

## **Alcohol and Illegal Drug Policy**

Because Neumann University values the worth of every individual and in compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (P.L. 101-226) of Section 1213 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HE), Neumann University has established standards of conduct that clearly prohibit alcohol and drug use on its property or as part of its activities, and has hereby published its policies, along with sanctions for violators. The University promulgates this information along with applicable laws and known health risks associated with the use of controlled substances to all students and employees of the University on an annual basis. These policies will be reviewed regularly to determine their effectiveness in keeping with the University alcohol and drug-free policy and in conformance with the intent of the law and in fulfillment of the mission and values of the learning community.

Substance abuse is one of the major health and social problems in our nation. Young people, particularly, are vulnerable targets for those who would profit from widespread use of drugs and alcohol, although use and abuse extends into the adult population of all ages. Neumann University's rules and procedures regarding the use of alcohol and illegal drugs are based on its dedication to a holistic view of the person, its desire to help individuals achieve their optimum potential and its desire to ensure compliance with federal, state and local laws. Policies, therefore, are established and designed to facilitate its mission and objectives.

The University recognizes that its students are adults who are responsible for their own behavior. The University strives to provide an alcohol and drug-free environment where students and members of the University community can fulfill their aspirations for developmental growth in academic, social, cultural, spiritual and professional settings free from the pressure to use, and potentially abuse, drugs or alcohol. Therefore, the University will enforce its own policies while cooperating with local, state, and federal laws pertaining to alcohol and illegal drug possession or use. The University cooperates with local and state authorities in such matters to assure the safety and security of the university community.

The University recognizes that those who use illegal drugs or abuse alcohol habitually are people who need intervention. Wellness Counseling and Health Services are established on campus where persons may seek direction for obtaining information, counseling and/or referral for treatment. All such referrals are viewed as aiding the individual. Wellness Counseling and health services maintain confidentiality at all times, subject to the law and within permitted discretion given to universities under FERPA. The University is also committed to providing information and education regarding the health risks, symptoms, and treatment for substance

abuse. Included in this education are training programs that enable people to detect problems of alcohol and illegal drug use and which familiarize people with problems related to substance abuse.

It is a known fact that there are long-term health risks associated with drinking over time. These risks include damage to the heart, liver, and brain. However, it should be noted that the vast majority of our health risks occur over the course of a single evening, not after decades of abuse. A university-age student has a much higher risk of an alcohol-related injury caused by a car crash, slipping or falling, getting into a fight, etc. than developing cirrhosis of the liver.

Still, these long-term health risks are important to know because if a person is currently a heavy drinker, has been so in the past, or plans on continuing drinking in this manner in the future, that person ought to know the consequences and damage. There are a number of long-term health risks involved with chronic alcohol abuse; risks in addition to other physical effects such as weight gain, dry skin and a compromised immune system. Almost every system in the body can be negatively affected by excessive or chronic alcohol consumption. Alcohol can cause cancer, liver disease, heart attacks and brain damage, to name a few. See below for specific health risks.

The possession, consumption, distribution, transportation, purchase or sale of alcohol is prohibited on University property and any University sponsored event or activity regardless of age, except where properly licensed, insured, and with necessary approvals. All NCAA guidelines will be followed with respect to athletic events. Conduct resulting from the abuse of alcohol is also considered to be a violation of the alcohol policy. Alcohol found in a room will be considered the responsibility of everyone in the room at the time it is found. Alcohol paraphernalia is prohibited in student rooms and may be removed.

### **State Law Regulation of Alcohol**

Pennsylvania law prohibits the sale, purchase, possession or consumption of alcohol by any person under the age of 21. It also prohibits:

- a. misrepresenting age to secure alcoholic beverages
- b. carrying a false ID card
- c. misrepresenting to another that a minor is of legal age
- d. inducing a minor to purchase, or offering to purchase alcohol for a minor
- e. manufacturing or selling false ID cards.

Also, the Codified Ordinances of Aston Township (Section 608.1(a)) provide for an open container law: No person shall carry or possess an open container of beer, wine, liquor or other alcoholic beverage on the streets or other public ways of the Township, or on private property in the Township without the express permission of the owner or lessee of such private property.

It is at the discretion of the Student Advocate and/or Director of Residence Life as to whether University sanctions will result in disciplinary probation. Students are always subject to the law.

**Sanctions:** The first violation of this policy will result in a fine of \$300, parent/guardian notification, a letter in the student's file and the requirement of successful completion of an alcohol education program provided by the university. The second violation of this policy will

result in a fine of \$400, parent/guardian notification and a letter in the student's file. An assessment /intervention plan may also be required at this time. Any further violations of this policy will result in a \$500 fine, parent/guardian notification and a mandatory assessment/intervention program off-campus coordinated by the University's office of counseling.

Neumann University values include a concern for community building on campus and the importance of education. In light of our mission as a Catholic and Franciscan community in which we care for one another and are socially responsible, student(s) may be found guilty by association for not upholding the Code of Conduct. This may happen when a student is present while other students (or their guests) possess or consume alcohol or other illegal substances. Neumann University will not approve the advertising of the availability of alcohol at any university event.

