

Becker College

2018 Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) – Annual Notification

INTRODUCTION

This report is distributed annually in compliance with The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act of 1989. Part 86, the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations, requires that, as a condition of receiving funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program, an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) must certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

Becker College, as an institution of higher learning, exists to enhance the mental, physical, and spiritual development of each and every member of its community. Substance abuse is at odds with the basic purposes of any learning environment. The College remains dedicated to the reduction and elimination of substance abuse within the College community.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

It is the policy of Becker College to strive to maintain a secure work environment that is free from the effects of students and employees under the influence of unlawful drugs or abuse of alcoholic beverages.

Worcester Ordinance on Alcoholic Beverages

No person shall drink any alcoholic beverages as defined in Chapter 138, Section 1 of the Massachusetts General Laws, nor shall have in his/her possession any open containers whose seal has been broken and recapped of such beverages, while on, in, or upon any public way or sidewalk, or upon any way to which the public have a right of access, or any place to which the members of the public have access as invitees or licensees, park or playground, or private land or place, without the consent of the owner or person in control thereof. The burden of proving such consent shall be on the defendant. All alcoholic beverages being used in violation of this ordinance shall be seized and safely held until final adjudication of the charge against the persons so arrested or summoned before the court, at which time they shall be disposed of as directed by the court. A police officer witnessing a violation of this ordinance shall have the right to arrest such person without a warrant and shall bring the person so arrested before the court within 24 hours, Sundays and holidays excepted. Town of Leicester By-Law on Alcoholic Beverages For the purpose of preserving peace and good order, no person shall have any intoxicating liquor in his/her possession in any park, dance hall, or other public place in this town, unless, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 138, a license or permit shall have been issued with

Employees

Alcoholic beverages may only be consumed by those persons over the age of 21. Employees are expected to comply with state law regarding the consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages and to exercise good judgment when using alcoholic beverages. Alcohol use or possession on College property is not permitted except at officially sanctioned College functions. It is illegal to manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use controlled substances on College property.

For more information on employee disciplinary sanctions for violation of University policy, please refer p.40 of the Becker College Employee Handbook. This handbook can be located on the Becker College

Employee Portal: <https://becker4.sharepoint.com/HR/SitePages/Home.aspx>

Students

The College's alcohol policy is guided by and abides by laws outlined by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Massachusetts municipalities where the College's campuses are located (City of Worcester and Town of Leicester). The acquisition, possession, transportation, consumption, and distribution of alcoholic beverages is governed by statute and regulation and is further governed by the College's policies in this Handbook. The College requires that its students abide by Massachusetts law and the increased standards of set forth in this Alcohol Policy Under Massachusetts law, a person must be 21 years of age or older to purchase, possess, serve, consume and transport alcoholic beverages. The sale, service to, consumption, use or possession of alcoholic beverages by any persons under the age of 21 years of age is prohibited.

For more information on the student code of conduct, please refer to "Offenses Involving Alcohol, Substances, Products and/or Drugs" on p.18 of the Student Handbook at <https://www.becker.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Becker-College-Student-Handbook-18-19-Final.pdf>

Student Athletes

Alcoholic beverages, drugs and tobacco are not part of the intercollegiate athletic environment. It is not the intention of the athletic department to deny the student-athlete individual rights, however, we do prescribe a social conscience consistent with the laws of this state and nation. All students to include student-athletes are expected to uphold and abide by the policies set forth in the Becker College Student Handbook.

Policies and Sanctions Regarding the Misuse of Alcohol

Becker College upholds local, state and federal laws which prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distributing of alcohol and is strictly prohibited on the property owned or leased by the college or at any college athletic activity on or off campus. Any student found unlawfully possessing, using or distribution alcohol is subject to immediate disciplinary or administrative action. See student handbook for college policies.

If an alcohol violation occurs at a practice, game, meeting or while traveling to an athletic contest:

- The student will be disqualified from any practice or game on that day of the offense.
- The student will be suspended for seven days from any athletic practices or competitions.
- Letter of reprimand from the Athletics Director.
- Any institutional penalties. See student handbook
- Further violations will lead to dismissal from the team.

