

University of Mary Washington

Annual Notification Concerning Alcohol and Drugs – updated February 2022

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (as amended by the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1994) requires any institute of higher education receiving federal financial aid, such as the University of Mary Washington, to adopt and implement a program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The Department of Education's regulations at 34 C.F.R. Part 86 implement this provision, requiring that colleges and universities must distribute certain drug and alcohol prevention information to students and employees every year. This document is intended to meet that requirement.

(1) Standards of conduct related to alcohol and drugs:

A) Students: Standards of conduct for students can be found in the University's [Code of Conduct](#) – specifically, sections I.A.1, II.A.1, and III.A.1-4 (alcohol); and I.B.1-3, II.B.1-2, and III.B.1 (drugs).

i) Standards of conduct specifically related to students participating in the Department of Athletics's intercollegiate programs can be found in the [Student-Athlete Handbook](#).

B) Faculty and Staff: Standards of conduct for employees can be found in the [Alcohol and Drug Related Behavior Policy](#).

C) State laws: Virginia's laws related to alcohol and cannabis are described in the [Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Control Act](#). Virginia's laws related to illegal drugs are described [here](#).

D) Local ordinances: The City of Fredericksburg prohibits public intoxication resulting from alcohol, narcotic drug, or other intoxicant or drug of whatever nature. (Chapter 54-17 in the [Code of Ordinances](#).)

(2) Legal Sanctions:

Federal and State Penalties: Under the federal [Controlled Substances Act](#) and the [Virginia Drug Control Act](#), the law penalizes individuals for unlawful manufacturing, distribution, use, and possession of controlled substances. The penalties vary based on the type of drug involved, possession and intent to distribute. Federal law sets penalties for first offenses ranging from one year to life imprisonment and/or \$100,000 to \$4 million fines. Convictions under state law may be misdemeanor or felony crimes with sanctions ranging from six months to life imprisonment and/or \$250 to \$100,000 fines.

Local ordinances: Individuals found in violation of the ordinance prohibiting public intoxication shall be deemed guilty of a [Class 4 misdemeanor](#).

(3) Health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol:

Information on health risks associated with the misuse of alcohol has been provided by the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#). The [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism](#) is a resource on the subject of alcohol use by college students.

Information on health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs has been provided by the [National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\)](#).

Additional information concerning health risks associated with the use of alcohol is available from UMW's [Student Health Center](#) (Lee Hall), the [Talley Center for Counseling Services](#) (Lee Hall), and from the [Office of Student Conduct and Responsibility \(OSCAR](#) -- Marye House).

(4) Drug and alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation and re-entry programs:

(A) Students: The [Talley Center for Counseling Services \(TCCS\)](#) offers free counseling to enrolled undergraduate students. Both individual and group counseling services are available. TCCS will refer to off-campus providers that specialize in drug and/or alcohol use issues if it is determined that a student is in need of specialized treatments, such as detoxification, psychiatric care, or a specialized substance abuse treatment facility. TCCS can provide brief counseling to students who may be abusing substances, but the clinician reserves the right to refer to the student to another provider off campus if he or she determines that the level of care is higher than what TCCS is able to offer the student.

Additionally, weekly on-campus meetings and weekly support groups are available for students in recovery, or exploring the idea of recovery. For more information about these, and other resources available through our "Eagles in Recovery" program, please contact Associate Director of Residence Life Hunter Rauscher at 540/654-1058 or jrausche@umw.edu.

(B) Faculty and staff: All health plans offered to UMW employees and their dependents have [employee assistance programs](#) (EAPs). Included are up to four sessions at no charge for alcohol or drug abuse assessment. Employees have access to a specialist who will assess the issue and coordinate assistance. Should substance abuse care be needed, employees will be referred to a provider, under the mental health and substance abuse benefit.

Additionally, weekly on-campus Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous (AA/NA) meetings and weekly recovery support groups are available. For more information, contact Associate Director of Residence Life Hunter Rauscher at 540/654-1058 or jrausche@umw.edu.

(5) Disciplinary Sanctions:

UMW enforces its policies related to drugs and alcohol. Students and staff members found in violation of these policies will be sanctioned.

A) Students: Possible [sanctions](#) for violating UMW's alcohol and drug policies online substance education, educational papers, community restitution, disciplinary probation, and suspension or expulsion from the residence halls or the university.

i) Sanctions for students who violate the Department of Athletics's alcohol and drug policies can be found in the [Student-Athlete Handbook](#).

B) Faculty and Staff: As described in the [Alcohol and Drug Related Behavior Policy](#), any employee who commits any violation, as described shall be subject to the full range of disciplinary actions, including discharge, pursuant to applicable state and university disciplinary policies.