

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

Policy and Resource Guide for Students

INTRODUCTION

Western Illinois University is concerned about the health and safety of its students and employees. It seeks to maintain a campus environment free from the disruptive and destructive effects from the abuse or illegal use of alcohol and controlled substances. Abuse of alcohol or controlled substances can seriously impair a student's or employee's health and ability to work and study. It may also endanger the safety and well-being of the individual and others.

Western Illinois University is committed to prevention and prohibition of illegal use and abuse of alcohol and controlled substances on the campus or within facilities owned, operated, or controlled by the university. In compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Campus Act of 1989, you are being provided the following information: description of the health risks and legal sanctions associated with alcohol and other drugs; University standards of conduct and disciplinary sanctions for students and employees who violate the standards; and resources for education, prevention, and treatment.

HEALTH EFFECTS

Alcohol

Alcohol is the most commonly abused/misused drug today. It is a central nervous system depressant that can produce relaxed euphoric sensations. Large amounts of alcohol can cause respiratory and cardiac failure resulting in death. Many problems attributed to the over consumption of alcohol are often brought on by binge-drinking practices. Alcohol abuse directly correlates with lower academic performance, sexual assault, driving under the influence, increased accidents, legal difficulties, financial difficulties and injuries.

Cannabis (Marijuana, Hashish)

Some immediate physical effects of marijuana, along with intoxication, include red, bloodshot eyes, confusion and anxiety, loss of coordination, increased appetite, hallucinations, and a dry mouth and throat. Someone high on marijuana may seem giggly or silly for no reason and have trouble walking. Studies of marijuana's mental effects show that the drug can impair or reduce short-term memory, alter sense of time, and reduce ability to do things which require concentration, swift reactions, and coordination. Users often have a lowered immune system and an increased risk of lung cancer. The active ingredient in cannabis, THC, is stored in the fatty tissues of the brain and reproductive system for approximately 30 days.

Club Drugs (ecstasy, GHB, rohypnol, methamphetamine)

Club drugs are used for their psychoactive properties and their euphoric effects. These drugs are often associated with use at raves, dance clubs and bars. Variations in purity and potency of these drugs make them especially dangerous and can cause serious injury or death. Mixing the drug with alcohol can have serious consequences. Club drugs are sometimes used in connection with sexual assault.

Hallucinogens (LSD, MDA, PCP, mescaline, peyote)

Hallucinogens may cause the user to experience panic, confusion, suspicion, anxiety, and loss of control. Flashbacks may occur even after use has ceased. An overdose can cause heart failure, lung failure, coma, and death.

Narcotics (heroin, codeine, morphine, methadone, opium)

Narcotics are very addictive physically and psychologically. Anxiety, mood swings, nausea, confusion, constipation, and respiratory depression are among the health effects of narcotics. An overdose may lead to convulsions, coma, and death. The risk of HIV infection and other diseases increases significantly when individuals inject drugs and share needles.

Stimulants (cocaine, crack, amphetamines)

Use of cocaine and crack is physically and psychologically addictive and extremely dangerous. An overdose can result in seizures and death. Health effects of stimulants include agitation, loss of appetite, irregular heart beat, chronic sleeplessness, and hallucinations.

POLICIES

All members of the university community are expected to abide by University policies and state and federal laws pertaining to alcohol and controlled substances.

Alcohol

In accordance with State law, persons under 21 years of age may not possess or consume alcoholic beverages on any property controlled by Western Illinois University, including residence halls and apartments. The sale, delivery, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages in or on any property controlled by the University by persons 21 years of age or older are strictly prohibited except as otherwise provided in these policies. University property includes University vehicles or personal vehicles used for University business. Where permitted under these policies, the use of alcoholic beverages on University premises shall be considered a privilege and may be allowed only if consistent with State laws and University policies and only when it will not interfere with the decorum and academic atmosphere of the campus.

See the Western Illinois University Code of Student Conduct and the Residence Hall Handbook for more information.

<http://www.wiu.edu/policies/stucode.php>

<http://www.student.services.wiu.edu/uahs/current/pdf/handbook.pdf>

Drugs

Western Illinois University policy prohibits unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance upon any property owned, operated, or controlled by Western Illinois University.

Sanctions

Students who violate the Code of Student Conduct including alcohol and drug violations are subject to disciplinary proceedings by the University. Students found in violation of these policies receive sanctions ranging from censure to removal from the University community dependent upon the nature of the offense and previous disciplinary history. Usually participation in an alcohol or a drug education program is a requirement of the sanction. The University may contact the parents of students under the age of 21 who are noted as financially dependent when the student has been found in violation of University policies on alcohol or drugs. Students may also face civil or criminal charges from local law enforcement agencies for alcohol violations on and off campus.

LAWS

State of Illinois Laws on Alcohol

It is a violation of state law:

- for any person under the age of 21 to possess alcohol in any public place (235 ILCS 5/6-16).
- to sell or deliver alcohol to anyone under 21, or to an intoxicated person (235 ILCS 5/6-16).
- to possess alcohol in a motor vehicle with the seal broken (625 ILCS 5/11-502).
- for a person under 21 to represent that s/he is over 21 for the purpose of obtaining alcohol (235 ILCS 5/10-1).
- to sell or give a false ID to any person under the age of 21 (235 ILCS 5/6-16).
- for a person under 21 to use a false ID or an ID which is not actually one's own in attempting to purchase any alcoholic beverage (25 ILCS 5/6-16).
- for a person under 21 to consume, possess, transfer, or purchase alcohol, or to receive alcohol as a gift (235 ILCS 5/6-16 and 235 ILCS 5/6-20). Class A Misdemeanor
- for a person to knowingly permit a gathering where alcohol is being consumed by those under age 21 (235 ILCS 5/6-16c). Class A Misdemeanor

Violations of these laws can result in fines of up to \$2,500 and one year in jail and/or felony charges or license suspended/revoked.