Policies and Sanctions Regarding the Use of Illicit and Unlawful Drugs

Becker College upholds local, state and federal laws which prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of drugs and is strictly prohibited on the property owned or leased by the college or at any college activity. Any student found possessing, using or distribution illicit and/or unlawful drugs is subject to immediate disciplinary or administrative action. Ordinarily, a student found in violation of the college drug policy can expect to receive the sanction of suspension or dismissal from the college.

Policies and Sanctions Regarding the Use of Tobacco NCAA Bylaw 17.1.11

The Becker College athletic department and the NCAA prohibits the use of all tobacco products during practice and competition by all game personnel, coaches, trainers, managers, officials and student-athletes. Use is prohibited on the field of play, dugouts, bullpens, bench areas, college vehicles and the entire site used for practice or games including spectator seating and parking lots.

First Offense

- Disqualified from any practice or game on that day.
- Receive a letter of reprimand from the Athletics Director.

Second Offense

- Disqualified from any practice or game on that day in addition to a seven day suspension from all practices and games beginning the day of the infraction.
- Receive a letter from the Athletics Director informing him/her of the infraction and inform the student that one more infraction will result in dismissal from their team for the remainder of the season.
- Parents notified.

Third Offense

- Dismissal from team for the remainder of the season.
- Parents notified.

Drugs-All Sports

If the NCAA tests you for the banned drug classes listed in Bylaw 31.2.3.4 and you test positive (consistent with NCAA drug-testing protocol), you will be **ineligible** to participate in regular season and postseason competition for one calendar year after your positive drug test and you will be charged with the loss of a minimum of one season of participation in all sports.

A second positive test will result in the loss of lifetime eligibility. The penalty for missing a scheduled drug test is the same as the penalty for testing positive for the use of a banned drug. 18.4.1.5.1

Amnesty Policy

Becker College considers the safety and personal well-being of the student body a priority. The College recognizes that there may be alcohol or other drug-related medical or safety emergencies in which the potential for disciplinary action could act as a deterrent to students who want to seek assistance for themselves or others. The Call for Help policy is designed to enable dangerously intoxicated or impaired students, or their guests, to receive the professional medical treatment they need. When a student aids an intoxicated or impaired individual by contacting Campus Police or Residence Life staff, neither the intoxicated individual nor the individual reporting the emergency will be subject to disciplinary action. In rare circumstances, such as cases where other violations occur, students may be referred for disciplinary action. Examples include, but are not limited to fights, verbal or physical harassment, disorderly conduct, property damage, or vandalism. The Call for Help policy does not apply

to individuals experiencing an alcohol or drug related medical emergency who are found by College officials. Intoxicated or impaired students who are medically evaluated or hospitalized for alcohol or other drug use will be required to have a follow-up meeting with the Director of Residence Life and Student Conduct or designee. Parental notification will be reviewed during this meeting. The student will be required to complete an alcohol or drug education program and may also be referred to an outside program or counselor for substance abuse evaluation and/or appropriate treatment. Formal disciplinary action will be taken in instances when a student has a subsequent or repeat alcohol or drug related incident requiring medical assessment. The College strongly encourages students to seek help by reaching out to College officials when medical assistance may be necessary. This protocol is not intended to address possible violations of criminal laws or their consequences outside the College.

Summary of Legal Penalties Covering Drug Abuse

Massachusetts has criminal penalties for use of controlled substances, or drugs, with penalties varying with the type of drug. In general, narcotic, addictive, and drugs with a high potential for abuse have heavier penalties.

Possession of drugs is illegal without valid authorization. While penalties for possession are generally not as great as for manufacture and distribution of drugs, possession of a relatively large quantity may be considered distribution. Under both state and federal laws, penalties for possession, manufacture and distribution are much greater for second and subsequent convictions. Many laws dictate mandatory prison terms and the full minimum term must be served.

Massachusetts makes it illegal to be in a place where heroin is kept and to be in the company of a person known to possess heroin. Anyone in the presence of heroin at a private party or residence risks a serious drug conviction. Sale and possession of drug paraphernalia is illegal in Massachusetts.

