, china white) can cause symptoms such as those seen in Parkinson's disease: uncontrollable tremors, drooling, impaired speech, paralysis, and irreversible brain damage. Analogs of amphetamines and methamphetamines cause nausea, blurred vision, chills or sweating, and faintness. Psychological effects include anxiety, depression and paranoia. As little as one dose can cause brain damage. The analogs of phencyclidine cause illusions, hallucinations, and impaired perception.

Marijuana (Cannabis)

Marijuana (cannabis) is frequently smoked, brewed into tea, or cooked into foods. Effects of use may include problems with memory and learning, distorted perception, difficulty in thinking and problem solving, loss of coordination, impaired judgment, reduced coordination, and ataxia, which can impede driving ability or lead to an increase in risk-taking behavior, dizziness, nausea, tachycardia, facial flushing, dry mouth and tremor, agitation, paranoia, confusion, restlessness, anxiety, drowsiness, and panic attacks. Researchers have also found an association between marijuana use and an increased risk of depression, an increased risk and earlier onset of schizophrenia, and other psychotic disorders, especially for teens that have a genetic predisposition. Like tobacco smokers, marijuana smokers experience serious health problems such as bronchitis, emphysema, and bronchial asthma. Extended use may cause suppression of the immune system. Because marijuana contains toxins and carcinogens, marijuana smokers increase their risk of cancer of the head, neck, lungs, and respiratory tract. Long term, regular use can lead to physical dependence and withdrawal following discontinuation, as well as addiction or dependence.

Inhalants

Inhalants are invisible, volatile substances found in common household products that produce chemical vapors that are inhaled. Effects of use may include damage to the parts of the brain that control thinking, moving, seeing, and hearing, dementia, slurred speech, inability to coordinate movements, euphoria, dizziness, drowsiness, headache, weight loss, muscle weakness,

disorientation, inattentiveness, lack of coordination, irritability, depression, irregular and rapid heart rhythms that can lead to heart failure and death within minutes. Death can result from a single session of inhalant use by an otherwise healthy person. Inhalant abuse can also cause death by asphyxiation from repeated inhalations, which lead to high concentrations of inhaled fumes displacing the available oxygen in the lungs, suffocation by blocking air from entering the lungs when inhaling fumes from a plastic bag placed over the head, and choking from swallowing vomit after inhaling substances.

IV. Compliance for Students

All students are required to comply with this policy as a condition of their continued enrollment. A violation of this policy by a student will subject the student to educational outcomes, which may include, but not be limited to, probation, fines, loss of privileges, suspension, or expulsion depending on the nature and severity of the infraction. More information about educational outcomes for students can be found at: <https://my.seu.edu/student-development/student-handbook/>

V. Compliance for Employees

All employees must abide by this policy as a condition of employment with the University. A violation of this policy by employees will be treated consistent with the University's procedures as set forth in the Employee Handbook. Disciplinary action may include, but not be limited to, warning, suspension, or termination of employment depending on the nature and severity of the offense. In addition, employees are required to notify the Director of Human Resources, in writing, if the employee is convicted of any criminal drug violation within five (5) days after such conviction. Employees may be required to submit to drug or alcohol testing as a condition of employment, and the University reserves the right to search employee personal effects to determine whether employees are in possession of illegal drugs, alcohol, or other controlled substances.

VI. Support Services

Substance addiction is an illness that requires professional assistance and treatment. The University offers support services to students and employees who may be struggling with drug and/or alcohol use or addiction. Students can seek professional counseling services and health services at the Counseling, Health & Wellness office (Smith Hall; 863-667-5205). There is no charge for these short-term counseling and health services, and confidentiality is guarded carefully. Students needing long-term treatment or therapy are generally referred to professionals off campus at their own expense. The campus pastor is also available for pastoral counseling.

For employees, the Director of Human Resources is available to discuss in confidence questions concerning insurance coverage for addiction treatment. The medical plans offered to faculty and

staff include certain coverage options specifically set up to assist in recovery from such illnesses. The University also offers an Employee Assistance Program.

