

# CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY

## Drug and Alcohol Prevention Policy 8.11



CLARK ATLANTA UNIVERSITY		
<b>POLICY/PROCEDURE</b>	<b>Subject:</b> Drug and Alcohol Prevention 8.11	
<b>Department:</b> COMPLIANCE OFFICE	<b>Review Date:</b> July 26, 2012 April 04/2017	<b>Issued By:</b> Vice President Student Affairs and Vice President Finance and Business Services
	<b>Effective Date</b> July 26, 2012 April 04/2017	
<b>Distribution:</b> University Wide	<b>Approved By: President</b>  <b>Dr. Ronald A. Johnson</b>	<b>No. of Pages:</b>  11

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## **1.0 POLICY STATEMENT**

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 requires Clark Atlanta University as an institution of higher education receiving Federal funds to certify to the Secretary of Education that it has adopted and implemented an antidrug and alcohol abuse program for its students and employees. Accordingly, the University adopts the following policy:

Clark Atlanta University does not permit or condone the illicit or unauthorized possession, use, consumption, sale, or distribution of illegal drugs and/or alcohol by its students or employees on its property or as part of its activities. This policy applies to all full-time and part-time students; and all full-time and part-time permanent and temporary employees, including faculty, administration, all exempt and nonexempt staff, and any student employees and interns.

Students who violate this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with local, state, and federal laws, and University policies and procedures which may include counseling, a reprimand and warning, disciplinary probation, suspension, expulsion, and referral to the proper law enforcement authorities for prosecution. Employees who violate this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with local, state, and federal laws, which may include counseling, mandatory participation in an appropriate rehabilitation program, a warning, placement on strict probation, unpaid suspension from employment, termination of employment and referral to the proper law enforcement authorities for prosecution. All disciplinary procedures and appeals presently applicable to students and all categories of employees will continue to be available for violation of this policy. The purpose of this policy is to produce a workplace and campus environment that discourages the unauthorized or illegal use of drugs and alcohol by students and employees. The following is information that is important for each student and employee to read and understand regarding the legal penalties and the health risks that are associated with alcohol and drug abuse.

## **2.0 APPLICABLE LAWS**

Most people know that selling illicit drugs is a criminal offense punishable by a fine or imprisonment depending on the specific offense and other factors such as prior convictions for similar offenses. Most people also know that driving while intoxicated is against the law and can result in driver's license revocation or even imprisonment, in some cases. It is less well known that an individual under the age of 21 could be arrested and prosecuted for purchasing, or even attempting to purchase, alcohol.

The following is a brief overview of local, state, and federal laws governing the possession, use, and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. It is not intended to be an exhaustive or definitive statement of various laws, but rather is designed to indicate the types of conduct that are against the law and the range of legal sanctions that can be imposed for such conduct.

### **2.0.1 Alcohol Laws**

***Open Container Law.*** The City of Atlanta, like many other cities, towns, and villages, has an ordinance prohibiting the consumption of an alcoholic beverage in any public place or on private property without the owner's permission or possession of an open container of such beverage.

Such permission on all University property must be specifically requested and granted in writing by an authorized official. Violations of the ordinance are punishable by a fine of up to \$150 and/or imprisonment for up to 15 days.

**Georgia Alcoholic Beverage Control Law.** All states prohibit persons from selling or giving any alcoholic beverage to a minor (defined in Georgia as under age 21) or to a person who is already intoxicated. It is also an offense in Georgia, punishable by a fine of up to \$200 and/or imprisonment for up to 5 days, to misrepresent the age of a minor for the purpose of inducing the sale of an alcoholic beverage. Any minor who uses false identification or the identification of another person to purchase an alcoholic beverage can be convicted and fined up to \$100 and/or sentenced to probation for up to one year. In addition, a minor can be arrested and fined up to \$50 for possessing an alcoholic beverage with the intent to consume it.

**Georgia Vehicle and Traffic Law.** All states prohibit drinking and driving. In Georgia, it is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of at least \$350 and/or imprisonment for up to one year (as well as suspension and/or revocation of your driver's license) to operate a motor vehicle with a blood alcohol content of one-tenth of one percent or higher. Multiple convictions can result in more serious penalties.