Persons convicted of drug possession under state or federal law are ineligible for federal student grants and loans for up to one year after the first conviction, two years after the second; the penalty for distributing drugs is loss of benefits for two years after the first, indefinitely after the second.

Under federal law, distribution of drugs to persons under the age of 21 is punishable by twice the normal penalty with a mandatory one to three years in prison depending on the class of drugs; a third conviction is punishable by mandatory life imprisonment. These penalties apply to distribution of drugs within 1,000 feet of a college or school. Federal law sets greatly heightened prison sentences for manufacture and distribution of drugs if death or serious injury results from the use of the substance.

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

Federal law requires that annually, each institution of higher education must certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. In order to be able to certify its compliance with the regulations, institutions must adopt and implement a drug prevention program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by all students and employees both on school premises and as part of any of its activities.

Section 22 Drug-Free Schools and Campuses.

Section 22 of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989, entitled "Drug-Free Schools and Campuses," reads as follows:

(a) In General-

1. Certification of Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program - Title XII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end a new section 1213 to read as follows: "Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention" Sec. 1213. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no institution of higher education shall be eligible to receive funds or any other form of financial assistance under any Federal program, including participation in any federally funded or guaranteed student loan program, unless it certifies to the Secretary that it has adopted and has implemented a program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees that, at a minimum, includes

(1) The annual distribution to each student and employee of:

(A) Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities;

(B) A description of the applicable legal sanctions under local, State, or Federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;

(C) A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol;

(D) A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs that are available to employees or students; and

(E) a clear statement that the institution will impose sanctions on students and employees (consistent with local, State, and Federal law), and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct required by paragraph (1)(A); and

(2) A biennial review by the institution of its program to

(A) Determine its effectiveness and implement changes to the program if they are needed; and

(B) Ensure that the sanctions required by paragraph (1) (E) are consistently enforced.

Federal Laws

How Drug Convictions May Affect Federal Student Aid By law, some students who have drug-related convictions under any federal or state law may be ineligible for federal student aid. According to the law, if you are convicted of a drug-related offense during a period of enrollment for which you are receiving federal student aid, you may face these restrictions:

For possession of illegal drugs, you are ineligible for Federal student aid from the date of conviction (not arrest) for:

- 1 year for a first offense
- 2 years for a second offense
- Indefinitely for a third offense

For selling or conspiring to sell illegal drugs, you are ineligible for Federal student aid from the date of conviction

(not arrest) for:

- 2 years for a first offense
- Indefinitely for a second offense

If a student loses federal student aid eligibility due to a drug conviction, the College will provide written notice describing the ways in which the student can regain eligibility. For information about specific legal implications, please consult the U.S. Department of Education Federal Student Aid webpage

HEALTH RISKS

The social costs of drug and alcohol abuse are well known. Injuries, fatalities, violent crimes, arrests, and ruined relationships result from excessive drinking or drug abuse. These factors can have adverse physical and psychological effects. Alcoholism and drug addiction cause irreparable damage to vital organs, including the brain, and may cause severe emotional disorders that can destroy lives and future careers.

Alcohol: What is it?

Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant that slows down bodily functions. The body can break down approximately 1/2 ounce of pure alcohol per hour. This means that it will take the body one hour to detoxify a 12 ounce can of beer, or a five ounce glass of wine, or 1 1/2 ounces of 80 proof liquor. There is no quick way to sober up when excessive alcohol has been consumed. Contrary to popular belief the use of coffee, cold showers, amphetamines, or other stimulants will only produce an awake drunk.

Alcohol: What effects?

Alcohol affects all nine body systems. How fast alcohol acts on the brain depends on the rate of which it is absorbed into the blood stream from the stomach. Factors such as the amount of food (which slows the rate), how much and how quickly the alcohol is consumed, and the weight of the individual will influence the absorption rate. Using alcohol affects dream sleep (REM) by reducing the dreaming stages of sleep by 80%.

To make up loss of dream sleep, the following night the person will dream more and thus awaken less rested. Alcohol also will cause a chemically created anxiety approximately 72-96 hours after ingestion. This is called a "rebound" effect.

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is the third leading cause of birth defects. The incidence is approximately 1

in 750 live births.

