CHOOSE TO NOT ABUSE
Cuyahoga Community College

Drug-Free Campus and Workplace

Being under the influence not only affects you, but the entire community. You jeopardize the safety, health, academics, and lives of others if you choose to use.

Cuyahoga Community College is dedicated to a clean learning environment free of the effects of alcohol and drug abuse. Use, possession, dispensation, manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs and controlled substances that are not medically authorized is prohibited.¹

It doesn’t matter where you are within the school. All students, faculty, and employees must adhere to the College's Alcohol, Drugs and Tobacco Policy (3354:1-20-05). Support programs are available to violators when it is appropriate. The College may also take disciplinary action up to and including suspension, expulsion or termination from the College, and referral for criminal prosecution of policy violators.

College Sanctions

Cuyahoga Community College prohibits:

- The use, possession, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, except as expressly permitted by the law and College policies and procedures.
- The use, possession, dispensation, manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs, including medical marijuana, as well as the use or possession of drug paraphernalia containing illegal drug residue.
- The misuse of prescription or non-prescription (over the counter) drugs.

When a student, student organization or employee, is found responsible for violating the College’s Alcohol and Drug Policy and/or Procedures, any of the following sanctions may be imposed. Authorizations may also be enhanced based on the severity of the behavior and the impact on the community.

Student Sanctions:

The College reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings using the Student Conduct Code and Student Judicial System. If a student violates the conduct code, it is possible that the following sanctions may be imposed:

- Warning – Official notice in writing or verbally given to the student that the student is violating or has violated the Student Conduct Code. Such warning will be recorded in the student conduct record.

¹ Although legalized in Ohio in September 2016, the use, possession, dispensation or distribution of prescription medical marijuana is prohibited at Cuyahoga Community College.
• **Probation** – A written reprimand. Probation is for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student violates any College rules during the probationary period.

• **Loss of privileges** – Denial of specified privileges for a designated period of time. Student may be denied specific privileges or be restricted to a specific mode of coursework.

• **Restitution** – Compensation for loss, damage, or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement. This is not a fine but rather a repayment for the value of property or loss of service due to damage or loss inflicted.

• **Suspension** – Temporary separation of the student from the College or specific activities/events, buildings or locations for a definite period of time, after which the student is deemed eligible to return. Eligibility for readmission may be contingent upon satisfactory or specific condition imposed at time of suspension.

• **Dismissal** – Separation of the student from the College for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to request, in writing, permission of the Student Conduct Administrator to be readmitted. Such permission may be granted or denied at the sole discretion of the Student Conduct Administrator. Additional conditions for readmission may be specified, including without limitation completion of the normal application process.

The student may additionally be referred to an alcohol/drug counseling or treatment facility. Documentation of a completed alcohol/drug assessment/treatment program will be required for consideration of re-instatement.

**Employee Sanctions:**

In the case of employee misconduct, Cuyahoga Community College reserves the right to initiate verbal counseling, written reprimand, suspension/probationary status, discharge, or referral for criminal prosecution.

In addition, the employee may be referred to IMPACT, the College's Employee Assistance and Work/Life Program administered by Behavior Management Associates, Inc. (800-227-6007). Documentation of a completed alcohol/drug assessment/treatment program will be required for consideration of re-instatement/re-employment.

For employees enrolled in a College medical plan, treatment options, including prescription drug coverage, may be available.

**What You Can Do -- Alcohol and Drug Support Services for Students and Employees All**

The best way to prevent harm from controlled substances like drugs, alcohol and tobacco is to never start! For those who are current users the College offers the following programs:

• The College’s Student Counseling and Psychological Service Centers provides referral information to students. A list of these services is available at all campus Counseling Centers as well as the student website, My Tri-C Space®.
The College offers employee assistance services to full time employees and part time District 1199, SEIU employees, including any member of their household, through IMPACT Solutions the College’s Employee Assistance and Work/ Life Program administered by Behavior Management Associates, Inc. Services include supervisory and employee educational training regarding substance abuse issues and confidential counseling services with diagnostic assessments.

**Controlled Substances and You**

**Tobacco and Nicotine:**

*Did you know...*

- Smokers are more likely than nonsmokers to contract heart disease.
- Lung, larynx, esophageal, bladder, pancreatic, and kidney cancers also strike smokers at increased rates.
- Thirty percent of cancer deaths are linked to smoking.
- Chronic obstructive lung diseases, such as emphysema and chronic bronchitis, are 10 times more likely to occur among smokers than among nonsmokers.
- Smoking during pregnancy also poses risks, such as spontaneous abortion, pre-term birth, and low birth weights.

