

University Policies

Policies on Alcohol and Other Drugs

Alcohol Use Policy

The goal of the Alcohol Use Policy at University of the Sciences is to foster alcohol awareness and responsible drinking practices and to promote the health and safety of the faculty, staff, and students. With the growing problems of alcohol and drug abuse in our society, the University seeks to encourage a campus social life that does not emphasize the role of alcoholic beverages in either private or group activities. This policy allows those of legal age an opportunity to develop responsible behaviors for the use of alcohol.

1. The possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the University campus and at University-related events off campus are regulated by the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. These laws make it unlawful for persons under 21 to purchase, attempt to purchase, consume, possess, or transport any alcoholic beverages. It is also unlawful to serve, sell, or furnish alcoholic beverages to persons under 21.
2. Any University-related organization or student(s) holding a function on or off campus will be subject to the following guidelines:
 - a. If alcohol is to be served, the host's supervisor or advisor must be notified in writing in advance of the event. At this time, a process to screen minors must be described, and an individual must be designated to be responsible for compliance with the policy.
 - b. If alcohol is to be served and underage persons may be present, a process must be in place to screen minors. During the social function while alcoholic beverages are available, the advisor, the sponsor, or the designee must be in attendance and must observe the area where alcoholic beverages are served and prohibit underage persons from obtaining alcoholic beverages.
 - c. If alcohol is to be served, food and nonalcoholic beverages must also be available in a prominent place and in adequate amounts. Alcoholic beverages must be clearly labeled as such.
 - d. Visibly intoxicated persons must not be served alcohol.
 - e. Advertising to members of the University campus for any social functions or campus events must not refer to the availability of alcoholic beverages, either specifically or in code. "Advertising" defined here includes flyers and posters as well as online community announcements.
 - f. No student government funds may be used to purchase or supply alcohol.
3. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited at all times in the residence halls. Violations will be subject to student conduct procedures as outlined in the Residence Hall Handbook.
4. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in public areas of the campus, except under special circumstances with approval of the President.

5. Violations of this policy may be adjudicated through the Student Conduct Process.

Drug-Free Environment Policy

Recognizing the wide variety of health risks associated with the use of alcohol and other drugs, the University is committed to maintaining a drug-free environment for its employees and students. Because of our special responsibility as an educator in health sciences, we have implemented a campus-wide program to increase awareness concerning alcohol and substance abuse. The Alcohol Use Policy provides information on the regulated, legal use of alcohol for University organizations. The Substance Abuse Policy provides information on available counseling, rehabilitation, and assistance programs for those experiencing problems with alcohol or other drugs.

The University prohibits the unlawful manufacturing, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance on the University campus. Controlled substances may be appropriately used in a supervised classroom or research setting. Federal law requires compliance with this policy to maintain a person's status with the University. The law also requires that the institution be notified of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace and/or a University-sponsored clerkship or traineeship site. Students must notify the Dean of Students and their college dean within five days of any such conviction.

Anyone so convicted must participate satisfactorily in an approved drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program to resume his or her status with the institution. The University's Student Conduct Policy and Substance Abuse Policy outline additional information and requirements for disclosure and continued enrollment or employment.

In addition to any legal sanctions imposed in conjunction with the unlawful use of alcohol or controlled substances, violations of this policy will also be subject to appropriate internal action whether remedial, rehabilitative, and/or disciplinary. If the offender is an employee, the appropriate action will be determined by the Supervisor and the Director of Human Resources. If the offender is a student, the case will be referred to the Student Conduct Committee for resolution.

Drug Screen Policy

Students who are required to participate in experiential education as part of their academic program may be required to complete a drug screen and provide documentation of a negative drug screen as a condition of participation in experiential learning. Students must sign a release to have this information reported to the assigned experiential learning site and the University. The type of drug screen required may vary dependent upon each experiential site; therefore students should coordinate with their respective college's experiential learning coordinator for more detailed information.

Students who have a positive drug screen or fail to comply with this policy may not be able to complete their experiential learning assignment. Students who test positive for drugs or fail to comply with this policy are responsible for any additional costs or delays in their experiential education that may result; this may include delayed progression in their program, a delay in graduation, and/or the inability to successfully complete their program. Any student who has a positive drug screen will be referred to the University [Substance Abuse Policy](#) (see p. 12).

Safe and Drug-Free School Act Policy

The University complies with the Safe and Drug-Free School Act (formerly known as the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989).

Each year, the University distributes a pamphlet to all incoming students describing:

- Standards of conduct and sanctions for violations involving controlled substances and alcohol use
- Selected local, state, and federal regulations
- Available rehabilitation and counseling programs
- Health risks of drug and alcohol use

This pamphlet is mailed to students along with the Health Packet mailing from Student Health and Counseling.

Smoking Policy

The University is committed to providing a safe and healthy working and learning environment for the students, faculty, and staff on its campus. This policy outlines the prohibition of all tobacco products on all campus property, in owned or leased and operated buildings, recreation areas, and outdoors, as well as, the enforcement procedures.