## **2.0.2 Legal Sanctions Concerning Drugs and Alcohol**

### **State of Georgia Law**

Georgia statutes cover a wide range of drug offenses including the offer, sale, possession with the intent to sell, gift and the mere possession of various types of drugs [O.C.G.A. 16-13-30, 16-13-31, 16-13-32.4 (1990)].

The state laws create the following mandatory/minimum prison sentences for first-time offenders:

Two (2) years for the purchase, possession, or control of any controlled substance. Five (5) years for the manufacture, delivery, distribution, dispensing, administering, sale, or possession with intent to distribute any controlled substance. One (1) year for the purchase, possession, or control of a drug or other substance that has a low to moderate potential for abuse, low physical dependence or high psychological dependence.

The state laws create the following mandatory minimum prison sentences and fines for trafficking in cocaine, illegal drugs, or marijuana:

Ten (10) years and a fine of \$200,000 for the sale, manufacture, delivery or bringing into the state 28 grams or more, but less than 200 grams, of cocaine, including "crack." Five (5) years and a fine of \$50,000 for the sale, manufacture, delivery or bringing into the state, or possession of four (4) grams or more of any morphine or opium, including heroin. Five (5) years and a fine of \$100,000 for the sale, manufacture, growth, delivery, or bringing into the state, or possession of 50 pounds or more, but less than 2,000 pounds, of marijuana.

Convictions for drug-related offenses involving minors or in the proximity of elementary or secondary schools or school boards used for elementary or secondary education shall carry the following mandatory sentences in addition to any term of imprisonment imposed for violations

of the statutes which prohibit the distribution, sale, and possession with intent to sell controlled substances or marijuana:

No person shall allow or require a person in his employment under 18 years of age to dispense, serve, sell or take orders for any alcoholic beverages. It is unlawful for a person to furnish, sell, barter, or exchange alcoholic beverages to a person who is noticeably intoxicated. Fine of not less than \$300.00 nor more than \$1,000, and not less than ten (10) days nor more than one (1) year imprisonment for driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs for first-time offenders. An alcohol concentration of 0.10 grams or more denotes a presumption that a person is under the influence of alcohol. An alcohol concentration of 0.12 grams at the time or within three (3) hours after, during, or being in actual physical control of a moving vehicle is deemed to be driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Not more than twenty (20) years or a fine of not more than \$20,000, or both for the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance or marijuana in, on, or within 1,000 feet of any real property owned by, or leased to, any public or private elementary, secondary school, or school board used for elementary or secondary education. Actual sentences depend upon the severity and the circumstances of the offenses and the character and background of the offender.

Georgia law prohibits the sale, delivery, giving or taking of alcohol to or from minors or intoxicated persons. [O.C.G.A. 3-3-23, 3-3-23.1, 3-3-22, 3-3-24]. Georgia law also prohibits driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. [O.C.G.A. 40-6-391, 40 6-392]. Georgia statutes create the following mandatory minimum fines and sentences for first-time offenders:

Not more than 30 days imprisonment, or a fine of not more than \$300.00, or both upon the first conviction of furnishing to, purchasing of, or possessing alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 years of age.

## **Federal Law**

Federal drug laws parallel Georgia's drug laws in many respects. For example, it is a federal offense to manufacture, distribute, or possess with intent to distribute, a controlled substance or a counterfeit controlled substance. As under the Georgia Penal Code, any property associated with the unlawful handling of controlled substance may be forfeited to the authorities. Federal law also provides that a person age 18 or older who distributes a controlled substance to a person under 21 years of age may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment and/or a fine of up to twice the amount authorized for distribution to a person over the age of 21.

An important sanction under federal law is that persons convicted of any federal or state offense involving possession of a controlled substance are ineligible to receive any or all federal benefits (e.g., social security, student loans) for up to one year. If the offense involves distribution of a controlled substance, the guilty person could be ineligible for any or all federal benefits for up to 5 years.

There are both federal and state laws specifically dealing with the distribution or manufacturing of controlled substances in or near schools or colleges. For example, federal law provides that a drug offense committed within 1,000 feet of school property, including universities, is punishable by a term of imprisonment and a fine of up to twice the amount authorized for the same offense committed away from school property.

### **3.0 Health Risks and Use of Illicit Drugs**

Drugs and alcohol are toxic to the human body and if abused can have catastrophic health consequences. Some drugs, such as crack, are so toxic that even one experimental use can be fatal. The following is a summary of the various health risks associated with alcohol abuse and use of specific types of drugs; it is not intended to be an exhaustive or final statement of all possible health consequences of substance abuse.

