



Woodruff Medical Training & Testing acknowledges that every student who enrolls does so with the goal of achieving training which will enable them to prepare for career enhancement. We are dedicated to assisting each student in reaching his or her goals. We recognize that each student deserves an equal opportunity to gain entry level skills and become a productive citizen of the community. As such, we believe that a drug free environment is integral to quality education. The U.S. Department of Education Drug Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, requires that the school distribute the following information annually to you in writing concerning the possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs at WMTT. The school's policies on substance abuse and alcoholic beverages are outlined below, along with related information on school sanctions for violation of these policies; on criminal sanctions for the illegal possession or distribution of drugs and alcohol; on health risks of drugs and alcohol; and on the availability of treatment for drug or alcohol problems. Please read this material carefully. There is much information here, some of it technical, and all of it is vitally important.

I. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT - The students, faculty, and staff of WMTT make up a community in which each individual should respect the rights, health, property and participation of others in the community. Each individual in the community has a responsibility to his/her fellow community members. Students are expected to follow all federal, state, and local laws as they apply to alcohol and drugs. The Financial Planning department is responsible for informing the students about this policy and by providing resources on education, prevention and treatment options.

It is prohibited to manufacture, distribute, sell, dispense, possess or use any controlled substance (except for the use or possession of drugs prescribed by a physician and in the original container) on campus or in any facility owned, leased, or otherwise controlled by American Professional Institute. This includes, but is not limited to, school related events and programs. Controlled substances means any drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in the definition of controlled substance in the Official Code of Georgia Section 16-13-21 (4) or Schedule I through V of Section 202 of the Federal Controlled Substance Act [21 United States Code 812].

Any and all types of drug paraphernalia including, but not limited to, bong, pipes, or any items modified or adapted so that they can be used to consume drugs, are not permitted on school property.

It is expected that WMTT students who use or possess alcoholic beverages will do so legally.

1. Students must be 21 years of age to consume alcohol or possess alcohol;
2. Alcohol is prohibited on campus;
3. It is unlawful to misrepresent your age to purchase or consume alcohol;
4. It is unlawful to modify or forge official documents to purchase alcohol or to do so for others;
5. Alcoholic beverages cannot be sold without a State license;
6. It is unlawful to provide alcohol to persons under the age of 21;
7. When using alcohol, it is prohibited to:
 - a. disturb the lives of others;
 - b. subject yourself or others to harm or injury;
 - c. destroy property;
 - d. disrupt the tranquility of the community;
8. School funds may not be used to purchase alcohol.



II. LEGAL SANCTIONS - The legal ramifications of misuse of alcohol and/or controlled substances (drugs) are serious and varied, depending on the circumstances involved. The penalties are determined by examining each individual case. A person can be arrested or cited for violations ranging from summary through felony offenses. WMTT students can be referred for prosecution for a violation of the law.

Under Georgia law a person never before convicted of possession of a small amount of controlled substance may be afforded the first offender treatment, resulting in no record of any conviction, if the defendant successfully completes a court-monitored comprehensive rehabilitative program. Possession of a controlled substance may result in incarceration for a period not less than 12 months and /or a minimum fine of \$1000. The penalty for violation of the “controlled substances” provision are numerous and they vary, depending on the drug schedule under which the substance is listed, whether the act charged includes trafficking, and how much of the substance is involved. Penalties range from 5 to 30 years and include life for a second conviction of trafficking narcotics.

Possession of an alcoholic beverage by any person under age 21 may result in confinement, not to exceed 30 days, or a fine of not more than \$300, or both. For more information on Georgia laws and penalties relating to alcoholic beverages and illegal drug use, see titles 3 and 16 of the Official Code of Georgia (<http://www.lexis-nexis.com/hottopics/gacode/default.asp>).

