

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER EL PASO
Student, Faculty, Resident and Staff Guidelines Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

PURPOSE

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, as amended, require that students, faculty and staff be aware of the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center El Paso (TTUHSCEP) program designed to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

All students, faculty, residents, and staff of TTUHSCEP are prohibited from the unlawful possession, use or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs on any institutional property or at any of its activities.

APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LEGAL SANCTIONS Federal Sanctions

These sanctions are based on federal requirements in 21 U.S.C. §§841, 844, 844a & 859. Federal regulations prohibit possession and distribution of alcohol and illegal drugs and provide for penalties of imprisonment and fines. Specific language of the regulations can be obtained from the Human Resources Office, the GME Office, or the Office of HSC Student Services during office hours.

Texas Sanctions

Texas sanctions include those referenced in Health and Safety Code, §§481.115-122; 481.125; 481.129. Sanctions for illegal use or possession of alcohol are found in the Texas Alcohol Beverage Code, §§106.06 and 106.07, and the Texas Penal Code, Chapter 49. Furthermore, the abuse of a controlled substance or alcohol which results in impaired behavior can result in charges of:

1. Driving while intoxicated;
2. Public intoxication; and/or
3. Disorderly conduct.

Local Sanctions

City of El Paso Municipal Code 10.12.050, makes it illegal to consume or possess in a public place an alcoholic beverage at any time. This does not apply to a private club.

PENALTIES

Federal, state and local penalties range from fines to life imprisonment. Specific references may be found in the Human Resources Office, the GME Office, or the Office of Student Services.

Regents' Rules, Section 03.02 provide that actions such as those described above are in breach of trust with the university community. These include the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance, or any substance in the possession or distribution of which is regulated by Federal or Texas law, except where the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use are in accordance with the laws of federal, state or local entities.

The student handbooks governing student conduct in the Health Sciences Center El Paso outline the policy, expectations, disciplinary procedures and sanctions for students in violation of the above provision.

In summary, TTUHSCEP will impose penalties for violations of the standards of conduct which may include dismissal or termination of employment and referral for prosecution. **HEALTH RISKS**

ASSOCIATED WITH DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

Every drug is a potential poison with distinct medical hazards. When drugs are incorrectly taken into the body, consumed in the incorrect amount, or taken in combination with other substances, the user is at serious risk.

Approximately 60% of all deaths related to drug abuse are caused by the direct overdose narcotic effect of the drug. This could be an overdose of alcohol, cocaine, prescription drugs, or, far more commonly, a combination of alcohol and other drugs. Another 10% of deaths caused by drug abuse are the result of infections, including AIDS, from using contaminated needles and other drug paraphernalia. The other 30% of deaths caused by drug abuse are brought about by violence associated with this nationwide epidemic.

Further information on health risks can be found in the TTUHSCEP Family and Community Medicine Clinic.

ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS Student Counseling Services

TTUHSCEP supports the availability of various programs to assist students, faculty and employees in order to maintain a drug-free workplace. A Student Counseling Services provides services designed to educate TTUHSCEP students regarding the hazards of substance abuse. Students may access the program by contacting the Student Assistance Program at 915-215-5850. Information on additional assistance programs may be obtained from the Office of HSC Student Services, www.ttuhsce.edu/student-services.

Staff/Resident/Faculty Assistance

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a service of TTUHSC to provide confidential assistance to faculty, residents, employees and dependents who experience a variety of personal problems which affect job performance, including alcohol or substance abuse problems. An individual may access the program by:

- contacting EAP at 915-215-5865 or 915-215-5861
- visiting EAP located in the Department of Psychiatry at TTUHSCEP, and identifying oneself as a TTUHSCEP faculty/staff or family member.

National Hotline Numbers

1-800-622-4357 - National Helpline Substance Abuse and Mental Health,
<https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help>

1-800-NCA-CALL - National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence,
<https://ncadd.us/>