

Drug-Free Schools Annual Disclosure – Norcross, Georgia

It is the policy of Altierus Career College to comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 and the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. Accordingly, the following information regarding the use of illegal drugs and alcohol is provided annually to each student and employee of Zenith Education Group.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The unlawful use, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, or possession of alcohol, illegal drugs, or any controlled substance on school premises or while involved in school-related activities off campus is strictly prohibited and subject to the disciplinary sanctions noted below.

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Employees and students who violate the school's prohibitions against drugs and alcohol are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the school. For more information on the Student Code of Conduct and the disciplinary process, students should consult the school catalog. For more information on the company policy, Employees should consult the Drug Free Schools policy on the company webpage.

LOSS OF TITLE IV ELIGIBILITY

A student is ineligible to receive Title IV, HEA program funds if the student has been convicted of an offense involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs for the period described in the chart below:

NUMBER OF OFFENSES	POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS	SALE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS
1st Offense	1 year from the date of conviction	2 years from the date of conviction
2nd Offense	2 years from the date of conviction	Indefinite period
3rd Offense	Indefinite period	

LEGAL SANCTIONS

State Drug Laws

State law considers the illegal use of drugs and alcohol serious crimes. The sanctions for first-time violations of these laws range from fines to lengthy terms of incarceration, or both. Additionally, local ordinances and municipal codes impose a variety of penalties for the illegal use of drugs and alcohol. The state sanctions and links to state laws contained in Appendix A are provided for informational purposes only. If you need legal advice, you should contact your personal attorney.

There may also be civil consequences that result from the violation of state drug and alcohol statutes. Property associated with the criminal acts, including homes and vehicles, can be confiscated by the government. Persons convicted of felonies may be barred from government employment, and lose the right to vote.

Federal Drug Laws

Federal law considers the manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of illegal drugs, or any controlled substance, a serious crime. Appendix B provides a summary of the criminal sanctions for violations of federal drug statutes.

For the most up-to-date Federal Trafficking Penalties information, visit the website of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration at <http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/21cfr/21usc/841.htm>.

HEALTH RISKS

Drug use causes physical and emotional dependence, interferes with memory, sensation and perception, and in some cases, may cause permanent brain damage or sudden death. The following is a summary of the various health risks associated with alcohol abuse and use of specific types of drugs, and is not intended to be an exhaustive or a final statement of all possible health consequences of substance abuse.

› Alcohol

Alcohol consumption has acute effects on the body and causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses may significantly impair judgment and coordination. Alcohol is an especially dangerous drug for pregnant women.

› Marijuana

Marijuana contains THC, a chemical that alters the sensory activities of the brain, including long-term memory capabilities, comprehension, altered sense of time, decreased motivation, and reduced ability to perform tasks requiring concentration and coordination. Marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing agents than tobacco.

› Cocaine/Crack

Cocaine and crack are highly addictive and may lead to heart attacks, strokes, and long-term brain damage. Other physical effects include dilated pupils, increased pulse rate, elevated blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, tactile hallucinations, paranoia, and seizures. Continued use can produce violent behavior and psychosis.

› Methamphetamine/Amphetamines

Methamphetamine is a central nervous system stimulant of the amphetamine family. Like cocaine and crack, methamphetamines are highly addictive “uppers” that produce extreme alertness and elation, along with a variety of severe adverse reactions. Methamphetamine is generally cheaper than cocaine and because the body metabolizes it slower, the effects may last as much as 10 times longer. Methamphetamine users can experience sustained, severe mood and thought disturbances, serious physical effects, including sudden death.

› Narcotics

Narcotics such as heroin, methadone, oxycodone, codeine, morphine, and opium initially produce a feeling of euphoria that often is followed by drowsiness, nausea, and vomiting. An overdose may produce shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, and death. Tolerance to narcotics develops rapidly and dependence is likely. The use of contaminated syringes may result in diseases such as AIDS, endocarditis, and hepatitis.

