

DRUG-FREE COMMUNITY STATEMENT

Standards of Conduct Related to Drugs and Alcohol

The mission of PA College is to educate for excellence in health care practice, leadership and the continuous acquisition of knowledge. PA College recognizes that continued excellence in these areas depends greatly on the ability of students and employees to execute their responsibilities in a manner reflecting the highest standards of competency and safety. Impairment due to drug or alcohol use, and the resulting inability to perform adequately in the classroom or clinical environment, is not consistent with the mission and educational outcomes of the College.

In compliance with the Drug-Free Workplace Act and the Drug-Free Schools and Community Act, PA College maintains a drug-free campus and prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use or possession of illicit drugs or alcohol on its campuses or as part of any college activity. In addition, the unauthorized possession, use or distribution of alcoholic beverages on PA College property or as part of any of its activities is also prohibited. Unauthorized use or distribution of alcoholic beverages refers to any function that is not specifically authorized by the President of PA College and sponsored by PA College. To comply further with the Act, the following information is made available to all students and employees at PA College.

Community and Legal Sanctions

Community Sanctions

PA College adheres to the laws, regulations and ordinances of federal, state and local authorities. Any student or employee violating them will be subject to referral and external prosecution through the appropriate college office and/or the state and local police. Students are also subject to disciplinary action under the Code of Conduct, which is contained in the Ethical Standards policy (see Student Handbook appendix). Any questions regarding this policy should be addressed to the Associate Vice President, Strategic Enrollment Management.

Commonwealth Sanctions

In Pennsylvania, the following violations are punishable by fines and, in some instances, loss of driving privileges (not exhaustive list, illustrative only):

- purchase, consumption, transportation or possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under age 21;
- misrepresentation of age to purchase alcohol and altering, selling or manufacturing of false identification;
- selling or furnishing of alcoholic beverages to those under age 21.

Lying about age to obtain alcohol, making a false ID and furnishing alcohol to individuals under age 21 are misdemeanor offenses.

Federal Sanctions

The legal sanctions for the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs are more diverse than the sanctions governing alcohol. Sanctions may vary from fines, for first-time misdemeanor offenses involving simple possession of certain substances, to felony counts and multiple year terms of imprisonment for more serious violations. A summary of penalties related to illicit drugs and alcohol may be found online at the [U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration](#) and the [Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board](#). Individuals seeking legal advice regarding drug or alcohol laws should consult legal counsel.

Drug Convictions and Federal Financial Aid

In addition to the deleterious effects drug abuse may have on your body, convictions for possession or sale of illegal drugs may have an impact on your ability to receive federal financial aid. For possession of illegal drugs, a student will become ineligible for Federal student aid from the date of conviction for one year on the first offense; two years for a second offense and indefinitely for a third offense. For sale of illegal drugs, a student becomes ineligible for Federal student aid from the date of conviction for two years after a first offense and indefinitely after a second offense. For more information about drug convictions and their impact on financial aid, refer to the following resources:

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/criminal-convictions> and
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/ondcp/recovery/fafsa.pdf>.

Disciplinary Sanctions by the College

All members of the student body, the faculty, and the administrative and support staffs should be aware that the College through the appropriate mechanism will impose penalties for violation of the standards of conduct related to alcohol and other drugs. The maximum sanctions that will be imposed will be expulsion for students, and dismissal for employees, along with a referral to external authorities for prosecution. Detailed procedures regarding sanctions can be found in the policy section of the applicable handbook (employees refer to Employee Handbook; students refer to Student Handbook).

Health Risks Associated with Alcohol and Other Drugs

The [National Institute on Drug Abuse \(NIDA\)](#) and the [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism \(NIAA\)](#) offer extensive information on the abuse of alcohol and drugs, health risks associated with drug and alcohol abuse and treatment options. See the specific links below for compelling and accurate drug and alcohol health information:

- NIDA: Commonly Abused Drugs
<http://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse>
- NIDA: Commonly Abused Prescription Drugs Chart
<http://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/prescription-drugs-cold-medicines>
- NIAA: Alcohol's Effects on the Body
<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health/alcohols-effects-body>

- NIAA: Overview of Alcohol Consumption
<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health/overview-alcohol-consumption>

Available Counseling and Treatment Programs

It is the policy of PA College to help any employee, student, or faculty member who voluntarily requests assistance to overcome an alcohol or substance abuse problem. The College provides a confidential counseling service for all community members, limited to three free sessions, through Quest Behavioral Health.

ASSISTANCE, TREATMENT, SUPPORT & COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Emergency Assistance – Police and Security

- Emergency Dispatch/Lancaster City Bureau of Police: 911
- PA College Office of Security: 717-544-1159
- Lancaster General Hospital Communications Center: 717-544-5117 (24-hour)

Medical Treatment

- LGH Employee & Student Health: 717-544-5984
- LGH Emergency Department: 717-544-5122

Emotional Support

- Quest Behavioral Health: 1-800-364-6352
(provider for student counseling and employee assistance program)

Community & National Resources

- Compass Mark (alcohol and drug abuse treatment & recovery): 717-299-2831
- Lancaster County Drug & Alcohol Services
- Narcotics Anonymous Helpline: 717-393-4546
- Alcoholics Anonymous Helpline: 717-394-3238
- SAMHSA National Hotline: 1-800-662-4357