**Alcohol:**

*Did you know...?*

- Low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination needed to operate vehicles. Small amounts can also lower inhibitions.
- Moderate to high doses cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, and loss of memory and the ability to learn and remember information.
- High doses cause respiratory depression and death. Long-term consumption, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to dependence and permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver.
- Combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol will produce the effects just described.
- Mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation.

**Cannabis (Marijuana, Hashish, Hashish Oil):**

*Did you know...?*

- Physical effects of cannabis include increased heart rate, bloodshot eyes, dry mouth and throat, and increased appetite.
- Use of cannabis may impair or reduce short-term memory and comprehension, alter sense of time, reduce ability to perform tasks requiring concentration and coordination, and impair driving ability.
• Motivation and cognition may be altered, making the acquisition of new information difficult.
• Long-term use may result in possible lung damage, reduced sperm count and sperm motility, and may affect ovulation cycles

Inhalants: (Nitrous Oxide, Amyl Nitrite, Butyl Nitrite, Chlorohydrocarbons, Hydrocarbons)

Did you know...?
• Immediate effects of inhalants include nausea, sneezing, coughing, nosebleeds, fatigue, lack of coordination, and loss of appetite.
• Solvents and aerosol sprays also decrease the heart and respiratory rates and impair judgment.
• Deeply inhaling vapors, or using large amounts over a short time, may result in disorientation, violent behavior, unconsciousness, or death.

Cocaine (Crack):
Did you know...
• Cocaine stimulates the central nervous system.
• Its immediate effects include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperature.
• Occasional use can cause nasal irritation; chronic use can ulcerate the mucous membrane of the nose.
• Crack or freebase rock is extremely addictive.
• Physical effects include dilated pupils, increased pulse rate, elevated blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, tactile hallucinations, paranoia, and seizures. The use of cocaine can cause death by cardiac arrest or respiratory failure.

Stimulants (Amphetamines, Methamphetamines, Crack, Ice):
Did you know...?
• Stimulants cause increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils, and decreased appetite.
• Users may experience sweating, headache, blurred vision, dizziness, sleeplessness, and anxiety. Extremely high doses can cause rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, loss of coordination, and physical collapse.
• Amphetamine injection creates a sudden increase in blood pressure that can result in stroke, very high fever, or heart failure. In addition to physical effects, feelings of restlessness, anxiety, and moodiness can result.
• Long-time use can cause amphetamine psychosis that includes hallucinations, delusions, and paranoia. The use of amphetamines can cause physical and psychological dependence.
Depressants (Barbiturates, Methaqualone, Tranquilizers):

Did you know...?

- Small amounts can produce calmness and relaxed muscles, but larger doses cause slurred speech and altered perception, respiratory depression, coma, or death.
- Combination of depressants and alcohol can multiply effects of the drugs, thereby multiplying risks.
- Babies born to mothers who abuse depressants during pregnancy may be physically dependent on the drugs and show withdrawal symptoms shortly after birth. Birth defects and behavioral problems may also result. The use of depressants can cause both physical and psychological dependence.

Hallucinogens (PCP, LSD, Mescaline, Peyote, Psilocybin):

Did you know...

- Phencyclidine (PCP) interrupts the functions of the neocortex, the section of the brain that controls intellect and instinct. PCP blocks pain receptors, and users can have violent PCP episodes resulting in self-inflicted injuries.
- Lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), mescaline, and psilocybin cause illusions and hallucinations. The physical effects may include dilated pupils, elevated body temperature, increased heart rate and blood pressure, and tremors.

Narcotics (Heroin, Methadone, Codeine, Morphine, Meperidine, Opium):

Did you know...?

- Narcotics initially produce a feeling of euphoria that often is followed by drowsiness, nausea, and vomiting. Users may experience constricted pupils, watery eyes and itching.
- Overdoses may produce respiratory depression, clammy skin, convulsions, coma and death.
- Addiction in pregnant women can lead to premature, stillborn, or addicted infants who experience severe withdrawal symptoms. Use of narcotics can cause physical and psychological dependence.

Designer Drugs (Analogs of Fenatyl, Analogs of Meperidine, MDMA, Ecstasy Analogs of PCP):

Did you know...?

- Many "designer drugs" are related to amphetamines and depressants and have mild stimulant and depressant properties. Use can produce severe neurochemical damage to the brain.
- Narcotic analogs can cause symptoms such as those seen in Parkinson's disease: uncontrollable tremors, drooling, impaired speech, paralysis, and irreversible brain damage.
Anabolic Steroids:

Did you know…?