### **Prohibition on Use of Illegal Drugs**

1. The possession, consumption, distribution, purchase or sale of illegal drugs (controlled substances) is prohibited on university property. **All prescription drugs must be labeled with the student name, prescription ID, date, name of physician and pharmacy so that proper use can be identified by Neumann University staff and/or campus safety personnel.**

**Sanction:** Violation of this policy will result in a minimum of a fine of \$300, parent/guardian notification, a letter in the student's file, and the requirement of successful completion of a drug education program provided by the University.

2. The sale of illegal drugs is cause for immediate dismissal from the University.

**Sanction:** Immediate dismissal from the University.

3. Drug paraphernalia is prohibited on university property. Drug paraphernalia is identified by the office of Campus Safety (e.g., water bong, pipe, rolling papers, etc.) is also prohibited on University property.

**Sanction:** Violation of this policy will result in a fine of \$300, parent/guardian notification, a letter in the student's file and the requirement of successful completion of a drug education program provided by the University.

**With the violation of either of the above, an assessment, by the campus counseling office, of whether substance abuse exists will be required. If the assessment does not occur by a stated date, further sanctions will be applied to the student's disciplinary record.**

The Federal Government prohibits the manufacture, distribution, dispensation and possession of controlled substances unless specifically permitted by statute. The government categorizes controlled substances according to Schedules I through V.

**Schedule I** drugs have a high potential for abuse, with no accepted medical use. Schedule I drugs include, but are not limited to, heroin, marijuana, hashish, LSD and other hallucinogens. **Schedule II** drugs have a high potential for abuse, but some medical use, and include opium,

morphine, codeine, barbiturates, cocaine and its derivatives, amphetamines, phencyclidine (PCP) and other narcotics. Schedule III, Schedule IV and Schedule V drugs have some potential for abuse, but less than Schedule I and II drugs, with Schedule III drugs having the most potential for abuse and Schedule V the least. Schedule III, IV and V drugs include chloral hydrate (IV), certain barbiturates (III and IV), benzodiazines (IV), glutethimide (III), other depressants and narcotics (III and IV), amphetamines (III) and other stimulants (III and IV). A complete listing of controlled substances and their classifications is contained in Title 21 of the United States Code at Section 812.

Penalties for the unauthorized possession, manufacture, sale, distribution or delivery of drugs varies according to the type and quality of drug, the existence of prior offenses and whether death or serious injury results from the drug involved.

4. The federal penalty for the manufacture, sale or distribution of small amounts of Schedule I and II drugs, for the first offense, is from five to 40 years imprisonment and/or not more than a two million dollar fine for an individual (where death or serious injury occurs, not less than 20 years imprisonment and not more than life imprisonment); for a second offense, not less than 10 years imprisonment and not more than life and/or a fine of not less than four million dollars for an individual (where death or serious injury occurs, not less than life imprisonment). Penalties are doubled in many cases for the manufacture, sale or distribution of larger amounts of Schedule I and II drugs.

5. The federal penalty for the manufacture, distribution or sale of Schedule III, IV and V drugs of any quantity is:

**Schedule III Drug:**

not more than five years imprisonment and/or a \$250,000.00 fine for a first offense; penalty is doubled for a second offense.

**Schedule IV Drug:**

not more than three years imprisonment and/or a \$250,000.00 fine for a first offense; penalty is doubled for a second offense.

**Schedule V Drug:**

not more than one year imprisonment and/or a \$100,000.00 fine; penalty is doubled for a second offense.

6. Federal law provides separate penalties for the manufacture, sale or distribution Of marijuana, hashish, or their derivatives. Penalties vary according to the quantity involved, the existence of a prior offense, and whether death or serious injury results. For a first offense involving small amounts (less than 50 kilograms of marijuana; less than 10 kilograms of hashish), the penalty includes not more than five years imprisonment and/or a \$250,000.00 fine for an individual. Penalties are doubled for second offenses. For larger quantities (between 50-100 kilograms marijuana; between 10-100 kilograms hashish), the penalty includes not more than 20 years imprisonment and/or a fine of one million dollars. Penalties are

increased for second offenses. Where death or serious injury results, penalties are increased to include not less than 20 years imprisonment and not more than life for a first-time offender; not less than life for a second-time offender.

7. In addition to the manufacture, distribution or sale of controlled substances, federal law prohibits unauthorized possession of controlled substances. Penalties for simple possession include up to one year imprisonment and/or at least a \$1,000.00 fine (but less than \$10,000.00) for a first offense; up to two years imprisonment and/or at least a \$2,500.00 fine (but less than \$250,000.00) for a second offense; up to three years imprisonment and/or at least a \$5,000.00 fine (but less than \$250,000.00) for subsequent offenses. Special sentencing provisions apply to the possession of crack cocaine.

8. Special federal penalties apply to the sale or distribution of controlled substances to persons under age 21 or within 1,000 feet of school, college or university property.

**NOTE:** Neumann students who are charged for a violation of federal, state, or local laws regarding drug/alcohol issues, may be subject to sanctions for likewise violating Neumann's Code of Conduct.

