



# **Drug, Alcohol, and Substance Abuse for Students**

## **1. PURPOSE**

This policy establishes the expectations for the compliance of Northern Pennsylvania Regional College (“NPRC” or the “College”) with federal requirements and regulations related to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

## **2. SCOPE AND APPLICABILITY**

Policy guidelines apply to any facility or any other location at or means by which training or education occurs, including in-person, virtual, or online instructional delivery. This policy’s scope includes, but is not limited to, activities supported or sanctioned by the College online or at facilities and properties utilized by NPRC which may not be directly owned or controlled by the College.

## **3. REFERENCES**

- 3.1 INDX-1310-01: Master Policy Index
- 3.2 CLDR-1310: Policy Review Schedule
- 3.3 INDX-1310-02: Document Naming Key
- 3.4 NPRC-3235: Behavioral Code of Conduct for Students
- 3.5 PROC-3235: Behavioral Code of Conduct for Students
- 3.6 NPRC-8120: Consumer Information and Disclosures
- 3.7 NPRC Student Handbook
- 3.8 NPRC Academic Catalog
- 3.9 Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

## **4. DEFINITIONS**

- 4.1 A Controlled Substance is a drug or chemical whose manufacture, possession, or use is regulated by government or a government entity, such as illicitly used drugs or prescription medications that are designated by law.
- 4.2 Facility/ies and Facility Property/ies refer to any NPRC Administrative Center(s), NPRC Education and Training Center(s), Instructional Locations, Instructional Sites, or other physical space utilized by NPRC which may or may not be directly owned or

controlled by the College at which any College activity, educational or otherwise, occurs.

4.3 Educational Activities are College-sanctioned or College-associated events, meetings, or gatherings of students which include, but are not limited to, class meetings; field experiences; trainings; club or committee meetings; entertainment, sporting, or other recreational events; seminars; presentations; or other educational events, whether scheduled or impromptu.

4.4 Closed functions are events held by the institution that require invitation, RSVP, or a monitored guest list.

4.5 A student is any individual enrolled in any course(s) of instruction offered by NPRC.

## **5. POLICY**

5.1 All NPRC facilities are alcohol- and drug-free, with the exception of alcoholic beverages being serviced at closed, invitational only functions or at off-campus location in compliance with college policy and state laws and regulations.

5.2 A student with existing charges, arrests, or convictions that may appear on background checks related to drugs, alcohol or substance abuse may be limited in program completion based on required program expectations. Details of this can be found in respective student program handbooks.

5.3 NPRC is subject to the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and related other federal drug- and alcohol-related laws.

5.4 Consumption, purchase, possession, or transportation of any alcoholic beverages by anyone under the age of 21 is prohibited.

5.5 Knowingly providing alcoholic beverages to anyone under the legal drinking age of 21 is a violation of state and local laws, as well as a violation of NPRC-3235: Behavioral Code of Conduct.

5.5.1 Any student or groups of students found to be providing alcohol to minors will be reported and adjudicated through PROC-3235: Behavioral Code of Conduct resulting in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension and expulsion.

5.6 Under the alcohol emergency amnesty law (“Good Samaritan” law), there will be “immunity from prosecution for a person under the age of 21 for the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages if law enforcement become aware of the possession or consumption solely because the individual was seeking medical assistance for someone else. The person seeking the assistance must reasonably believe he or she is the first to call for assistance, must use his/her own name with authorities, and must stay with the individual needing medical assistance until help arrives.”

- 5.7 Consumption, possession, transportation, use, and sale of illegal drugs, controlled substances, or paraphernalia is prohibited. Any student found in violation will be reported and adjudicated through PROC-3235: Behavioral Code of Conduct resulting in disciplinary action.
- 5.8 Medical marijuana is illegal per federal laws. The use of medical marijuana is prohibited in all college properties and facilities.
- 5.9 Any violation of this policy that is also in violation of state or federal law will also be reported to the appropriate local or state authority by the College. Any sanctions or disciplinary actions resulting from third-party investigation will be in addition to those established by the College.
- 5.10 Students with questions or concerns about substance abuse or alcohol abuse are encouraged to contact a counselor at the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Additional resources may be discussed with students seeking support through their advisor.
- 5.11 It is the responsibility of each student to seek assistance from internal or external resources before drug and alcohol problems lead to disciplinary action. Once a violation occurs, subsequent use of resources should not be assumed to lessen disciplinary action.
- 5.12 Information, specified by H.R.3614 (The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Of 1989) will be provided to students in alignment with NPRC-8120: Consumer Information and Disclosures.

## **6. RESPONSIBILITIES AND TIMELINES**

- 6.1 Instructors, employees, and students are responsible for reporting conduct that is believed to be in violation of this policy.
- 6.2 The registrar is responsible for sending out student notices related to this policy twice a year in the fall and spring.
- 6.3 The Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services is responsible for the oversight and administration of this policy.

## **7. REVIEW STATEMENT**

Review of this policy will occur in alignment with CLDR-1310: Policy Review Schedule.

## **8. SIGNATURES**

*Signature on file*

*3/14/25*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Board of Trustees      Date

*Signature on file*

*3/14/25*

\_\_\_\_\_  
President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Revision Notes: Policy in Revision