

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE

Policy and Information for Employees and Students South Carolina Technical College System



It is the policy of the South Carolina Technical College System to provide a drug free, healthful, safe and secure work and educational environment. Employees and students are required and expected to report to their work, class, or student activities in appropriate mental and physical condition to meet the requirements and expectations of their respective roles.

The South Carolina Technical College System prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of narcotics, drugs, other controlled substances and the use of alcohol at the workplace and in the educational setting. Unlawful for these purposes means in violation of federal/state/local regulations, policy, procedures, rules, as well as legal statutes. For purposes of this policy, workplace means either on agency premises or while conducting agency or college business away from the agency or college premises. Educational setting includes both institutional premises or in approved educational sites off campus.

In order to prevent the consequences of alcohol and other drug abuse at the workplace and in the educational setting, the South Carolina Technical College System has implemented this policy to ensure a drug-free work and educational environment.

The South Carolina Technical College System recognizes that chemical dependency through use of controlled or uncontrolled substances, including alcohol, is a treatable illness. The agency supports and recommends employee and student rehabilitation and assistance programs and encourages employees and students to use such programs.

All locations will also implement drug-free awareness programs for employees and students. Such programs will annually ensure that employees and students are aware that:

1. Alcohol and other drug abuse at the workplace and in the educational setting is dangerous because it leads to physical impairment, loss of judgement, safety violations and the risk of injury, poor health, or even death. Health risks and effects of controlled substances and alcohol will be provided to students and employees.
2. Alcohol and other drug abuse can also significantly lower performance on the job and in the classroom, thus impacting on the agency and the college mission as well as seriously affect the student's educational and career goals.
3. Employees must report any personal conviction under a criminal drug statute, for conduct at the workplace, to their human resource officer within five days. Management must report to granting agencies, any employee conviction for conduct in the work place within ten days of receiving notice.
4. It is a condition of employment and admission that all employees and students must abide by the policy on alcohol and other drug use as well as related procedures/statements/laws/guidelines. Violation of any provisions may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion respectively, and may have further legal consequences consistent with federal and state laws and regulations. Additionally, management may require an employee or student to enter an employee/student assistance or drug rehabilitation program as a condition of continued employment or enrollment.
5. Use of employee assistance programs (EAP), student assistance programs (SAP), or drug/alcohol rehabilitation services is encouraged.

Chief Executive

Date