



Substance Abuse Policy

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy

New England Tractor Trailer Training School prohibits the unlawful possession, use, manufacturing, or distribution of illegal drugs or alcohol on school property or at any school sponsored activity at any time by students or employees. Each current student and employee must abide by the terms of this statement and notify the school in writing of any conviction for a violation of a criminal statute no later than five calendar days after such conviction.

Legal Sanctions

Various Federal, State and Local statutes make it unlawful to manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver or sell, or possess with the intent to manufacture or sell illegal drugs or controlled substances. The penalty imposed depends upon many factors, including the type and amount of controlled substances involved, the number of prior offenses, if any, and whether any other crimes were committed in connection with the use of the controlled substance. Possible sanctions include incarceration up to and including life imprisonment and imposition of substantial monetary fines.

Please see the following resources for more information on the applicable federal and state laws:

- <https://www.uscc.gov/guidelines/primers/drugs>
- <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/07/2018-09549/sentencing-guidelines-for-united-states-courts>
- <https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/2021-12/Trafficking%20Penalties.pdf>
- <https://adcare.com/massachusetts/drug-laws/>
- <https://portal.ct.gov/DCP/Drug-Control-Division/Drug-Control/Drug-Laws-and-Regulations>

If an employee is convicted of violating criminal laws or found in violation of school regulations concerning alcohol and drugs, in addition to civil action, the employee is subject to termination. Failure to disclose previous convictions on a job application is grounds for termination.

Health Risks

Health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs and alcohol include increased susceptibility to disease due to a less efficient immune system, increased likelihood of accidents, personality disorders, addiction, death from overdose, anemia, and poor concentration. The following is a list of more specific health risks:

1. **Alcohol:** Acts as a depressant, affects mood, dulls the senses, and impairs coordination, reflexes, memory and judgment. Alcohol dilates blood vessels increasing heat loss and flushing, is an anti-diuretic and interferes with hormones. More serious effects may be damage to the liver, kidneys, pancreas and the brain. On average, heavy drinkers shorten their life span by approximately 10 years.
2. **Cocaine:** Causes increased heart rate, breathing rate, and body temperature. Causes chronic runny nose and membrane infections. Overdose may result in seizures, heart failure, coma or death.
3. **Marijuana:** Prolonged use can lead to severe psychological dependence. An immediate increase in heart and pulse rate may cause an acute panic anxiety reaction. Marijuana causes impairment of memory, altered sense of time and an inability to concentrate. It may cause apathy/loss of motivation. Circulatory changes are similar to that seen with stress, dryness or the mouth/throat, and red eyes. Chronic lung exposure impairs air flow.
 Marijuana has carcinogens and toxic compounds and can result in decreased testosterone levels, diminished sperm count and abnormal sperm.
4. **Methamphetamine:** Produces stimulant effects. However, the long term psychological effects can include confusion, memory loss, learning difficulties, depression, sleep problems, anxiety, and paranoia. This drug reportedly suppresses the need to eat, drink, or sleep and may lead to severe dehydration and heat stroke (body temperatures can reach 107 – 109 degrees Fahrenheit). An overdose is characteristics by rapid heartbeat, high blood pressure, faintness, muscle cramping, panic attacks, and more severe cases, loss of consciousness, seizures or death.
5. **Opiates:** Users are highly susceptible to physical dependence. Drug may cause infections of the skin, liver and lungs. May cause nausea, constipation, and respiratory depression. Chronic use can cause seizures or death.
6. **Tobacco:** Although not illegal and allowed on campus at designated areas, known causes are shortness or breath, nagging cough and heart difficulties. Long term effects may be emphysema, bronchitis, heart disease and cancer. Causes an increase in asthma and allergy related symptoms, stroke, slowed wound healing, infertility peptic ulcer disease, and pneumonia.

Counseling, Treatment, Rehabilitation or Re-Entry Programs

The following is a list of resources for students or staff seeking counseling, treatment, rehabilitation or re-entry programs:

1. **Substance Abuse Crisis Lines:**
 - a. American Council for Drug Education 1-800-488-DRUG or <https://www.acde.org>
 - b. Cocaine Addiction Helpline 1-888-971-2407 or <https://americanaddictioncenters.org>
 - c. Alcoholics Anonymous 1-212-870-3400 or <https://www.aa.org>
 - d. Al-Anon Family Group 1-888-425-2666 or <https://al-anon.org>
 - e. State of Rhode Island-Department of Health
1-402-424-LINK (5465) or <https://health.ri.gov/addiction>
 - f. State of Massachusetts- Bureau of Substance addiction services-
1-617-624-5111 or <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/bureau-of-substance-addiction-services>
 - g. State of Connecticut- Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services-
1-860-418-7000 or <https://portal.ct.gov/dmhas>

2. Substance Abuse Referrals

- a. Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospital- State of Rhode Island
1-401-414-5465 (LINK) or <https://bhddh.ri.gov/substance-useaddiction>

- b. The Massachusetts Screening, Brief Intervention Referral and Treatment(MASBIRT) Program
1-800-327-5050 or <https://www.bumc.bu.edu/care/clinical-programs/past-clinical-programs/masbirt/>

- c. Connecticut Department of Mental Health and addiction Services
1-800-563-4086 or <https://www.ctaddictionservices.com/>

Students and staff can find pamphlets and additional information regarding counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, or re-entry programs at the student services office.

Sanctions for Violation of Policy

School disciplinary sanctions for student include the possibility of suspension and expulsion. Students that are found guilty of violating this policy will be referred to the school director. The school director can impose sanctions up to and including expulsion. Students who are found guilty of illegally using any illicit drug are subject to immediate and permanent dismissal from the program, and legal ramifications.

Each employee convicted for a felony and/or misdemeanor violation of criminal alcohol or drug statutes may be subject to strong disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment, or may be required to participate in a drug abuse/alcohol rehabilitation program.