Effective January 1, 2003, the driver's license of a person under 21 may be suspended or revoked without a hearing when that person has purchased or attempted to purchase alcohol from a duly licensed establishment or who has consumed alcohol on licensed premises. Persons convicted of violating local ordinances prohibiting a person under 21 years of age from purchasing, accepting, possessing, or consuming alcohol and prohibiting the transfer or alteration of ID cards, the use of the ID card of another or a false or forged ID card, or the use of false information to obtain an ID card may have their driver's licenses suspended or revoked and can be a felony charge.

Operation of a motor vehicle by a driver under the age of 21 with ANY alcohol present in the blood or breath which is not above the level of .08 will receive a Zero Tolerance Suspension of their driving privileges; the suspension is for 3 months for cooperating with testing and 6 months for a refusal to submit to testing. Operation of a motor vehicle by a driver with a blood or breath concentration of .08 or more, or the presence of illegal (and sometimes prescription) drugs, or intoxicating compounds detected in blood or urine, results in a suspension of the driving privileges of 6 months (if the driver cooperates with testing) or 12 months upon a refusal of testing. The maximum fine for the first offense DUI is \$2,500 and up to one year in the county jail, along with a revocation of driving privileges if convicted. An additional administrative sanction of a DUI Assessment Fee is mandatory; minimum of \$500, for each DUI offense.

Effective January 1, 2008, the driving privileges of any person under 21 shall be suspended for a minimum of 3 months without a hearing when that person's name is reported to the Illinois Secretary of State, following a conviction OR a sentence of Court Supervision for consumption or possession of alcohol by a minor, whether the sentencing stems from a violation of State law OR from a violation of a local municipal ordinance. A second offense/sentencing results in a 6-month suspension, and a third offense results in a 12-month suspension (Public Act 095-0166).

City of Macomb Ordinances on Alcohol

Macomb Municipal Code Sec. 4-115 includes general public alcohol restrictions beyond State law, including:

- for a person to transport, carry or possess alcoholic liquor other than in the original container and with the seal unbroken on public property or anywhere accessible to the general public.
- for a person to consume alcoholic liquor on any public property or anywhere accessible to the general public.
- Violations of these laws can result in fines of up to \$750.
- for a person to sell or offer to sell alcohol without a retail license, \$500 minimum fine. (Sec.4-51{a})
- for a person to sell or offer to resell alcohol/liquor after purchasing such alcohol/liquor at retail price, \$500 minimum fine. (Sec. 4-51{b})
- for a person under 20 years of age to enter a class A tavern, \$250 minimum fine. (Sec. 4-94)
- for a person under age 21 to purchase, accept, possess, or consume alcohol/liquor, \$250 minimum fine. (Sec. 4-95)
- for a person to sell or deliver alcohol/liquor to a minor, \$250 minimum fine.
- for a person to possess open alcohol in public, \$250 minimum fine. (Sec. 4-115{c})
- for a person to give false information for keg registration, \$250 minimum fine. (Sec. 4-114)
- for a person to assist a minor in misrepresentation of age to obtain alcohol/liquor, \$250 minimum fine. (Sec. 4-98)

See the City of Macomb Municipal Code for more information.

<http://www.cityofmacomb.com/documents/municipal-code.pdf>

State of Illinois Laws on Illicit Drugs

Possession and delivery of illicit drugs are prohibited in Illinois under the Cannabis Control Act (740 ILCS 40/0.01 et seq.) and the Controlled Substances Act (720-ILCS 570/100 et seq. and 720 ILCS 570/401 seq.). Penalties vary according to the type of drug, the amount of the drug, previous offenses of offender, and whether the offender intended to manufacture, deliver, sell, or use the drug. A person who commits a first-offense for possession of a controlled substance may receive a prison sentence of one-three years, plus a fine of up to \$25,000. More severe penalties are imposed for repeat offenders and persons involved in the manufacture or delivery of controlled substances including longer prison terms and fines up to \$500,000.

Federal Laws on Illicit Drugs

Simple possession of controlled substances can result in a one year prison term and a \$1,000 fine for first offenders found guilty in a federal court. Subsequent convictions can result in significantly greater penalties (21 U.S. C. 844(a)). A conviction for possession of a controlled substance that results in death or bodily injury can result in life imprisonment. A penalty of ten to sixteen years in prison can be the result of a conviction for possession of more than five grams of cocaine (U.S.S.G.S. 2D2.1 (b)(1)).

ALCOHOL AND DRUG PREVENTION, COUNSELING AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS

Western Illinois University Student Health Services

Alcohol and Other Drug Resource Center (309/298-2457)

Beu Health Center (309/298-1888)

University Counseling Center (309/298-2453)

Office of Public Safety (309/298-1949)

Or contact your Resident Assistant or Residence Hall Director, an advisor, or a faculty or staff member and ask for assistance.

Macomb Community Health Services

North Central Behavioral Health Systems (309/833-2191)

McDonough District Hospital (309/833-4101)

Alcoholics Anonymous & Al-Anon (309/837-5039)

Assets, Inc. (309/836-2334)

STUDENT RIGHT TO KNOW

Information complying with the Federal Right to Know Legislation including the Campus Safety and Security Act (Clery Law) is available at: Office of Public Safety, Student Assistance Center, University Housing & Dining Services, and Vice President for Student Services. The information contains campus crime statistics and graduation rates at Western Illinois University. The report can also be found at www.wiu.edu/clery