

University of Maryland Baltimore County Substance Abuse Policy Notification

Substance abuse continues to be a major problem on our nation's campuses and in society as a whole. As an institution of higher learning, UMBC seeks to promote the intellectual, social, cultural, and physical well being of all of its students, faculty and staff. The abuse of controlled substances and alcohol poses substantial risks to the well being and judgment of all members of the community. In addition, such abuse threatens the stability of the campus community. It is the purpose of this notification to inform students, faculty and staff about standards of conduct, counseling and educational services, and the health risks associated with substance abuse.

UMBC Substance Abuse policy is multifaceted and designed to:

- foster a safe and healthy campus environment in which students, faculty, and staff can live, work, and study free of the consequences associated with substances abuse;
- inform members of the UMBC community about:
 - the health risk associated with substances abuse;
 - resources available to educate students, faculty, and staff about alcohol and controlled substances;
 - confidential resources available to help those with special needs related to substances abuse;
 - local, state, and federal laws regarding the purchase and consumption of alcohol and the possession, use and distribution of controlled substances;
 - institutional standards regarding the use and abuse of alcohol and controlled substances;
- and,
- comply with state and federal requirements regarding alcohol and other drugs in the work place on campus.

I. Standards of Conduct

A. Controlled Substances

UMBC is strongly committed to an academic environment that supports the health, safety, and well being of all persons. UMBC strongly encourages the use of drug rehabilitation programs as an effective measure in creating a drug-free workplace program. Any behavior which jeopardizes this healthy academic environment shall be subject to severe sanctions. To that end, the possession, use, or distribution of controlled dangerous substances shall be viewed as extremely serious. Violations of this kind shall subject a student to the most serious sanctions, which may include suspension or expulsion from the University. UMBC Code of Student Conduct, Article II. G.

Consistent with the Governor's Executive Order 01.01.1991.16 (<http://www.ded.state.md.us/comar/01/01.01.1991.16.htm>), any employee charged with any controlled dangerous substance offense must report a finding of guilty, an acceptance of a plea of nolo contendere, or a probation before judgment to the employee's appointing authority within 5 working days. Employees designated "sensitive" by UMBC are subject to penalties set forth by the Governor's Executive Order. Employees may be subject to penalties up to and including reprimand, suspension, mandatory counseling, mandatory participation in a drug rehabilitation program and/or dismissal. Appropriate university grievance procedures shall be used for each classification of employee.

The UMBC Code of Student Conduct makes the possession, use, distribution, sale, manufacture or processing of illegal or unprescribed narcotics, drugs, hallucinogenic, and controlled dangerous substances and drug paraphernalia a violation subject to University sanctions including suspension or expulsion. Violations of Federal, State and Local laws are also violations of the UMBC Code of Student Conduct.

Federal law states that it is unlawful knowingly or intentionally to possess any controlled substance, including marijuana, cocaine, and heroin, for any illegal purpose. Penalty for simple possession includes imprisonment of not more than one year and/or a fine of at least \$1000. If the substance is cocaine, or contains cocaine base, the penalty for simple possession is imprisonment from 5 to 20 years and/or a fine of at least \$1000. The penalties increase if the possession includes intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance. The maximum punishment is doubled if the distribution is to an individual under the age of 21. The maximum punishment and fine are

doubled if distribution or manufacturing takes place at a university. Additionally, any person who violates this law shall also be liable to the U.S. for an amount up to \$10,000 in civil penalties. (21 USCA, sections 841(1994), 844(1990), 844(a)(1990), 859(1990), 860(1994))

In addition to the federal laws, the State of Maryland has its own laws dealing with distribution, manufacturing, and possession of controlled dangerous substances. MD. Ann. Code Art. 27, section 286 (1994), states that any person who unlawfully manufactures or distributes a Schedule I or II narcotic drug may be fined up to \$25,000 and/or may be imprisoned for up to 20 years for a first offense.

B. Alcohol

The unauthorized possession, use or distribution of alcoholic beverages on or in University property is a violation of UMBC policy. University policy, consistent with State laws, confines on-campus use of alcoholic beverages by persons of legal age (21 years and older in the State of Maryland) to specified areas. The Code of Student Conduct prohibits underage consumption or possession of alcohol, misrepresentation of age to obtain alcoholic beverages, and the provision of alcohol to underage persons.

Consistent with the Governor's Executive Order 01.01.1991.16 (<http://www.ded.state.md.us/comar/01/01.01.1991.16.htm>), any employee charged with any alcohol driving offense must report a finding of guilty, an acceptance of a plea of nolo contendere, or a probation before judgement to the employee's appointing authority within 5 working days. Employees designated "sensitive" by UMBC are subject to penalties set forth by the Governor's Executive Order. The University enforces all state and federal laws or regulations that regulate and control the sale or use of alcohol.