#### **3.0.1 Alcohol Use and Abuse**

Alcohol is the most widely used and abused drug in the United States. Alcohol consumption has acute effects on the body and causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts, including spouse and child abuse, as well as dangerous risk-taking behavior. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol can be fatal. Alcohol-related automobile accidents are the number one cause of death among people ages 15 through 24. Furthermore, approximately fifty percent (50%) of all youthful deaths from drowning, fires, suicide, and homicide are alcohol-related.

Repeated use of alcohol can lead to physical and psychological dependence. Dependent persons who suddenly stop drinking are likely to suffer withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life threatening. Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver.

Mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents have an increased risk themselves of becoming alcoholics.

#### **3.0.2 Use of Illicit Drugs**

Drugs interfere with the brain's ability to take in, sort, and synthesize information. They distort perception, which can lead users to harm themselves or others. Drug use also affects sensation and impairs memory. In addition to these general effects, the specific health risks associated with particular types of drugs are as follows.

#### **3.0.3 Cocaine and Crack**

Cocaine use is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States. One reason for this is the ready availability of cocaine in a cheap but potent form called "crack" or "rock." Cocaine stimulates the central nervous system. Its immediate effects include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperature. Occasional use can cause a

stuffy or runny nose, while chronic use can ulcerate the mucous membrane of the nose. Injecting cocaine with contaminated equipment can cause AIDS, hepatitis, and other diseases. Preparation of freebase, which involves the use of volatile solvents, can result in death or injury from fire or explosion. Cocaine can produce psychological and physical dependency, a feeling that the user cannot function without the drug. In addition, tolerance develops rapidly and leads to higher and higher doses to produce the desired effect.

"Crack" or freebase rock is a purified form of cocaine that is smoked. "Crack" is far more addictive than heroin or barbiturates. Repeated use of "crack" can lead to addiction within a few days. Once addicted, many users have turned to stealing, prostitution, and drug dealing in order to support their habit. The effects of crack are felt within 10 seconds. The 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 psychotic states similar to schizophrenia. Cocaine, in any form, but particularly in the purified form known as "crack," can cause sudden death from cardiac arrest or respiratory failure.

### **3.0.4 Marijuana**

Marijuana use causes a substantial increase in the heart rate, bloodshot eyes, a dry mouth and throat, increased appetite, and it may impair short-term memory and comprehension, alter sense of time, and reduce ability to perform tasks requiring concentration and coordination, such as driving a car. Research also shows that motivation and cognition may be altered, making the acquisition of new information difficult. When marijuana contains 2% THC, it can cause severe psychological damage, including paranoia and psychosis. Since the early 1980s, most marijuana has contained from 4 to 6% THC two or three times the amount capable of causing serious damage. Because users often inhale the unfiltered smoke deeply and then hold it in their lungs as long as possible, marijuana is damaging to the lungs and pulmonary system. Marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing agents than tobacco smoke. Long-term users of marijuana may develop psychological dependence and require more of the drug to get the same effect. The drug can become the center of their lives.

### **3.0.5 Narcotics**

Narcotics such as heroin, codeine, and morphine initially produce a feeling of euphoria that often is followed by drowsiness, nausea, and vomiting. Users also may experience constricted pupils, watery eyes, and itching. An overdose may produce slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, and possible 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. Addiction in pregnant women can lead to premature, stillborn, or addicted infants who experience severe withdrawal symptoms.

### **3.0.6 Amphetamines/Other Stimulants**

Amphetamines (speed, uppers), methamphetamines, and other stimulants can cause increased heart and respiratory rates, elevated blood pressure, dilated pupils, and decreased appetite. In addition, users may experience sweating, headache, blurred vision, dizziness, sleeplessness, and anxiety. Extremely high doses can cause a rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, loss of

coordination, and even physical collapse. An amphetamine injection creates a sudden increase in blood pressure that can result in stroke, very high fever, or heart failure. In addition to the physical effects, users report feeling restless, anxious, and moody. Higher doses intensify the effects. Persons who use large amounts of amphetamines over a long period of time can develop an amphetamine psychosis that includes hallucinations, delusions and paranoia.