1. Consistent with a tobacco-free University and in support of Philadelphia law number 050063-A, the sale and use of all tobacco products is prohibited on campus property, indoors and outdoors.
2. The University prohibits the smoking or carrying of lighted tobacco products in all indoor facilities, including interior connections to buildings, covered walkways, all building stairwells, hallways, fire escapes, parking structures, University owned vehicles, indoor or outdoor athletic events, and during all University-sponsored indoor or outdoor events.
3. The use of all tobacco products is prohibited on University property owned or leased, in operated buildings, recreation areas, and outdoors. Individuals who use tobacco and travel off-campus are encouraged to be a Good Neighbor and must maintain a distance of at least 20 feet from any building entrance or window as indicated by Philadelphia law.
4. Community members will hold each other accountable for compliance with the policy and will share the responsibility for adhering to and enforcing the policy. Concerns should be brought to the attention of the individuals responsible for the university facility or area in question, appropriate supervisor, or other University officials. Additionally Public Safety personnel patrolling the campus will instruct individuals to adhere to the tobacco-free policy and respond to any complaints regarding the policy. Individuals who refuse to cooperate with the Public Safety Officer's directive will be asked to provide their names and show identification. The Public Safety Officer will file a report and issue fines as may be defined by the Cabinet or designee. If the individual is an employee or student at USciences, a copy will be forwarded to Human Resources or to the Student Conduct Office, whichever is appropriate.

- a. Students who are in violation of the tobacco-free policy may be referred to the Student Conduct Office. Students documented for a violation will go through the student conduct process (see p. #49).

For additional information and resources, please visit: <http://www.usciences.edu/tobacco-free/>.

Substance Abuse Policy

This policy reflects the institution's concern about any member of the University family who may be experiencing a problem with alcohol and/or drug abuse (referred to hereafter as substance abuse). The aim of the policy is to encourage and support the recovery of all impaired members of the University community. The Substance Abuse Policy is initiated by the college dean in conjunction with the Dean of Students. The Dean of Students will assist the student in obtaining an evaluation from an independent clinical expert and coordinating any recommended aftercare program. The Dean of Students receives the evaluation as well as recommendations for treatment and aftercare services for policy participants and coordinates the treatment component of the policy. Clinical decisions regarding the diagnosis and treatment are made by external experts. Questions concerning the Substance Abuse Policy should be directed to the Dean of Students at 215.596.8950.

1. The University recognizes that dependence upon any psychoactive substance is a debilitating condition that requires medical, psychological, and social assistance.
2. The University is committed to a comprehensive educational program to prevent substance abuse among its students and staff.
3. The University encourages the treatment and recovery of any person who seeks assistance or who has been identified as having substance abuse problems by his or her college dean or the Dean of Students. Assistance and referrals for treatment will be provided through the Dean of Students. The cost for any external evaluation and any related fees are the responsibility of the student.
4. The University will not perform random testing for drugs; however, drug screens may be required as a condition of participation in experiential education.
5. All matters relating to substance abuse and subsequent treatment will be confidential.
6. The University will support the continued enrollment or employment of any impaired person provided he or she agrees to undergo evaluation and, when necessary, treatment for a substance abuse problem. In the event treatment is recommended, the impaired person will:
 - a. Enter a treatment program without delay
 - b. Complete the treatment program
 - c. Participate in an aftercare regimen

*Students enrolled in the Doctor of Pharmacy Program are required to enroll and actively participate in the Secundum Artem Reaching Pharmacists with Help (SARPH) program. SARPH is supported

by the Pennsylvania State Board of Pharmacy and is designed to support the recovery of impaired

pharmacy students and pharmacists through interaction with peers and random drug monitoring. The duration of enrollment in the SARPH program will be for the duration of the student's enrollment in the PharmD program or three years, whichever is longer. When applicable, students progressing into the profession after graduation, but who have not completed a minimum of three years in the SARPH program, will continue to be enrolled in the program, under its contract, until they have successfully completed the minimum three-year monitoring requirement.

7. The University will not support continued enrollment or employment of anyone found guilty through conduct action or legal prosecution of:
 - a. Illegal possession of controlled substances with intent to divert or distribute
 - b. Stealing controlled substances

8. All decisions regarding individual treatment and aftercare will:
 - a. Be made by an outside independent organization in consultation with the substance abuser
 - b. Be in accordance with the person's ability to participate successfully in these programs

9. The facility that will provide an evaluation and treatment plan must be approved by the University.

The University reserves the right to dismiss a student who fails to comply with the terms of the Substance Abuse Policy. In such matters, the decision for dismissal will be referred to the college dean by the Dean of Students.

Campus Weapons Policy

The health, safety, and welfare of students, faculty, and staff are of the utmost importance to the University. The presence of weapons poses a direct and substantial threat to the safety of our faculty, students, employees, and visitors to our campus. All students (except for those on the University rifle team during practices and competitions), former students, faculty, employees (except for University Public Safety Officers and law enforcement officers acting within the scope and course of their employment), former employees, customers, vendors, and visitors are prohibited from possessing, carrying, or storing weapons on their person, on University premises, and in any vehicle on campus without specific authorization from the Director of Public Safety.

For purposes of this policy, the term "weapons" includes any device, instrument, material, or substance that under any circumstances is readily capable of causing death or injury. Weapons include, but are not limited to, rifles, shotguns, handguns, pellet or BB guns, starter pistols, dangerous knives, sling-shots,