### **Summaries of Major Health Risks**

The following are summaries of the major health risks of and common symptoms associated with alcohol and other drug use and abuse. This is not a complete listing but an overview. Each individual will experience the effects of alcohol and other drugs in a slightly different way given his or her tolerance, body size, family history, gender, and other physical and psychological factors. Abuse of alcohol and other drugs can lead to chemical dependency and can be harmful during pregnancy.

#### **Alcohol**

**Health Risks:** Alcohol in moderate amounts causes dizziness, dulling of the senses, impairment of coordination, reflexes, memory and judgment. Increased amounts of alcohol produce staggering, slurred speech, double vision, mood changes and, possibly, unconsciousness. Larger amounts result in death. Alcohol causes damage to the liver, heart and pancreas. It also may lead to malnutrition, stomach irritation, lowered resistance to disease and irreversible brain or nervous system damage.

**Symptoms:** Glazed eyes, obvious odor, pale and dry skin, broken blood vessels in facial area, slowed motor coordination and enlarged stomach.

#### **Marijuana**

**Health Risks:** Marijuana use leads to a substantial increase in heart rate. It impairs or reduces short-term memory and comprehension, and motivation and cognition are altered. With extended use it can produce paranoia and psychosis. Smoking marijuana damages the lungs and pulmonary system. Marijuana contains more cancer causing agents than tobacco. It also lowers male sex hormones, suppresses ovulation, and causes changes in the menstrual cycle and possibly causes birth defects.

**Symptoms:** Someone who uses marijuana may laugh inappropriately and have bloodshot eyes, dry mouth and throat, and a tell-tale odor of the drug, a poor sense of timing and increased appetite.

### **Cocaine and Crack**

**Health Risks:** Cocaine and its derivative crack produce dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate and body temperature. They may also cause insomnia, loss of appetite, tactile hallucinations, paranoia, seizure and death.

**Symptoms:** Someone using cocaine may experience muscle twitching, panic reactions, anxiety, numbness in hands and feet, loss of weight, a period of hyperactivity followed by a depression, a running or bleeding nose and sustained depression.

### **Barbiturates**

**Health Risks:** In small doses, barbiturates produce calmness, relaxed muscles and lowered anxiety. Larger doses cause slurred speech, staggering gait and altered perception. Very large doses taken in combination with other central nervous system depressants (e.g., alcohol) cause respiratory depression, coma and sometimes death.

**Symptoms:** A person who uses barbiturates may have poor muscle control, appear drowsy or drunk, become confused, irritable, inattentive or have slowed reactions.

### **Amphetamines**

**Health Risks:** Amphetamine use causes increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, and dilated pupils. Larger doses cause rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors and physical collapse. An amphetamine injection creates a sudden increase in blood pressure that can result in stroke, high fever and heart failure.

**Symptoms:** An individual using amphetamines might begin to lose weight, have periods of excessive sweating, and appear restless, anxious, moody and unable to focus. Extended use may produce psychosis, including hallucinations, delusions and paranoia.

### **Hallucinogens (including PCP, LSD, Mescaline, Peyote, Psilocybin)**

**Health Risks:** PCP, or angel dust, interrupts the part of the brain that controls the intellect and impulsive behavior. PCP blocks pain receptors. Violent episodes, including self-inflicted injuries, are not uncommon. Chronic users report memory loss and speech difficulty. Very large doses produce convulsions, coma, heart and lung failure, or ruptured blood vessels in the brain. LSD, mescaline, peyote, etc. cause dilated pupils, elevated body temperature, increased heart rate and blood pressure, and tremors.

**Symptoms:** Someone using PCP might appear moody, aggressive or violent. Such an individual may become paranoid and experience hallucinations and have time and body movements slowed. LSD users may experience loss of appetite, sleeplessness, confusion, anxiety and panic. Flashbacks may also occur.

### **Narcotics (including Heroin, Codeine, Morphine, Opium, Percodan)**

**Health Risks:** Because these narcotics are generally injected, the use of contaminated needles may result in AIDS and hepatitis. Symptoms of overdose include shallow breathing, clammy skin and convulsions. An overdose may result in a coma or even death.

**Symptoms:** Some signs of narcotic use are euphoria, drowsiness, constricted pupils and nausea. Other symptoms include itchy skin, needle or “track” marks on the arms and legs, nodding, loss of sex drive and appetite. When withdrawing from the drug, sweating, cramps and nausea occur.

**Responsibility:** The Dean of Students is responsible for administration of sanctions related to this policy, except that the Vice President for Enrollment and Student Affairs and/or the President are responsible for issues relating to dismissal of students.

### **Medical Transports**

The Department of Campus Safety may provide transportation for Neumann University students to Riddle Memorial Hospital. A transportation request is coordinated through Health Services or a member of the Residence Life staff.

### **Questions Regarding Alcohol and Drugs**

Students who have questions or concerns about alcohol or other drugs are encouraged to use the Counseling Center for Wellness who can be reached at X4541 from any campus phone or (610) 358-4541 from an off campus phone or cell phone.