### **3.0.7 Barbiturates and Other Depressants**

Barbiturates (downers), methaqualone (quaaludes), tranquilizers (Valium), and other depressants have many of the same effects as alcohol. Small amounts can produce calmness and relaxed muscles, but somewhat larger doses can cause slurred speech, staggering, and altered perception. Very large doses can cause respiratory depressants, coma, and death. The combination of depressants and alcohol can multiply the effects of the drugs, thereby multiplying the risks. The use of depressants can cause both physical and psychological dependence. Regular use over time may result in a tolerance to the drug, leading the user to increase the quantity consumed. When regular users suddenly stop taking large doses, they may develop withdrawal symptoms ranging from restlessness, insomnia, and anxiety, to convulsions and death. Babies born to mothers who abuse depressants during pregnancy may be physically dependent on the drugs and show withdrawal symptoms shortly after they are born. Birth defects and behavioral problems may also result.

### **3.0.8 Hallucinogens**

Phencyclidine (PCP, Angel Dust) interrupts the functions of the part of the brain that controls the intellect and instincts. Because the drug blocks pain receptors, violent PCP episodes may result in self-inflicted injuries. The effects of PCP are predictable and can vary, but users frequently report a sense of distance and estrangement, and body movement is slowed down. Muscular coordination worsens and senses are dulled. Speech is blocked and incoherent. Chronic users of PCP report persistent memory problems and speech difficulties. Mood disorders also occur. In later stages of chronic use, users often exhibit paranoid and violent behavior and experience hallucinations. Large doses may produce convulsions and coma, as well as heart and lung failure. Lysergic acid (LSD, Acid), mescaline, and psilocybin (mushrooms) cause illusions and hallucinations. The physical effects may include dilated pupils, elevated body temperature, increased heart rate and blood pressure, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, and tremors. Sensations and feelings may change rapidly. It is common to have a bad psychological reaction to LSD, mescaline, and psilocybin. The user may experience panic, confusion, suspicion, anxiety, and loss of control. Delayed effects or flashbacks can occur even after use has ceased.

### **3.0.9 Designer Drugs**

"Designer Drugs" are produced by underground chemists who attempt to avoid legal definitions of controlled substances by altering their molecular structure. These drugs can be several hundred times stronger than the drugs they are designed to imitate. Some designer drugs have been known to cause permanent brain damage with a single dose. Many so-called designer drugs are related to amphetamines and 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 those in Parkinson's disease: uncontrollable tremors, drooling, impaired speech, paralysis, and irreversible brain damage.

### **3.0.10 Inhalants**

The immediate negative effects of inhalants (laughing gas, whippets) include nausea, sneezing, coughing, nosebleeds, fatigue, lack of coordination, and loss of appetite. Solvent and aerosol sprays also decrease the heart and respiratory rates and impair judgment. Amyl and butyl nitrite cause rapid pulse, headaches, and involuntary passing of urine and feces. Long-term use may result in hepatitis or brain damage.

Deeply inhaling the vapors, or using large amounts over a short time, may result in disorientation, violent behavior, unconsciousness, or death. High concentrations of inhalants can cause suffocation by displacing the oxygen in the lungs, or by depressing the central nervous system to the point that breathing stops. Long-term use can cause weight loss, fatigue, electrolyte imbalance, and muscle fatigue. Repeated sniffing of concentrated vapors over time can damage the nervous system permanently.

### **3.0.11 Anabolic Steroids**

Steroid users subject themselves to more than 70 side effects ranging in severity from liver cancer to acne and including psychological as well as physical reactions. The liver, cardiovascular and reproductive systems are affected most seriously by steroid use. In males, use can cause withered testicles, sterility, and impotence. In females, irreversible masculine traits can develop along with breast reduction and sterility. Physical effects in both sexes include jaundice, purple or red spots on the body, swelling of the feet or lower legs, trembling, unexplained darkening of the skin, and persistent unpleasant breath odor. Psychological effects in both sexes include very aggressive behavior known as "*roid rage*" and depression. While some side effects appear quickly, others, such as heart attacks and strokes, may not show up for years.

