

POLICIES, REGULATIONS AND PROGRAMS RELATING TO THE PREVENTION OF ILLICIT DRUG USE OR ALCOHOL USE AND ABUSE BY STUDENTS

The College prohibits students from manufacturing, using, possessing, distributing, or selling alcoholic or malt beverages or illicit drugs at college sponsored or supervised activities or on property it owns or leases. Students violating this policy are subject to disciplinary action and/or criminal prosecution.

Definitions

ALCOHOLIC OR MALT BEVERAGES (alcohol): Any beverage that contains ethyl (beverage) alcohol, including but not limited to beer, wine, wine coolers, and liquor.

DISTRIBUTION: To share, give and/or sell illicit drugs or alcoholic or malt beverages or to purchase illicit drugs or alcoholic or malt beverages for another.

ILLICIT DRUGS (controlled substances): As defined in Wyoming Statute 35-7-1014 through 35-7-1022, and including but not limited to marijuana, hashish, cocaine, heroin, amphetamines, methamphetamines, barbiturates, and other opiates and hallucinogenic substances. Also includes any drugs illicitly obtained or with a high potential for abuse.

POSSESSION: To have illicit drugs or alcoholic or malt beverages in one's immediate possession or within an area one directly controls, including but not limited to one's vehicle or living area.

SPONSORED OR SUPERVISED ACTIVITY: An organized WWCC student activity for which college funds are expended and/or supervision is provided by college employees.

USE: To consume, take, or be under the influence of illicit drugs or alcoholic or malt beverages.

Student Disciplinary Sanctions

Any student violating these policies will be subject to college administrative action as well as referral for prosecution under applicable local, State, and Federal law. The College may take administrative action separate from any criminal prosecution that may occur. Administrative action may include disciplinary sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion from the College, and/or may include the requirement that the student complete an appropriate rehabilitation program at the student's expense.

Student Residence Hall Regulations

For students living on campus in the College residence halls, disciplinary actions may include termination of the residence hall contract by the College (eviction). Immediate eviction will be considered for any student twenty-one years of age or older who supplies alcoholic or malt beverages to a minor-age student or other person on campus. Immediate eviction will also be considered for any student manufacturing, possessing, selling, using or distributing illicit drugs on campus. Public drunkenness on campus may also result in immediate eviction if combined with other violations of college residence hall regulations. Any student who is not evicted for a first offense involving possession or use of alcohol or public drunkenness, but instead is placed on probation, will be considered for immediate eviction should that student commit a second violation of any residence hall regulation including but not limited to a second alcohol violation. As one condition of any probation, the student may be referred for counseling.

Sanctions for Pell Grant Recipients

Students receiving financial aid in the form of a Federal Pell Grant must certify that as a condition for receiving and retaining the Pell Grant, they will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance during the period covered by the Pell Grant.

Students violating this requirement will be reported by the College to the U.S. Office of Education for action.

Fall 2002
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WESTERN WYOMING COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Local, State, and Federal Laws Relating to Alcohol Use or Abuse

The legal drinking age in Wyoming for alcoholic or malt beverages is twenty-one years of age. It is unlawful for persons younger than twenty-one years of age to have alcoholic or malt beverages in their possession, or to be under the influence of alcoholic or malt beverages in public places. Persons under twenty-one years of age are also prohibited from attempting in any manner to purchase alcoholic or malt beverages.

It is also illegal for any person to sell, furnish or give alcoholic or malt beverages to underage individuals, or to falsify any identification or use any false identification in order to obtain alcoholic or malt beverages.

Within the cities of Rock Springs and Green River, it is unlawful for any person to be drunk or to drink alcoholic or malt beverages on any highway, street, sidewalk, parking lot, or at any public place. An allowable exception is that a person of legal age may drink alcoholic or malt beverages at certain recreational areas designated by the city governing bodies for such use either on a regular basis or for a special event.

No person shall drive a vehicle or have actual physical control of any vehicle within the State of Wyoming if the person has a blood alcohol concentration of 0.10% or more, or is under the influence of a controlled substance, or is under the influence of a combination of these elements.

Any person who drives a vehicle or is in actual physical control of a vehicle upon a public street or highway within the State of Wyoming is deemed to have given implied consent to a chemical test or tests of his or her blood, breath or urine. Failure to submit to all required chemical tests requested by a peace officer shall result in the suspension of the person's driver's license for a period of six months for a first offense.