- Steroid users subject themselves to more than 70 side effects, ranging in severity from acne to liver cancer, including psychological as well as physical reactions. The liver and cardio-vascular and reproductive systems are most seriously affected by use.
- In males, use can cause withered testicles, sterility, and impotence. In females, irreversible masculine traits can develop along with breast reduction and sterility. Psychological effects in both sexes include very aggressive behavior, known as "roid rage", and depression. While some side effects appear quickly, others, such as heart attacks and strokes, may not show up for years.

**Face the Music --- Substance Abuse Penalties and Enforcement**

Tobacco and Nicotine

In accordance with Chapter 3794 of the Ohio Revised Code, effective December 7, 2006, Tri-C® is a smoke-free environment. Refusal to discontinue smoking in a non-smoking area is subject to a fine of up to $100 and can be reported by calling 1-800-559-OHIO (6446). In August 2016 Cuyahoga Community College adopted a 100% Tobacco Free Campus Policy prohibiting the use of any tobacco or nicotine products anywhere on College property.

Underage consumption, purchasing or possession of alcohol

The legal drinking age in Ohio for consumption of an alcoholic beverage is 21. Purchasing, possessing or consuming alcohol prior to your 21st birthday is a first-degree misdemeanor. The maximum penalties associated with this offense are six months imprisonment, a $1,000 fine, or both. This means that a 20-year-old risks being imprisoned and fined when he/she decides to drink alcohol at a party or elsewhere.

Providing alcohol to an underage person

A person who provides alcohol to an underage person is guilty of a first-degree misdemeanor. The maximum penalty associated with this offense is six months imprisonment, a $1,000 fine, or both. A social host, therefore, risks being fined and imprisoned when he/she furnishes alcohol to a person he/she knows or should know is not 21 years of age.

Fake ID

Possession or display of a fictitious operator's license is a first-degree misdemeanor. The offense includes mere possession of a fictitious license or display of someone else's valid operator's license. The maximum penalties for this offense are six months imprisonment, a $1,000 fine, or both. Moreover, if the fictitious operator's license is utilized to purchase alcohol or enter an establishment that serves alcohol, the minimum fine must be at least $250 and the person displaying the fictitious
operator’s license may have his/her valid operator’s license suspended for three years.

**Operating a Vehicle Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs (OVI)**
In Ohio, a person may not operate a motor vehicle if he/she is impaired by alcohol and/or drugs. The maximum penalty for operating a vehicle while under the influence is six months imprisonment (mandatory at least three days in jail), a $1,000 fine (a mandatory minimum fine of $250), or both. In addition, the operator must forfeit his/her driving privileges for six months. Ohio has a .02 Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) limit for minors versus .08 BAC for adults. Minors under 21 face a fine ranging from $250-$1,000, 30 days in jail and a 90 day license suspension.

**Open container**
It is illegal to possess in public an open container of an alcoholic beverage. Conviction of this offense carries a maximum penalty of a $150 fine. Consumption of alcohol in a motor vehicle is a fourth-degree misdemeanor with maximum penalties of 30 days imprisonment, a $250 fine, or both.

**Disorderly conduct**
Disorderly conduct while intoxicated is a minor misdemeanor and carries a maximum penalty of a $150 fine. Disorderly conduct occurs when one recklessly causes inconvenience, annoyance or alarm to another due to offensive conduct.

More information about laws governing the sale and possession of alcohol and other drugs, as well as penalties for violations of these laws, may be obtained from the Tri-C® Department of Public Safety, or the Police Departments in the cities in which our facilities are located.

**Drug Schedules/Penalties**

Drugs and certain chemicals used to make drugs are classified into five (5) schedules depending upon the drug’s acceptable medical use and the drug’s abuse or potential. Schedule 1 drugs are considered the most dangerous class of drugs with a high potential for abuse and potentially severe psychological and/or physical dependence. As the drug schedule changes – Schedule II, Schedule III, etc., so does the abuse potential. Schedule V drugs represent the least potential for abuse. A listing of drugs and their schedule are [here](#). Please note that substance need not be listed as a controlled substance to be treated as a Schedule I substance for criminal prosecution.

Penalties for the illegal sale or distribution of a drug are established using the designation of Schedule I-V. If you have knowledge of a drug-related felony you must report it to a law enforcement official. [Click here for current Federal Drug Trafficking Penalties](#).