› Ecstasy

“Designer drugs” such as Ecstasy are related to amphetamines in that they have mild stimulant properties but are mostly euphorants. They can cause nausea, blurred vision, chills or sweating, and faintness. Psychological effects include anxiety, depression, and paranoia. As little as one dose can cause severe neurochemical brain damage. Narcotic designer drugs can cause symptoms such as uncontrollable tremors, drooling, impaired speech, paralysis, and irreversible brain damage.

› GHB/Rohypnol

Often known as “date rape” drugs, GHB and Rohypnol initially produce a feeling of intoxication similar to alcohol (the user feels relaxed, sociable, affectionate and playful, and disinhibited) followed by a feeling of drowsiness. Higher doses can lead to a sleep from which the user cannot be woken. The effects can last from four to 24 hours. Both GHB and Rohypnol present a serious overdose threat. Since they are depressants, both drugs can be fatal when mixed with alcohol. Symptoms of overdose can include intense drowsiness, unconsciousness or coma, muscle spasms, disorientation, vomiting, and slowed or stopped breathing (fatalities usually occur from respiratory failure).

› **Inhalants**

Inhalants are readily available and inexpensive. More than 1,000 common household products can be used to get high. Examples of organic solvents (carbon compounds) include gasoline, lighter fluid and butane lighter fuel, spray paint, paint thinner, rubber-cement, hair spray, nail polish, and many cleaning fluids. Nitrite compounds (amyl nitrite, butyl nitrite) act mainly as vasodilators. Nitrous oxide (laughing gas) is packaged in small metal cartridges (called whippets), which are often used to make whipped cream.

Inhalants irritate breathing passages, provoking severe coughing, painful inflammation, and nosebleeds. Inhalants may not produce a pleasant high and result in mental confusion, hallucinations, and paranoia. They may also result in respiratory depression leading to unconsciousness, coma, permanent brain damage, or death. The danger is extremely great if inhalants are used in conjunction with other nervous system depressants, such as alcohol or barbiturates. Even first-time users run the risk of sudden sniffing death (SSD). The risk of SSD is higher if the abuser engages in strenuous physical activity or is suddenly startled.

› **Steroids**

Steroids are manufactured testosterone-like drugs used to increase muscle mass, strength, and endurance. The liver and the cardiovascular and reproductive systems are most seriously affected by steroid use. Psychological effects include very aggressive behavior ("roid rage"), severe mood swings, manic episodes, and depression.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAMS

Students requiring or requesting information about drug abuse treatment should contact Student Services or the designated campus official for contact information of local agencies and programs. Employees requiring information about drug abuse treatment should contact the Employee Assistance Program using the toll-free helpline at 1-800-932-0034 or online at <http://www.acieap.com>.

Additional helpful information and resources may be found by contacting the following organizations:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services
Administration 1-800-662-HELP (1-800-662-4357)
<http://www.samhsa.gov>

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug
Dependence 1-800-NCA-CALL (1-800-622-2255)

National Drug Helpline
<http://drughelpline.org/drug-addiction-hotline/>

Additional information on programs in your state can be found in Appendix C.

APPENDIX A: STATE STATUTES

STATE	STATE STATUTES
GA	https://law.justia.com/codes/georgia/ https://advance.lexis.com/container?config=00JAAzZDgzNzU2ZC05MDA0LTRmMDItYjkzMS0xOGY3MjE3OWNIODIKAFBvZENhdGFsb2fcIFfJnJ2IC8XZi1AYM4Ne&crd=614a2bca-5599-4fd9-8f67-7a66b0881cd2&prid=a4f1ac0b-17f9-447d-aaf9-4b145f90206a

The State of Georgia has minor in possession (MIP) laws to prevent anyone under the age of 21 to consume or possess alcoholic beverages. These laws seek to discourage minors from drinking and committing other serious crimes. Minors under 21 are allowed to serve alcohol in a licensed establishment as part of their job.

Drinking and Possessing Alcohol & Using Fake ID to Obtain Alcohol

The law prohibits minors from purchasing, attempting to purchase, or knowingly possessing alcoholic beverages. It is also unlawful for minors to use a fake id for the purpose of obtaining alcohol illegally. Violating this law will result in the following penalties:

First Offense

- A fine of up to \$300
- Sentenced up to six months in jail
- Driver's license suspension for six months

Second or Subsequent Offense

- A fine of up to \$1,000
- Sentenced up to one year in jail
- Driver's license suspension for one year

In addition to the above penalties, the offender may be required to complete a drug or alcohol educational program within 120 days of their conviction. If you fail to complete the program, the judge may order you to pay a fine of up to \$300 and/or spend 20 days in jail. First-time offenders may be placed on probation, enter a diversion program, or enroll in a comprehensive rehabilitation program.