Effective July 1, 1990, any person under nineteen years of age who has been convicted of any offense regarding the possession, delivery, manufacture or use of a controlled substance or alcohol may have their Wyoming driving privileges suspended for ninety days. A second conviction will result in a suspension of driving privileges for six months.

The Wyoming Supreme Court has also held that any person who unlawfully provides alcoholic or malt beverages to a minor can be held liable for any injuries suffered by that intoxicated minor, and also held liable for any injuries to other persons when those injuries are caused by that intoxicated minor.

Local, State and Federal Laws Relating to the Use of Controlled Substances (Illicit Drugs)

"Controlled substances" are defined and listed in Wyoming Statute 35-7-1014 through 35-7-1022. The list includes marijuana as well as all other illicit drugs. It is unlawful for any person to possess or use a controlled substance unless that substance was obtained pursuant to a valid prescription or as otherwise authorized for approved research or medical purposes.

It is also unlawful for any person to manufacture, or possess the raw materials with intent to manufacture, or sell, or possess with intent to sell a controlled substance.

In Wyoming, a person may be guilty of a drug induced homicide if he or she is an adult at least four years older than the victim, and unlawfully delivers a controlled substance to a minor, and that minor dies as a result of using that controlled substance.

Transportation of a controlled substance without the required Federal authorization and permits may result in seizure by the Drug Enforcement Administration or the Federal Bureau of Investigation of any property related to such transportation including the controlled substance, raw materials, equipment, money or other assets, vessel, vehicle or aircraft.

A Federal conviction on a charge of illegal possession of a controlled substance can also result in denial of Federal benefits including student grants and loans, Federal contracts, and certain Federal licenses. The person may also become ineligible to receive or purchase a firearm.

Health Risks and Other Risks Associated with the Use of Illicit Drugs and the Abuse of Alcohol

Alcohol abuse is defined as any level of drinking that harms or endangers the drinker or other people. As a result of alcohol abuse, a significant number of drinkers experience personal problems ranging from academic failure to serious accidents. Long term alcohol abuse can also result in poor health, including malnutrition, cirrhosis of the liver, ulcers, heart disease, degeneration of muscle and bone, memory loss and personality disorders.

Alcohol is a depressant. Drinking too much at one time can result in loss of muscle control, impaired judgment, poor concentration, and loss of inhibitions resulting in exaggerated feelings of anger, fear and anxiety. Vandalism, violence, and social conflicts including fighting and sexual assaults may occur with the result that the reputation of the person misusing alcohol may be permanently damaged.

Heavy drinkers usually suffer academically as a result of slower thinking, poor concentration and frequent absences from class. A cycle of alcohol use, failure, and greater alcohol use may set in.

Even a single alcoholic binge can have long-term consequences. Alcohol-related automobile accidents are the most common cause of death and serious injury for young people between sixteen and twenty-four years of age. A single alcohol-related accident can change not only the life of the drinker but also the lives of innocent victims. As a result, the drinker may suffer both criminal and civil penalties for negligence.

The long-term use of cannabis (marijuana or hashish) has been associated with lung disease. The user experiences a distortion of reality and sometimes confusion, depression and panic. Large doses may cause hallucinations and paranoia. Long-term use has been associated with feelings of lethargy and an inability to concentrate. Unlike alcohol, which is eliminated in hours, marijuana and hashish stay in the body for days.

Amphetamines (speed, bennies, pep pills) increase the heart rate and blood pressure and increase the activity level temporarily. Harmful exhaustion and depression usually follow, and withdrawal from the drug can result in suicidal depres-

sion. Heavy doses can result in hallucinations and paranoia, and continued high doses can cause heart problems, infections, malnutrition and death.

Cocaine (coke, snow) can cause overconfidence, restlessness, confusion, anxiety, and depression. Heavy doses can result in paranoia, hallucinations, and nervous exhaustion. Chronic use can destroy nasal tissues. Physical dependence can develop. Effects are unpredictable, with convulsions, respiratory paralysis and death possible. "Crack" or "rock" is a highly potent cocaine that is extremely addictive.

Depressants such as barbiturates and tranquilizers slow the heart rate and breathing, and lower the blood pressure. They slow the reaction time and distort reality resulting in drowsiness, dizziness, confusion and loss of coordination. Overdoses can cause coma, respiratory arrest, convulsions and even death. Depressants taken in combination, such as barbiturates and alcohol, are extremely dangerous.

Hallucinogens (LSD or acid, PCP or angel dust) are unpredictable in their effect. They may cause euphoria and a distortion of the senses, or they may cause panic or violence. Effects may include "flashbacks" (recurring symptoms) days or weeks after use, psychosis, convulsions, coma or death. Use has resulted in murder and suicide.