Additional Resources:

Peace River Center

Substance Use Treatment Services
1835 North Gilmore Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33805
853.248.3311
<https://www.peacerivercenter.org/services/substanceuse/>

TriCounty Human Service Inc.

5421 US Highway 98 S
PO Box 879
Highland City, FL 33846
863.701.7373
<https://tchsonline.org/>

COVE Behavioral Health

348 W Highland Drive
Lakeland, FL 33813
863.608.7778
<https://www.covebh.org/>

Heartland Intergroup

4204 S Florida Avenue, Suite H
Lakeland, FL 33813
683.688.0211 - 24 Hour AA hotline
<https://www.heartlandintergroup.org/>

Celebrate Recovery (6 locations)

<https://www.celebraterrecovery.com/>

- Highland Park Church
4730 Lakeland Highlands Road
Lakeland, FL 33813
863.647.3518
<https://www.hplakeland.com/celebrate-recovery>
- Christ Community Church
1895 Overlook Drive
Winter Haven, FL 33884
863.875.1090
<https://ccnow.com/celebraterrecovery>

- TBA Church
1815 E County Road 540A
Lakeland, FL 33813
863.647.9282
<https://tbachurch.com/next-steps/>
- Fuel Church
7355 US Highway 98 N
Lakeland, FL 33809
863-859.6444
<https://www.fuel.church/fuelgroups>
- Nuevo Comienzo (Spanish-speaking group)
807 N. Lake Parker Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801
863.816.5102
- First Presbyterian Church
175 Lake Hollingsworth Dr.
Lakeland, FL 33801
863-440-8620
<https://fpclakeland.org/events/celebrate-recovery/>

VII. Biennial Review

The University will conduct biennial reviews of its drug and alcohol prevention program, typically during the summer term of odd numbered years. All reviews will be conducted by a team which may consist of, but shall not be limited to, the Director of Title IX Compliance, the Director of Community Standards & Responsibility, the Director of Counseling & Wellness, the Director of Residence Life, the Athletic Director, the Director of Safety & Security, and the SEU Network Dean and Chief Operations Officer, or an appropriate designee of any of the foregoing departments.

The review considers the following data:

1. The number of public presentations or other forums offered to educate the University community about the effects of alcohol and drug abuse.
2. The number of direct communications to students, faculty, and staff about the University's campus culture that prohibits alcohol abuse and drug usage.
3. The number of employee cases of alcohol or drug abuse reported to the Human Resources office.
4. The number of student cases of alcohol or drug use and/or abuse reported to the Student Conduct office.

5. The number of instances of alcohol or drug use and/or abuse reported to Campus Safety and Security.
6. The number of students seeking services from the Campus Counseling Service and Health Services who present significant alcohol and drug use or abuse problems as measured by the College Adjustment Scales.
7. The number of arrests of current students and employees related to drug- or alcohol-related incidents.
8. The number of students referred to the Southeastern University Care Team for drug and/or alcohol-related concerns.

The de-identified and aggregated data are analyzed by the members of the biennial review team and any if any changes in policy are identified and deemed necessary to improve the effectiveness of this program, they will be implemented promptly. Summaries of all reviews will be presented to the Leadership Team and approved by the University's President or Board. After approval, the reviews will be kept on file in the Student Development office and made available upon request.

VIII. Policy Notification

Every student and employee will receive a copy of this Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program semiannually at the beginning of every semester through campus electronic mail, the official notification system of the University. It is also available in the Student and Employee Handbooks on MySEU as well as SFNet. All newly hired Southeastern University employees are provided access to the Employee Handbook and are required to acknowledge they read it at the beginning of their employment. In addition, the SEU Drug-Free School and Campus Policy is located on the main SEU website.

In addition to the semiannual notification, students and employees are offered written material including pamphlets and literature on drug and alcohol abuse through the Counseling, Health and Wellness office as well as the Student Conduct office.