Alcohol and Breast Cancer

According to the recent study done by Harvard Medical School and the National Cancer Institute, women who consume alcohol even in moderate amounts may be doubling their risk of developing breast cancer. It was found that a woman who consumes as little as three alcoholic drinks a week may increase her risk by 50 to 100 percent. (One drink is defined as 1 ounce of liquor, 4 ounces of wine or 12 ounces of beer.) Although researchers agree that the studies indicate a connection between alcohol intake and breast cancer, there is a disagreement about what risk, if any, exists for women who consume less than three drinks per week.

Alcohol: Effects on the body

Alcohol is a drug. It can be dangerous. It can be habit-forming. It can harm health. Here's what alcohol can do to the different parts of the body.

Brain: Alcohol may reduce the flow of oxygen to the brain. Fuzzy thinking, staggering, and confused speech can result. With increased amounts, alcohol can cause brain damage, unconsciousness, or death. Alcohol even in small amounts makes it difficult to get a good night's sleep.

Heart: Alcohol can increase the workload of the heart. Heavy use of alcohol over a period of years can damage the main heart muscle. Alcohol can also cause the heart to beat irregularly. An irregular heartbeat can lead to heart failure in some cases. Alcohol can raise blood pressure.

Liver: Alcohol abuse over a period of time can cause the liver to become swollen and tender. This can keep the heart from working properly and induce diseases that can kill. An alcohol-damaged liver can also reduce the production of substances that clot blood and help stop bleeding.

Stomach: Alcohol irritates the lining of the stomach and can cause vomiting. Repeated use can cause sores called ulcers. Alcohol can lead to cancer of the esophagus, the tube that takes food to the stomach.

MARIJUANA

Marijuana is much more potent today than it was ten years ago. The active ingredient in marijuana, THC, is present in levels 10 - 100 times greater than a decade ago. As a result, more and more users develop psychological and physiological addictions, along with suffering from the well-known side effects of marijuana: decreased concentration, memory loss (both short term and long term), sexual dysfunction, and respiratory problems.

COCAINE SIDE EFFECTS

The severe feelings of depression, irritability, social withdrawal, intense craving for more cocaine, muscle pain, eating disturbances, tremors, electroencephalographic (brain-wave recordings)

alterations, and changes in sleep patterns are typical effects associated with cocaine dependence and addiction.

CLUBDRUGS

Ketamine, MDMA or MOLLY (also known as Ecstasy), and GHB are three substances very popular in the drug scene. These substances are both illegal to possess or distribute, and harmful to the user. In the past two years, there has been a marked increase in hospitalizations for the misuse of these substances, and the number of deaths attributed to these drugs is increasing dramatically each year. GHB is a club drug that is also used as a date rape drug. Rapists will slip this colorless and odorless substance into victims' drinks at a bar or party, rendering them unconscious for several hours.

AOD PROGRAMS

Scooby Doo's and Scooby Don'ts

Students met with the RA's and discussed using the buddy system when going out on Halloween like the gang in Scooby doo. RA's talked to residents about the dangers of going out to parties and had the group come up with ways to be safe. The floor watched Scooby doo after.

Sex & Alcohol

Students received original flyers discussing the dangers of alcohol and the importance of consent. The RA went door-to-door to offer these materials and talk with residents about personal health and safety.

Thirsty Thursday

Residents gathered in the common area to play traditional "drinking games;" however, the RA served punch. When residents were not paying attention, the RA would take their cup away and record the time until the resident realized it was missing. The RA then led a conversation around party safety.

Mocktail Party

At the mocktail program and movies, students will get alcohol info and throughout the night if they put their drinks down the cup will be marked without them knowing. At the end of the night it will be revealed that the students marked could have been "roofied" for putting their drinks down had it been a house party.

