

Program to Prevent Illicit Use of Drugs and Abuse of Alcohol by Employees and Students

I. Introduction and Purpose

The adoption by Congress of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226) requires Title IV funding schools to certify that they will provide a drug-free environment. As a recipient of federal grants, SMAT must adopt a program toward accomplishing this goal. While federal legislation has been the impetus for creation of the program, SMAT recognizes that substance abuse is a problem of national proportions. Based upon that concern, it is intended that this program for prevention of alcohol and drug abuse on our campus will go beyond the strict dictates of the law and will serve as a comprehensive educational and resource tool. To this end SMAT will strive to:

- Ensure that the working and learning environment for students, employees and the public is safe, orderly and free of illegal activity.
- Comply with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (PL 101-226), the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 (PL 100-690, Title IV, Subtitle D) and other relevant substance abuse laws.
- Inform students of appropriate treatment and rehabilitation assistance for problems associated with substance use or abuse.
- The above referenced policies are spelled out in detail on SMAT's website under Information Disclosures and are referenced in our catalog.

II. Standards of Conduct

- A. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance on SMAT property or as part of any of the SMAT's activities is prohibited.
- B. "Controlled Substances" are defined as an illegal drug, a legal drug used in excess of recommended dosage, an alcoholic beverage and/or any mind altering substance.

III. Sanctions for Violation of Standards of Conduct

Disciplinary actions include, but are not limited to:

- A. termination of enrollment/employment;
- B. requirement to participate satisfactorily in a substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation program; or
- C. other enrollment/employment restrictions or stipulations.

IV. Legal Consequences of Alcohol Abuse & Illicit Drugs Use

- A. Laws Governing Alcohol Use in Michigan

The state of Michigan sets twenty-one as the "legal drinking age."

Implied consent laws require drivers who are suspected of driving under the influence (DUI) to cooperate with a law enforcement officer's request for chemical testing (breath, blood, or urine) for intoxication. Refusing to cooperate carries possible suspension of driving privileges for six months for the first DUI conviction and one year for the second offense.

Vehicle confiscation is a possibility in Michigan with the second DUI conviction. A second conviction may also require a driver mandatory installation of an ignition interlock device at the driver's expense. Alcohol abuse education, treatment, or assessment may be required for DUI offenders.

Some DUI offenses are considered felonies under Michigan law.

B. Laws Governing Drug Use

Federal Laws

The Federal Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act prohibits the possession, sale and trafficking of controlled substances. The Omnibus Drug Act of 1988 allows the following penalties for conviction of possession of illegal drugs: civil fines up to \$10,000; forfeiture of cars, boats, or planes conveying the substance; loss of public housing; the loss of all federal benefits including student loans and grants.

The Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) requires that all students receiving Federal Student Aid be advised of the following information on penalties associated with drug-related offenses.

A federal or state drug conviction can disqualify a student for Title IV funds. Convictions only count if they were for an offense that occurred during a period of enrollment for which the student was receiving Title IV aid. The chart below illustrates the period of ineligibility for Title IV funds.		
	Possession of illegal drugs	Sale of illegal drugs
1st offense	1 year from date of conviction	2 years from date of conviction
2nd offense	2 years from the date of conviction	Indefinite period
3rd offense	Indefinite period	

Michigan Laws

Michigan has a reputation of being one of the nation's toughest on drugs. If you are facing drug charges here, this means you may have to deal with some harsh consequences. If you are charged with a drug crime in Michigan, you may call

(888) 595-9728 for further information.

Like most states, Michigan organizes their controlled substances into **schedules** to help with prosecuting and sentencing. The potential for prison time depends on the controlled substance you are caught with and how much of the substance there was.

The following web site can be accessed for further information regarding the schedules and possible consequences. <http://www.mymichigandefenselawyer.com/michigan-criminal-laws/michigan-drug-laws/>

V. Health Risks Associated with the Use of Illicit Drugs and the Abuse of Alcohol

A. Illicit Drug Use: Controlled substances subject to illicit use are divided into several broad categories:

- Narcotics (Morphine, Opium, and Heroin) are highly addictive. The effects of their use generally lead to feelings of euphoria, drowsiness, respiratory depression, constricted pupils, and nausea. Overdose is characterized by slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, and possible death.
- Depressants (Barbiturates, Chloral Hydrate, Quaalude) are moderately to highly addictive. Effects include slurred speech, disorientation, and drunken behavior without the odor of alcohol. Overdose results in shallow respiration, clammy skin, dilated pupils, weak and rapid pulse, coma, and possible death.
- Stimulants (Cocaine, Amphetamine) are not known to be physically addictive but create a high psychological dependence. Effects of use are increased alertness, excitation, euphoria, increased pulse rate and blood pressure, insomnia, and loss of appetite. An overdose can lead to agitation, increase in body temperature, hallucinations, convulsions, and possible death.
- Hallucinogens (LSD, Mescaline and Peyote, TCP) are not known to be addictive. The effects of use include illusions and hallucinations, and poor perception of time and distance. Overdose causes longer, more intense "trip episodes," psychosis, and possible death.
- Cannabis (Marijuana, Hashish) is moderately psychologically addictive. Effects include euphoria, relaxed inhibitions, increased appetite, and disoriented behavior. Overdose results in extreme fatigue, paranoia and possible psychosis.

B. Alcohol consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Low to moderate doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol will produce the effects just described.

Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence. 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, particularly when combined with poor nutrition can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver.

Women who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

VI. Drug or Alcohol Counseling, Treatment, Rehabilitation or Re-entry Programs that are Available to Employees or Students

SMAT does not provide direct drug or alcohol counseling, treatment or rehabilitation services. Students or employees with concerns related to the use/abuse of drugs or alcohol are encouraged to meet with a member of the administrative staff of SMAT for confidential consultation and referral.

Direct contact with organizations or individuals providing drug or alcohol counseling, treatment or rehabilitation services can be made by students or employees at the following locations:

- Christian Counseling Center, 1870 Leonard Street Northeast, Grand Rapids, MI 49505 (616) 956-1122
- Ionia County Health Department, 175 East Adams St., Ionia, MI 48846, 616-527-5341