This law does not apply to minors possessing alcohol for medicinal purposes, religious ceremonies, or when the parent or guardian allows the underage person to consume alcohol in the home.

Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 3-3-23

Zero Tolerance For Minors

Any person under the age of 21 will be charged with driving under the influence (DUI) if their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is .02% or higher. The penalties include:

First Conviction

- Jail term of 10 days to 1 year
- Fine ranging from \$300 to \$1,000
- Driver's license suspended for 6 months
- 20 hours of community service for minors under 21
- License reinstatement fee of \$210
- Second Conviction
- Jail term of 90 days to 1 year
- Fine ranging from \$600 to \$1,000
- Driver's license suspended for 12 months
- 30 days of community service
- License reinstatement fee of \$201
- Completion of an alcohol treatment program
- Installation of an ignition interlock device in vehicle

In addition, anyone under the age of 21 who is convicted of a DUI offense will not be eligible for a limited driving permit. Limited driving permits allow offenders to drive to and from work, school, the pharmacy, or DUI educational programs. You will have to wait until the suspension period is up before applying for a license reinstatement.

Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 40-6-391

Selling Alcohol to Minors or Purchasing Alcohol For Minors

It is against the law for anyone to purchase alcohol for minors under the age of 21. It is illegal for anyone to knowingly furnish alcohol or permit a person under 21 to consume an alcoholic beverage. The penalties include the following:

- You will be ordered to pay of fine of not less than \$750 and not more than \$1,000
- You may be sentenced up to 12 months in jail

In addition to the above, a licensed establishment may have their license revoked upon a second conviction.

Official Code of Georgia Annotated § 3-3-23.1

Penalties for Violation of Georgia Controlled Substance and Dangerous Drug Laws

Violations of Georgia Controlled Substances Act and Drug Offenses for Certain Drugs of Abuse

O.C.G.A. §§ 16-13-20 through 30

Possession of less than one ounce of marijuana is a misdemeanor under O.C.G.A. § 16-13-2(b), punishable by a term of incarceration of not more than 12 months or a fine not to exceed \$1,000, or both, or public works not to exceed 12 months. Possession of more than 1 ounce is a felony, punishable by a term of incarceration of between 1 and 10 years.

Possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, or sale, delivery or distribution, depending on the quantity of marijuana, is a felony punishable by a term of incarceration of between one and 30 years, and fines between \$100,000 and \$1,000,000. O.C.G.A. § 16-13-30(j).

Drugs and narcotics that are illegal or only legal to possess with a lawful prescription are controlled substances. Georgia law classifies them into 5 Schedules. O.C.G.A. § 16-13-24. **Schedule I** drugs (for example, heroin, LSD, mushrooms, ecstasy) are those that are considered to be the most dangerous and having no medicinal value. **Schedule II** drugs (for example, cocaine, methamphetamine, Hydrocodone, opium, and Codeine, etc.) are those that are restricted to medical purposes and require a prescription. **Schedule III** (steroids), **Schedule IV** (Xanax and Valium), and **Schedule V** drugs are those that must be lawfully prescribed and have varying potential for abuse.

Unlawful possession of any Schedule I Controlled Substance, Schedule II narcotic, or Schedule II non-narcotic is felony punishable by a term of incarceration of 2 to 30 years, depending on the quantity. Unlawful possession of Schedule III, IV or V controlled substance is a felony and punishable by a 1 to 5 year term of incarceration.

Unlawful sale/distribution of any Schedule I or II Controlled Substance is a felony punishable by a term of incarceration of one to 30 years in prison, depending on quantity. Sale of any Schedule III, IV or V Controlled Substance is a felony punishable by one to ten years in prison, depending on quantity.