## **4.0 COUNSELLING SERVICES**

The ***Clark Atlanta University Counseling and Disability Services Center (CADS)*** provide confidential, professional assessment, behavioral mental health, psycho-education and referral services to CAU students. These services are rendered by licensed mental health professionals at no cost to CAU students in an effort to resolve personal problems and concerns, as well as to enhance overall psychological and interpersonal well-being. The ***CADS*** provides both short-term and long-term counseling services for any presenting problem area. No problem is too big or too small for the services of the ***CADS***. In some cases, it may be necessary to refer students to external resources to augment the counseling received at the ***CADS*** (for example, referrals for acute treatment or hospitalization, or support groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous). When referrals are made, the ***CADS*** professional staff will coordinate the referral and conduct ongoing case management. The ***CADS*** staff members encourage students to contact ***CADS*** before an issue becomes impairment and before a concern becomes a crisis. The staff will answer questions and respond to any inquiries to assist with problem resolution and lifestyle enhancement.

For CAU employees, including faculty, staff, administration, the University provides the **Employee Assistance Program (EAP)** for counseling related to substance abuse and/or other personal

issues. The **EAP** is a free confidential service to help address the personal issues CAU employees or their dependents are facing. This service, staffed by experienced clinicians, is available by calling a toll free phone line available 24 hours a day, seven days a week or by contacting the service through the contact information below. A Guidance Coordinator will refer the CAU employee or dependent to a local counselor for up to five face-to-face counseling sessions per problem, at no per session charge, or to other resources in the community. CAU employees or their dependents may call any time with personal concerns, including:

- > Relationships > Job pressures
- > Problems with children > Marital conflicts
- > Substance abuse > Grief and loss
- > Stress, anxiety or depression > Empty-nesting

Further information may be found through CAU's web site at:  
[http://www.cau.edu/gen\\_info/hr/GuidResOverview.pdf](http://www.cau.edu/gen_info/hr/GuidResOverview.pdf)

Call any time toll-free: 877.327.4753  
TDD: 800.697.0353  
or Online: [guidanceresources.com](http://guidanceresources.com)  
Enter ID: ZB3042Q

#### **4.0.1 Education and Prevention**

The **Clark Atlanta University Counseling and Disability Services Center (CADS)** uses a multi-level prevention model to educate and remediate students in the area of alcohol and substance use, abuse and dependence.

#### **4.0.2 Primary Prevention**

The CADS Center seeks to increase students' knowledge and awareness about the effects of alcohol and drug (A&D) use through a myriad of educational programs, which begins in freshman orientation with the **CAU Experience**. During the CAU Experience, all incoming students participate in a healthy lifestyles workshop where they are exposed to information pertaining to alcohol and drug use, abuse and dependence. An alcohol and drug awareness program is also offered during the fall semester (in either late September or early October) as a part of Red Ribbon month. In addition, the Center provides A&D programs upon request in the residence halls and with any organization on campus. The Center additionally disseminates educational material about the effects of alcohol and drug use & abuse at all of its programs and in its office at all times.

#### **4.0.3 Secondary Prevention**

The CADS licensed mental health professionals encourage students to seek counseling when they first experience any challenges with alcohol and/or drug use (i.e., before an issue becomes impairment). Following an initial comprehensive assessment, the student will be involved in an individualized treatment plan to address issues related to alcohol and/or substance use or abuse. At this stage of intervention, students generally self-refer for services. Counseling services rendered by the CADS are strictly confidential.

Revised April 4, 2017

#### **4.0.4 Tertiary Prevention**

There are occasions when CAU students encounter significant difficulties with alcohol and/or other drugs and are referred to the Counseling & Disability Services Center (such as by Judicial Affairs, Residence Life, metropolitan court systems, etc.) for an assessment and remediation, if treatment can be effectively and appropriately rendered by the CADS. Following a comprehensive assessment, these students are strongly encouraged to participate in an individualized treatment program designed to address their presenting problems. An external referral occurs in pronounced cases of alcohol and/or drug dependence.

### **5.0 CONTACT INFORMATION FOR COUNSELLING SERVICES**

**For CAU Students:**

**Clark Atlanta University Counseling and Disability Services Center (CADS)  
223 James P. Brawley Drive, S.W.  
242 Bishop Cornelius Henderson Student Center  
and  
210 Kresge Hall  
Atlanta, Georgia 30314  
(404) 880-8044**

**For CAU employees (including faculty, staff, administration):**

**Call any time toll-free: 877.327.4753  
TDD: 800.697.0353  
or Online: [guidanceresources.com](http://guidanceresources.com)  
Enter ID: ZB3042Q**