It is illegal in the State of Maryland, MD. Ann. Code Art. 27, sections 400 to 403 (1994), for any person under 21 to falsify or misrepresent his or her age to obtain alcohol, or to possess alcoholic beverages with the intent to consume them. It is also illegal in most situations to furnish alcohol to a person under 21, or to obtain alcohol on behalf of a person under 21. The penalty is a fine of up to \$500 for a first offense, and up to \$1000 for repeat offenses.

MD. Ann. Code Article 2B, section 19-202(1989) and 19-204(1993) states that it is illegal in the State of Maryland to drink alcohol on any public property or shopping center, mall, or other retail establishment, with a penalty of a fine up to \$100. Section 19-101(1989) and 19-102(1993) states that it is illegal to be intoxicated and create a disturbance or endanger the safety or property of another person. The penalty is a fine of up to \$100 and/or imprisonment not exceeding 90 days.

It is also illegal in Baltimore County to consume and/or to possess alcohol in opened alcohol containers on any public property or highway, A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Baltimore County Code Article 17, Section 17-1-103)

II. Education

Campus-wide programming includes awareness weeks/ months/events such as National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week, AIDS Awareness, Luvapalooza (program about healthy relationships), Safe Spring Break Sendoff, Sexual Assault Awareness and Wellness. Much of this programming involves collaboration among several offices including University Police, University Counseling Services, Residential Life, Student Life, University Health Services, and the Women's Center.

Programs upon request are provided to a variety of student audiences (e.g., Greek organizations, classes, student groups, residential areas). Topics have included substance abuse and addiction and related topics such as safe sex, stress, management, and sexual assault.

AlcoholEdu is a prevention program designed to challenge students' expectations around alcohol while enabling students to make healthier and safer decisions. It is a requirement for prematriculation. Students take this course over the summer, and then again once they arrive on campus. The data collected demonstrates students' attitudes and behaviors, and any changes upon their arrival to campus. The State of Maryland's Employee Assistance Program is used for referrals to employees.

Informational resources include University Counseling Services' Self-Development Center, which includes videotapes, audiotapes and computer assisted materials focusing on substance abuse and addiction as well as other AOD related topics; University Counseling Services and University Health Services, both of which provide waiting room educational pamphlets and access to articles, papers and books on AOD related topics. These educational materials, as well as descriptions of campus AOD resources and services, are made available to all students at Welcome Week.

University Counseling Services offers professional assessment of substance use and abuse, individual counseling and psychotherapy, group counseling and psychotherapy, and assistance in locating AOD assessment and treatment resources in the community. All services are provided or supervised by licensed psychologists.

III. Counseling and Treatment Programs Off Campus

State of Maryland Alcohol & Drug Abuse

(410) 402-8600

www.maryland-adaa.org

This resource offers referrals to substance abuse treatment and counseling facilities throughout the state.

IV. Health Risks of Substance Abuse

Short-term effects of alcohol use include distorted vision, hearing and coordination, altered perceptions and emotions, impaired judgement, bad breath and hangovers. Long term effects include alcohol-related liver disease, heart disease and cancer. Alcohol abuse is a pattern of problem drinking that results in health consequences, social, problems, or both. However, alcohol dependence, or alcoholism, refers to a disease that is characterized by abnormal alcohol-seeking behavior that leads to impaired control over drinking.

U.S Department of Health and Human Services National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, <http://ncadistore.samhsa.gov/catalog/facts.aspx?topic=3&h=&m=effects>

Drug addiction is a brain disease. Although initial drug use might be voluntary, drugs of abuse have been shown to alter gene expression and brain circuitry, which in turn affect human behavior. Once addiction develops, these brain changes interfere with an individual's ability to make voluntary decisions, leading to compulsive drug craving, seeking and use. The impact of addiction can be far reaching. Cardiovascular disease, stroke, cancer, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, and lung disease can all be affected by drug abuse. Some of these effects occur when drugs are used at high doses or after prolonged use, however, some may occur after just one use.

*National Institutes Of Health, National Institute on Drug Abuse
<http://www.nida.nih.gov/consequences/>*

For further information concerning the Substance Abuse Policy as it applies to employees, call Human Resources at 410.455.2337. Questions concerning the policy, as it applies to students, should be directed to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs at 410.455.2393 or Student Judicial Programs at 410.455.2453.

This notification complies with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act.