Narcotics such as heroin, morphine, opium and codeine cause lower perceptions of pain, shallow breathing, and drowsiness. There may be feelings of euphoria and lethargy combined with an inability to concentrate and a loss of judgment. Withdrawal is very painful, and heavy doses can cause convulsions, respiratory arrest, coma and death.

Methamphetamine (ice, crank, crystal, meth) is a central-nervous system stimulant that can contribute to irrational and often violent behavior. It causes euphoria and feelings of well-being followed by an amphetamine psychosis that can last for months. The user becomes agitated, on edge and paranoid. The use of methamphetamines can result in hallucinations, aggressive behavior, insomnia, loss of appetite, excessive talking, panic, and a false sense of confidence and power followed by severe depression. Long-term use can result in fatal kidney, liver and lung disorders as well as stroke. Meth causes a severe and long-lasting crash, or low feeling, after the effects wear off, and can result in intense withdrawal symptoms including severe craving, insomnia, and mental confu-

sion. If methamphetamines are used during pregnancy, babies tend to be asocial and incapable of bonding. They may have tremors, birth defects, and may cry for long periods of time without stopping.

Many of these drugs, as well as alcohol, have been linked to birth defects. Women, during pregnancy, should be especially careful to abstain from their use.

Resources Available in the Community for Drug and Alcohol Treatment

There are several programs and services in Sweetwater County available to provide help to anyone experiencing drug or alcohol dependency. The College, through the Student Development Center, will provide information, confidential counseling, and referral assistance to any employee upon request. You may arrange an appointment with any one of the counselors by contacting the Student Development Center, room 2011.

In many cases, students can receive the help they need directly from the College's Student Development Center. Voluntary referrals or self-referrals are also available to:

*The Southwest Counseling Center
1124 College Drive
Rock Springs, WY 82901
(352-6677 or 875-5515)*

Contact the Student Development Center for any of the following:

- *National Association of Children of Alcoholics*
- *Alcoholics Anonymous of Rock Springs*
- *Alcoholics Anonymous of Green River*
- *Narcotics Anonymous*
- *Alcoholism and drug treatment centers (several available) (Contact the Student Development Center or make direct contact with a treatment center)*

Self-referrals and Referrals

Students who are concerned about their involvement with drugs or alcohol are encouraged to contact the Student Development Center for assistance. No College disciplinary action will be taken in the case of self-referrals for assistance in overcoming a pattern of personal drug or alcohol use if the self-referral occurs prior to a reported violation of the regulations concerning possession or use, and upon the

conditions that treatment is arranged and subsequent violations do not occur.

Effective substance abuse intervention also requires consistent awareness and careful observation by anyone who works with or observes students on a daily basis. Anyone wishing to confidentially refer a student for assistance with a potential drug or alcohol problem should contact the Student Development Center. Again, no College disciplinary action will be taken in the case of referrals occurring prior to reported violations, and upon the conditions that treatment is arranged and subsequent violations do not occur.

In the case of a student who is perceived to be a danger or potential danger to himself/herself or other members of the College community due to drug or alcohol use or abuse, the College reserves the right to involuntarily refer the student to a treatment center, hospital, or other agency as specified in the Wyoming State statutes.

Programming and Education

The College promotes and supports an alcohol-free and drug-free college environment. It also encourages faculty members to incorporate alcohol and drug education into the curriculum, where appropriate.

The College will provide alcohol and drug awareness and education programs with the purpose of preventing alcohol abuse and illicit drug use. It will also provide education programs for students, faculty and staff to assist them in detecting problems of alcohol abuse and other drug use and referring persons with these problems for appropriate assistance.

The publication of this statement is required by the Federal Drug-free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and accompanying amendments.

Western Wyoming Community College is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity institution and as such does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, handicap status, disabled veteran, or veteran of the Vietnam era in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its educational programs or activities. Inquiries concerning Title VI, Title IX and Section 504 may be referred to the Dean of Administration, WWCC Administrative Offices, P.O. Box 428, Rock Springs, WY 82902-0428, (307) 382-1609; or the Regional Director, Office for Civil Rights, Region VIII, Department of Education, Federal Office Building, 1244 Speer Blvd., Suite 310, Denver, CO 80204-3582, (303) 844-5695 or TDD (303) 844-3417; or Wyoming Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 2nd Floor Hathaway Building, Cheyenne, WY 82002, (307) 777-6218.



A Commitment to Quality & Success

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