

Tobacco, Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program

Smoke-Free Environment

Adler University campuses are smoke-free. In addition, smoking is not permitted within fifteen feet of any entrances. If a local law ordinance provides greater protection for the rights of non-smokers, it will apply.

Alcohol Policy

Alcohol beverages may be served to and consumed by persons of legal drinking age on university premises or practicum and internship sites in conjunction with a specifically authorized function. Individuals consuming alcohol and other legal drugs should do so in a responsible manner. Members of Recognized Student Organizations should see the RSO Handbook for further restrictions.

Drug-Free Environment

In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA), Adler University explicitly prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs by students or employees on University premises or as part of any of its activities. Controlled substances are subjects of federal and state laws. Information coming to the attention of the University involving the sale, exchange, or transfer of drugs from one person to another may be communicated to public officials for prosecution.

Legal Penalties

Students who violate the Alcohol and Drug policy are subject both to Adler's sanctions and to criminal sanctions provided by federal, state and local law.

FEDERAL LAW: Under the revised federal sentencing guidelines, federal courts can sentence simple-possession first offenders to one year in prison and a \$100,000 fine. Penalties for subsequent convictions are significantly greater. A sentence of life imprisonment can result from a conviction for possession of a controlled substance that results in death or bodily injury. The most current information can be found on the website of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

ILLINOIS LAW: Possession and delivery of illicit drugs are prohibited in Illinois. Penalties vary with the amount of the drug confiscated; the type of drug found; the number of previous offenses by the individual; and whether the individual intended to manufacture, sell, or use the drug. A first-time conviction of possession of a controlled substance can result in a one- to three-year prison sentence, plus a fine up to \$15,000. More severe penalties may be imposed for conviction of Class 2, 3, or 4 felonies involving manufacture or delivery to a minor. Further information on Illinois penalties and sanctions can be found here.

Health Risks: Use of Illicit Drugs, Misuse of Legal Drugs, and Alcohol Abuse

There are health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and abuse of legal drugs and alcohol including impaired functioning of the following major organs: liver, kidneys, brain, and other aspects of the central nervous system including impaired immune functioning and impaired lung and pulmonary functioning. The effects are both immediate and long-term. Immediate effects include impaired judgment, impaired attention span, and impaired gross and fine motor control. Long-term effects include the risk of premature death. The use of needles to inject drugs into the blood stream engenders the risk of

contracting HIV or hepatitis. These health risks may affect one's daily life activities, as well as familial, social, and working relationships.

Drug and alcohol abuse causes physical and emotional dependence, in which users may develop a craving for a particular substance. Thus, their bodies may respond to the presence of such substances in ways that lead to increased drug and alcohol use. Certain drugs, such as opiates, barbiturates, alcohol and nicotine create physical dependence. With prolonged use, these drugs become part of the body chemistry. When a regular user stops taking the drug, the body experiences the physiological trauma known as withdrawal. Psychological dependence occurs when taking drugs becomes the center of the user's life. Drugs have an effect on the mind and body for weeks or even months after drug use has stopped. Drugs and alcohol can interfere with memory, sensation, and perception. They distort experiences and cause loss of self-control that can lead users to harm others as well as themselves.

Counseling, Treatment, or Rehabilitation Programs

Any student who fails to abide by the terms of the Tobacco, Drug, and Alcohol Prevention Program may be required to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state or local health officials, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency. Specific programs of counseling or rehabilitation are available within the greater Chicagoland area. If you need assistance finding a program please contact the Office of Student Affairs.

Sanctions

Adler University will impose sanctions against individuals who are determined to have violated the Tobacco, Drug, and Alcohol Prevention Program policies. Sanctions for students who use, possess, sell, or distribute illegal drugs or who violate the University's Alcohol Policy include, but are not limited to the following: warnings; disciplinary probation; and in appropriate cases, suspension or expulsion from the University. Students will also be held responsible for any damages that result from their misconduct or violation of these policies.

This information is provided as a general summary of the major laws on alcohol and illicit drugs. Laws frequently change and applications of law to specific situations require legal counsel.