Under federal law, for a first offense, unlawful possession of a controlled substance (including marijuana) is punishable by a minimum fine of \$1,000 and up to one year imprisonment. 21 U.S.C. 844(a). Unlawful distribution of a controlled substance (including marijuana) may result in fines of between \$250,000 and \$8,000,000 and up to life imprisonment, depending on the circumstances and the quantity and type of controlled substance distributed, with greater penalties for subsequent offenses. For a more complete summary of federal laws and penalties for illegal drug use, see <http://www.usdoj.gov/dea/agency/penalties.htm>.

III. HEALTH RISKS - The misuse of alcohol and illegal use of controlled substances also creates health risks for the user.

Health Risks of Alcohol

Alcohol, a depressant, is absorbed into the bloodstream and transmitted to virtually all parts of the body. Even low doses of alcohol can significantly impair judgment and coordination, including the judgment required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also can increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts, including spouse and child abuse. Moderate to high doses of alcohol can cause marked impairments in higher mental functions severely altering a person’s ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses can cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol will provide the effects just described.

Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life-threatening. Long-term consumption of alcohol increases the risk of developing liver and heart disease, circulatory problems, peptic ulcers, various forms of cancer, and irreversible brain damage.

Mothers who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with fetal alcohol syndrome. These infants have irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics themselves.



Health Risks of Controlled Substances

The Department of Education has provided the attached chart, Health Risks of Controlled Substances, outlining health risks associated with cocaine, marijuana and other controlled substances (See list attached).

IV. COUNSELING, TREATMENT, and EDUCATION RESOURCES

WMTT recognizes that substance abuse is a complex problem that is not easily resolved. Students are encouraged with substance abuse problems are encouraged to take advantage of available diagnostic, referral, counseling and prevention services. However, students availing themselves of these services will not be exempt from API's academic and conduct standards. Any student who believes he/she is dependent on a controlled substance or alcohol may seek assistance through the **Campus Director's office**. Also, a list of prevention, treatment, and assistance resources available in the Decatur area is attached.

V. DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

Any student found to be in violation of federal, state, and/or local laws, or who violates WMTT's alcohol and drug policy is subject to disciplinary procedures and/or can be referred to the appropriate authorities for legal prosecution. This action could range from an education or counseling program, up to and including suspension or permanent dismissal from the school.

When the school or the Financial Aid Department is officially notified that a student, who is a recipient of a Federal Pell Grant, is convicted via a court of law of a drug offense during the period of enrollment covered by the Federal Pell Grant, and for which the student had previously certified he or she would be drug free, that individual is in violation of the certification statement and must be reported to the U.S. Department of Education Office of Inspector General, in accordance with section 668.14 (g) of the Title IV Higher Education Act of 1965 and its amendments. Upon the final determination by the Office of the Inspector General, and the notification Woodruff Medical Training & Testing, the Financial Aid Department will implement the recommendations set forth in their findings, which may include the withholding of all further payments to the student. Until a final determination is made regarding fraud on the part of the student, the student will remain eligible for financial aid.

VI. PARENTAL NOTIFICATION GUIDELINES FOR ALCOHOL AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES VIOLATIONS

These guidelines are in response to the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. These amendments created an exception to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), enabling universities to notify parents or legal guardians, under certain circumstances, of a student under 21 that uses or possesses alcohol or a controlled substance.

Notification of parents is done when the university believes it will help the student. When practicable, conversations normally are held with the student before contact is made with parents in an effort to determine whether such contact is the best course of action. Factors that are considered when deciding to contact a student's parent or guardian are: A consistent pattern of destructive or harmful behavior; behavior that may affect the student's overall well-being or the well-being of others; behaviors that may jeopardize their ability to remain a student; and/or a situation of imminent danger.

When determining parental notification to be in the best interest of the student, it is the university's philosophy to assist the student in contacting their parent/guardian directly. In most cases, the university will intervene only when a student is unwilling or unable to contact their parent/guardian.

This policy is effective March 1, 2013 and shall remain in effect unless otherwise stated in writing. WMTT will review its alcohol and controlled substance policy annually for effectiveness and consistency of application and, where necessary, makes appropriate changes.