

Drug-Free Schools Annual Disclosure – Tampa, Florida

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 euphoricants. 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
FL	State Statutes: http://www.leg.state.fl.us/statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Index&Title_Request=XXXVI
FL	City and county Ordinances: https://library.municode.com/fl
Alcohol	<p>Florida state law prohibits the possession of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21. Violation of this offense is punishable by a definite term of imprisonment of up to 60 days and/or a \$500 fine; a subsequent offense is punishable by a definite term of imprisonment of up to one year and a fine of \$1000. Possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under age 21 may also result in the curtailment of driving privileges. No person may sell, give, serve, or permit to be served alcoholic beverages to a person under 21, and it is unlawful for a person under 21 to misrepresent their age in order to obtain alcohol. Violation of either of these offenses is also punishable by a definite term of imprisonment of up to 60 days and a fine of \$500. Misrepresentation of age may also lead to curtailment of driving privileges.</p> <p>See FL Statute Sections 562.111, 775.083</p>
Controlled Substances	<p>Under state law it is a crime for any person to possess or distribute controlled substances/drugs as described in Section 893.03, Florida Statutes, except as authorized by law. Punishment for such crimes ranges from first-degree misdemeanors (up to one-year imprisonment and up to a \$1000 fine) to first-degree felonies (up to 30 years imprisonment and up to a \$10,000 fine). Specifically, possession of fewer than 20 grams of marijuana is punishable with imprisonment of up to one year and a fine of up to \$1000; possession of more than 20 grams of marijuana is a third-degree felony with imprisonment of up to five years and a fine of \$5000. Trafficking (distributing specified large quantities of various controlled substances) is punishable by a term of imprisonment of up to life and a fine of \$25,000 to \$500,000, depending on the particular illicit drug and the quantity involved. Thus, possession of fewer than 28 grams of cocaine is a third-degree felony while possession of a more than 28 grams of cocaine – trafficking in cocaine – is a first-degree felony, punishable with a fine of up to \$250,000 and imprisonment of up to life without eligibility for early release. The death penalty may be imposed if a person has brought large quantities of the substances into the state knowing the result would be the death of any person.</p> <p>Individuals who have been convicted of a felony involving the sale of or trafficking in, or conspiracy to sell or traffic in, a controlled substance under certain circumstances may be disqualified from applying for state employment.</p> <p>See FL Statute Sections 893.13, 775.083</p>

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

Hillsborough County Community Resources

<http://www.211atyourfingertips.org/>

Call 211 and Hotline Services- (813) 234-1234

Alcoholics Anonymous

<http://www.aatampa-area.org/>

(813) 933-9123

Narcotics Anonymous

<http://www.tampa-na.org/>

(813) 879-4357

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

<https://ca.org/about-ca/>

Varies - contact for meetings in your area

863-940-9270

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

www.nar-anon.org

800-477-6291

Florida Health

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/prevention/substance-abuse/index.html>

850-245-4444

Pensacola Metro Treatment Center provides Substance abuse treatment services

<https://www.newseason.com/clinics/pensacola-metro-treatment-center/>

1-877-284-7074

DACCO Treatment Agency provides substance abuse and mental health services

<https://www.dacco.org/>

(813) 984-1818

Tampa Alcohol Coalition provides resources on alcohol/substance abuse, impaired driving and underage drinking

<http://www.tampatac.org/>

(813) 731-2696