APPENDIX B: FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500 – 4,999 gms mixture	<p>First Offense: Not less than five years, and not more than 40 years. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$2 million if an individual; \$5 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not less than 10 years, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$4 million if an individual; \$10 million if not an individual.</p>	5 kgs or more mixture	<p>First Offense: Not less than 10 years, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$4 million if an individual; \$10 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not less than 20 years, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual; \$20 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Third Offense: Life imprisonment</p>
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	5 – 49 gms mixture		50 gms or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40 – 399 gms mixture		400 gms or more mixture	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10 – 99 gms mixture		100 gms or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100 – 999 gms mixture		1 kg or more mixture	
LSD (Schedule I)	1 – 9 gms mixture		10 gms or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5 – 49 gms pure or 50 - 499 gms mixture		50 gms or more pure or 500 gms or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10 – 99 gms pure or 100 – 999 gms mixture		100 gms or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture	

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Other Schedule I & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any amount	<p>First Offense: Not more than 20 years. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, or more than Life. Fine \$1 million if an individual; \$5 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not more than 30 years. If death or serious injury, not less than life. Fine \$2 million if an individual; \$10 million if not an individual.</p>
Flunitrazepam (Sched. IV)	1 gm or more	
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	<p>First Offense: Not more than five years. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual; \$1 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not more 10 years. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual; \$2 million if not an individual.</p>
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	30 - 999 mgs	
All other Schedule IV drugs	Any amount	<p>First Offense: Not more than three years. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual; \$1 million if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not more than six years. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual; \$2 million if not an individual.</p>
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Less than 30 mgs	
All Schedule V drugs	Any amount	<p>First Offense: Not more than one year. Fine not more than \$100,000 if an individual; \$250,000 if not an individual.</p> <p>Second Offense: Not more than two years. Fine not more than \$200,000 if an individual; \$500,000 if not an individual.</p>

FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES - MARIJUANA

DRUG	QUANTITY	1ST OFFENSE	2ND OFFENSE
Marijuana	1,000 kg or more mixture; or 1,000 or more plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not less than 10 years, not more than life › If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, not more than life › Fine not more than \$4 million if an individual; \$10 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not less than 20 years, not more than life › If death or serious injury, mandatory life › Fine not more than \$8 million if an individual; \$20 million if other than an individual
Marijuana	100 kg to 999 kg mixture; or 100 to 999 plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not less than five years, not more than 40 years › If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, not more than life › Fine not more than \$2 million if an individual; \$5 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not less than 10 years, not more than life › If death or serious injury, mandatory life › Fine not more than \$4 million if an individual; \$10 million if other than an individual
Marijuana	More than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg mixture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not more than 20 years › If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, not more than life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not more than 30 years › If death or serious injury, mandatory life
Marijuana	More than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 plants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Fine \$1 million if an individual; \$5 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Fine \$2 million if an individual; \$10 million if other than an individual
Marijuana	11 to 49 plants; less than 50 kg mixture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not more than five years › Fine not more than \$250,000; \$1 million if other than an individual 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Not more than 10 years › Fine \$500,000 if an individual; \$2 million if other than an individual
Hashish	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil	1 kg or less		

APPENDIX C: DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAMS

Georgia Crisis and Access Line

<https://namiga.org/georgia-crisis-and-access-line/>

1-800-715-4225

Alcoholics Anonymous

<https://atlantaaa.org/>

404-525-3178

Cocaine Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope

<https://georgiaca.org>

404-255-7787

The Nar-Anon Family Groups are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction

www.nar-anon.org

800-477-6291

Aware Awake Alive

<https://awareawakealive.org/educate/911-lifeline-legislation>

Call 911 to get assistance with alcohol or drug poisoning

Georgia's 911 Medical Amnesty Law

<https://www.gachd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Medical-Amnesty-Law.pdf>

Call 911 to get assistance with alcohol or drug poisoning

Free Rehab Centers

<https://www.freerehabcenters.org/city/ga-norcross>

1-800-780-2294

Addiction Center

<https://www.addictioncenter.com/rehabs/georgia/atlanta/>

1-855-943-1877

Advanced Recovery Systems - DrugRehab.com

<https://www.drugrehab.com/>

1-844-264-9780