

NASHVILLE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION DISCLOSURE

Drug/Alcohol Free Communities Statement

This statement is being distributed to all Nashville State employees, including faculty, staff, and students, in compliance with the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (41 U.S.C. 701, et seq.) and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (20 U.S.C. 3171, et seq.).

Policy

It is the policy of Nashville State to prohibit the illegal use, abuse, manufacturing, possession, sale, or distribution of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance, including any stimulant, depressant, narcotic, hallucinogenic drug or substance, or marijuana on college-owned, controlled, or temporarily leased property. Such use, sale, or distribution is prohibited also during any college-related activity, including off-campus trips. All employees and students are subject to applicable federal, state, and local laws related to this matter. Additionally, any violation of this policy as set forth in the Nashville State Community College [Student Conduct Policy](#) (Part 2 (2) (j) (k) (l)) will result in Disciplinary Sanction (Part 4).

Health Risks Associated With Illicit Drugs and Alcohol Abuse

A cursory description of the health risks associated with the use of alcohol and illicit drugs is as follows:

Alcohol

Alcoholism is the most neglected health problem in the United States today. It is a complex, progressive disease that interferes with health and social and economic functioning. Untreated, alcoholism results in physical incapacity, permanent mental impairment, and/or premature death.

Alcohol is involved in one-third of all suicides, one-half of all murders, one-half of all traffic deaths, and one-fourth of all other accidents; and it is involved in over 50 percent of all arrests. Alcohol is the third leading cause of birth defects involving mental retardation. Use during pregnancy may cause spontaneous abortion, various birth defects, or fetal alcohol syndrome.

Drinking is implicated in cancer, heart disease, liver disease, gastrointestinal disease, and other illnesses. Alcoholism reduces life expectancy by twelve years. Regular use of alcohol can damage all body organs, leading to liver, heart, and digestive problems, circulatory system interference, personality disorders, reproductive problems, and such central nervous system disorders as poor vision, loss of coordination, memory loss, loss of sensation, mental/physical disturbances, and permanent brain damage. The physical and psychological changes that occur as a result of addiction to alcohol can pave the way for addiction to mood altering drugs.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act allows Nashville State to disclose to parents of students under 21 years of age (at the time of disclosure) disciplinary violations concerning drug or alcohol use or possession.

Other Drugs

Drugs are natural and synthetic chemical substances used to affect body processes, the mind, nervous system, behavior, and feelings. Drugs used without medical supervision lead to many of the same health risks associated with alcohol abuse. Specifically, however, the illicit use of drugs increases the risk of mental deterioration; death from overdose; physical and mental dependence or addiction; hepatitis and skin infections from needle use; psychotic reactions; inducement to take stronger drugs; brain damage; hallucinations; unconsciousness; deep depression; distortion of time and space; permanent damage to lungs, brain, kidneys, and liver; death from suffocation or choking; anemia, amnesia, AIDS, and other infections. If used excessively, alcohol and drugs may cause death.

Biennial Review

The Biennial Review is a required summary of policies, programs, and assessments concerning the issues of alcohol and other drugs at NSCC. A copy of the Biennial Review is available from the Dean for Student Services.

Information Sources for Treatment and/or Rehabilitation

The Information Desk located in the Student Services Center provides information related to treatment and/or rehabilitation as a service to all employees and students. The purposes of referral are as follows:

1. To encourage the individual with a problem to seek the assistance of a qualified drug/alcohol therapist or seek treatment from a drug treatment center or mental health center.
2. To provide information to individuals regarding treatment resources in the surrounding area and how to secure their services. Descriptive materials are provided when available detailing the facility, length of stay, cost, etc.
3. To assist the employee/student in making the initial contact with an outside agency.