AlcoholEdu

[AlcoholEdu](#) for College is a prevention program personalized to each student. This learning experience motivates behavioral change, resets unrealistic expectations about the effects of alcohol, links choices about drinking to academic and personal success, helps students practice safer decision making, and engages them to create a healthier campus community. First-year students are expected to complete part one (1.5–2.5 hours) of the program before arriving at Becker. After some time on campus, they are asked to finish part two (15 minutes), which concludes the program

STUDENTS

Resources On-Campus

Health Services Office: 774-354-0471

Counseling Services Worcester: 508-373-9544

Counseling Services Leicester: 774-354-0466

Resources Off-Campus

Alcohol Abuse and Drug Help Line: 1-800-622-7422

Alcoholics Anonymous: Worcester: 508-752-9000

Al-Anon: 508-366-0556

National Institute on Drug Abuse Hotline: 800-662-HELP

EMPLOYEES

Resources On-Campus

Human Resources Office: 508-373-9455

Resources Off-Campus

Alcohol Abuse and Drug Help Line: 1-800-622-7422
Alcoholics Anonymous: Providence, 508-752-9000

Al-Anon: 508-366-0556

National Institute on Drug Abuse Hotline: 800-

DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Students

Students who violate the Becker College code of conduct in regard to alcohol or other drugs may be subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions. Action may range from warning to expulsion, depending on the magnitude and specifics of the infraction. Several disciplinary actions are listed below.

For a complete list of all potential disciplinary actions, please refer to p.41 of the Student Handbook "Disciplinary Actions" at <https://www.becker.edu/student-life/campus-life/student-conduct/student-handbook/>.

- Warning – a warning (either verbal or written), is an official notice to the student that their behavior has violated the Student Code of Conduct. A letter of warning serves as notification to the student that further misconduct/violations may result in additional disciplinary action.
- Fine – a monetary fee/financial sanction imposed for specific infractions and/or cost associated with participation in a required program.
- Loss of Privileges – denial of specific privileges for a designated period of time.
- Parental Notification - notification of parents/guardians when a student has violated the College's alcohol or drug policy, when there is a serious health or safety issue regarding a student, or if a student's residency or student status is in jeopardy.
- Counseling/Health Services Referral – a referral to the Counseling Center or Health Services or another appropriate office for consultation or assessment. The number of counseling sessions in which the student participates is at the discretion of the student's counselor.
- Residence Hall Probation – a written reprimand for violation of the Student Code of Conduct. This sanction is for a defined period of time and includes the probability of more severe disciplinary sanctions if the student is found responsible for any additional violations during the probationary period.
- Residence Hall Suspension – separation of the student from their residence hall for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Reapplication for housing does not guarantee immediate placement. Conditions for returning to the residence halls may be specified.
- Residence Hall Dismissal – permanent separation of the student from the residence halls.
- Disciplinary Probation – a sanction indicating that a student's behavior has placed themselves on a disciplinary status that is close to suspension. It is imposed for a specific period of time. Any further violations while on College Probation may result in suspension from the College.

- Deferred Suspension – a warning that a student may be immediately separated from the University if found responsible for any further violations of the Student Code of Conduct during a specific period of time.
- Suspension – separation of the student from the College for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified.
- Expulsion - permanent separation of the student from the college.

Employees

The intent of this policy is to establish and maintain effective methods for providing assistance to members of the campus community who have impairments of varying natures due to drug and alcohol abuse and dependence and to provide a healthy, safe and productive work and educational environment at Becker College. In accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, Becker College has developed a drug and alcohol awareness program to inform students and employees about: (1) the policies of Becker College regarding maintenance of a drug and alcohol-free campus environment; (2) legal sanctions for unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol; (3) health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol; (4) available drug/alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation and/or student and employee assistance programs; and (5) penalties that may be imposed upon students and employees for drug/alcohol abuse violations.

Except as expressly permitted by this policy, the possession, transfer, sale or use of alcohol or substances of abuse (legal or illegal) is prohibited during work hours and at all times that an employee is on College premises, on College business or in a College vehicle. The condition of being under the influence of such substances is also prohibited. For purposes of this policy, substances of abuse include over-the-counter and/or prescribed medications not used as indicated or prescribed, illegal drugs, chemical substances not used for their intended purpose and any alcoholic beverages.

For more information on employee disciplinary sanctions for violation of University policy, please refer p.40 of the Becker College Employee Handbook. This handbook can be located on the Becker College Employee Portal: <https://becker4.sharepoint.com/HR/SitePages/Home.aspx>