

WCC Required Reading on Drugs and Alcohol

2018-2019 Academic Year

Washtenaw Community College wants students and employees to be successful. Drug and alcohol abuse undermine this goal for many communities to the extent that the federal government has required us to make sure that you receive important information on these issues:

- Preventing drug and alcohol abuse
- The health risks of abuse or addiction
- What we expect from you concerning drugs and alcohol
- The laws and sanctions for violations
- Treatment or rehabilitation resources

Whether you are a WCC employee, visitor, or student we expect you to thoroughly review the following information.

Safety Threats

Please contact Public Safety at (734) 973-3411 (or ext. 3411 from an on-campus phone) to report any safety threats.

For non-emergency situations, you may use the Report a Concern form located at https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?WashtenawCC&layout_id=4.

Preventing Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Abuse of drugs or alcohol causes problems for the user and for others. This includes commonly misused substances such as tobacco, alcohol, and prescription drugs, in addition to illegal drugs. Consult <https://www.recoveryconnection.com/prevent-drug-addiction/> to read:

- How Alcohol and Drug Addiction Develops
- If You Have a Drug or Alcohol Abuse Problem, How to Get Help Now
- Avoid Temptations and Peer Pressure
- Find the Support You Need
- Practice Healthier Living Habits

Peer opinion and parental influence against abuse of drugs or alcohol helps support responsible behavior. Do this for yourself and others:

- Stay informed about the latest trends
- Learn how to support a healthy lifestyle for yourself or others
- Act when you think alcohol or drugs are being abused

Consult <https://www.helpguide.org/home-pages/addictions.htm>

The Surgeon General tells us that our “quality of life, academic performance, workplace productivity” are best when drug and alcohol abuse are prevented:

<https://www.surgeongeneral.gov/priorities/prevention/strategy/preventing-drug-abuse-excessive-alcohol-use.html>

Health Risks of Abuse or Addiction

There are many health risks associated with the following substances.

- Tobacco
- Alcohol
- Cannabinoids (marijuana and hashish)
- Opioids (heroin and opium)
- Stimulants (Cocaine, amphetamine, methamphetamine)
- Club Drugs (MDMA, ecstasy, ruffy, GHB)
- Disassociative Drugs (ketamine, PCP, nitrous oxide, DXM)

The National Institute on Drug Abuse provides information on the health risks of substance abuse: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/commonly-abused-drugs-charts>

What WCC Expects from You

Don't possess, use, make, share, sell or be under the influence of drugs or alcohol on College property, which includes rented spaces, or anywhere while on College business. This applies to students, employees and visitors.

Alcohol restrictions may be waived on a permission-only basis as explained in Trustee Policy 8010: <http://www.wccnet.edu/trustees/policies/8010/>

Employees involved in a federal grant or contract are required to inform their supervisor within five days of a conviction for a violation of any federal or state criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace. In addition, employees taking legal medications must follow the instructions in Trustee Policy 5091. Review <http://www.wccnet.edu/trustees/policies/5091/> for further details on your responsibilities.

Laws and Sanctions for Violations

There are many legal and WCC sanctions for offenses involving alcohol and other controlled substances.

Federal statutes require that you lose your financial aid eligibility for a period of time, possibly indefinitely, if you are convicted of an offense involving controlled substances. www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/leg/hea98/sec483.html

Sanctions for violations of Federal/state/local drug laws may include fines; imprisonment; surrendering of your personal and real property; such as land or your belongings; have your driver's license revoked; be required to attend substance abuse education or treatment; as well as other legal sanctions.

However, if you are under the age of 21 and seek medical help for a legitimate health concern for yourself or someone else (such as a condition or examination necessary due to a sexual assault) after consuming alcohol, you may have some protection against prosecution for alcohol-related charges.

Read about the medical amnesty law, Michigan House Bill 4393, enacted in 2012: <http://www.medicalamnesty.org/>

WCC may impose sanctions on students such as removal from a course or program, reprimand and/or probation, suspension, expulsion or other sanctions that are deemed necessary. See Trustee Policy 4095: <http://www.wccnet.edu/trustees/policies/4095/>

As a condition of employment, WCC employees are also subject to all these sanctions, including possible dismissal, for possessing, using, making, sharing, selling or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol in the workplace: <http://www.wccnet.edu/trustees/policies/5091/>

Treatment and Rehabilitation Resources

You can access many resources to help with treatment and recovery of alcohol or substance abuse. Some are physically located in your community, some are globally-based; some are free or low-cost options. Review this site to find a treatment facility: <http://sites.wccnet.edu/publicsafety/clery/csa-help-resources/>

Full-time WCC employees can also contact the Cigna Employee Assistance Plan at (877) 622-4327 (open 24 hours each day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year) and they will provide you, your dependents, and your household family members up to six sessions of personal counseling per issue each year as well as ideas or referrals for information you seek: www.myCigna.com or call (734) 973-3684 or (734) 973-3588 to get the login.

This benefit for full-time WCC employees is confidential and protected by HIPAA laws, so WCC will not get information about your discussion, recommendations or treatment, even if the College refers you for mandatory treatment.

More Resources

This government site has links to research, information, organizations related to drug and alcohol use: <http://www.drugabuse.gov/about-nida/other-resources>

Other sites for parents:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david-sack-md/teen-substance-abuse_b_2792838.html

Peer-led programs help prevent substance abuse:
<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2007/10/071008160951.htm>

For the full Michigan medical amnesty bill, see:
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2011-2012/publicact/htm/2012-PA-0125.htm>

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