

## **Alcohol and Controlled Substances**

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The Drug-Free Schools and Community Act requires the college to prevent students, faculty, and staff from using, distributing, or possessing illegal drugs and alcohol on college property or at college activities. The college is also required to explain the risks that drug and alcohol use may cause to one's health. Failure to have such a program will jeopardize the institution's qualification for federal funding or financial aid to students.

### **Official Policy**

Due to the varying convictions among Christians and the potentially harmful and destructive affects of alcohol and drugs, and in compliance with the federal Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations, Bryan College has adopted the following policy.

The possession and/or use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or tobacco is prohibited. The smoking of any other substance is also prohibited. In addition, students are not to abuse legal or prescription substances. The use or possession of narcotics, illegal drugs, or alcoholic beverages is grounds for immediate suspension.

Bryan College will impose disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution, on students found in violation of this policy. A condition of continuance may include the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program.

When students tested for drugs as a condition of participation in a college program (such as athletics) test positive, the results will be reported to the Office of Student Life for appropriate disciplinary actions. Additional standards of conduct, disciplinary standards, and procedures are found in this handbook.

### **State of Tennessee Sanctions**

This document contains a summary of state and federal sanction for the unlawful use of illicit drugs and alcohol. Portions of the summary were provided by the federal government, and while the summary is a good faith effort to provide information, Bryan College does not guarantee its accuracy. Under state law, it is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to buy, possess, transport (unless in the course of their employment), or consume alcoholic beverages for or furnish them for any purpose to anyone under twenty-one years of age. These offenses are classified Class A Misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than eleven months and twenty-nine days, or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both. (T.C.A. § 1-3-113, 39-15-404, 57-5-301.) The offense of public intoxication is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment of not more than thirty days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both. (T.C.A. § 39-17-310.) Under Tennessee law, the offense of possession or casual exchange of a controlled substance (such as marijuana) is punishable as a Class A Misdemeanor (eleven months twenty-nine days and/or a fine of \$2,500). For the third and subsequent offense of possession of ½ oz. or less of marijuana, punishment is one to six years of imprisonment and a \$3,000 fine. If there is an exchange from a person over twenty-one years of age to a person under twenty-one, and the older person is at least two years older than the younger, and the older person knows the younger is under twenty-one years of age, *then the offense is classified as a felony.* (T.C.A. § 39-17-417, 21 U.S.C. § 801, et. Seq.; T.C.A. § 39-17-417.) Possession of more than ½ oz. of marijuana under circumstances where intent to resell may be implicit is punishable by one to six years of imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine for the first offense.

State penalties for possession of substantial quantities of a controlled substance or for manufacturing or distribution range up to a maximum of fifteen to sixteen years of imprisonment and a \$500,000 fine. (Title 39, T.C.A., Chapter 17.) For example, possession of more than twenty-six grams of cocaine is punishable by eight to thirty years of imprisonment and a \$200,000 fine for the first offense.

The state may, under certain circumstances, impound a vehicle used to transport or conceal controlled substances.

### **United States Penalties and Sanctions for Illegal Possession of a Controlled Substance 21 U.S.C. 844(a)**

First conviction: Up to one year imprisonment and fine of at least \$1,000 but not more than \$100,000, or both. After one prior drug conviction: At least fifteen days in prison, not to exceed two years, and fine of at least \$2,500 but not more than \$250,000, or both. After two or more prior drug convictions: At least ninety days in prison, not to exceed three years, and fine of at least \$5,000 but not more than \$250,000, or both.

#### *Special sentencing provisions for possession of crack cocaine:*

Mandatory, at least five years in prison, not to exceed twenty years, and fine of up to \$250,000, or both, if:

- (a) first conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds five grams.
- (b) second crack conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds three grams.
- (c) third or subsequent crack conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds one gram.

21 U.S.C. 853(a)(2) and 881(a)(7)

Forfeiture of personal and real property used to possess or to facilitate possession of a controlled substance if that offense is punishable by more than one year imprisonment

21 U.S.C. 881(a)(4)

Forfeiture of vehicles, boats, aircraft, or any other conveyance used to transport or conceal a controlled substance [An automobile may be impounded in cases involving any controlled substance in any amount.]

21 U.S.C. 844(a)

Civil fine of up to \$10,000 (pending adoption of final regulations).

21 U.S.C. 853(a)

Denial of federal benefits, such as student loans, grants, contracts, and professional and commercial licenses, up to one year for first offense, up to five years for second and subsequent offenses.

18 U.S.C. 922(g)

Ineligibility to receive or purchase a firearm.

Miscellaneous

Revocation of certain federal licenses and benefits, e.g. pilot licenses, public housing tenancy, are vested within the authorities of individual federal agencies.

### **Resources**

As a Christ-centered, educational institution, the college is primarily concerned with helping the individual student achieve academic and spiritual success. When health problems do arise, the college may assist and guide a student whose mental or physical health is threatened. Should students or their friends have a problem with alcohol or other drugs, there are several places on campus where one can receive assistance:

1. The Resident Assistant (RA) or Resident Director (RD) is available to listen to students with such problems and make a referral if necessary.
2. The Office of Spiritual Formation, located in the Student Center, has professional counselors.
3. Bryan College Polyclinic (423.285.1690)

Several drug and alcohol rehabilitation centers are found locally. Bryan College is not responsible for the quality of treatment provided by these facilities.

- Rhea County Medical Center, 9400 Rhea County Highway, Dayton, TN 37321 (775-1121)
- C.A.D.A.S., 207 Spears Avenue, Chattanooga, TN 37421 (756-7644)
- HCA Valley Hospital, 2200 Morris Hill Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421 (894-4220)
- Young Life Center, 516 Cherokee Blvd., Chattanooga, TN 37405 (634-7188)
- Cleveland Community Hospital, 2800 Westside Drive, Cleveland, TN 37312 (339-4134)
- SUMA, 632 Morrison Springs Road, Red Bank, TN 37415 (778-3450)
- Greenleaf Center, 500 Greenleaf Circle, Ft. Oglethorpe, GA 30742 (861-4357)

### **Health Risks**

The following is a summary of known health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol. The federal government provided part of the summary, and Bryan College does not guarantee its accuracy.

#### **Effects of alcohol abuse**

*Acute:* Alcohol consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Accidents are the leading cause of death among individuals aged fifteen to twenty-four years. Most are related to drinking and driving. Poor decisions and aggressive acts such as sexual assaults are almost always associated with alcohol use. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts, including spouse and child abuse. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol will produce the effects just described.

*Chronic:* 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 large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver. Some studies suggest that brain cells are actually permanently lost (killed) by high levels of alcohol.

Women 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 a greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

#### ***Effects of other drugs***

*Marijuana:* Marijuana and related compounds are usually used for their "relaxation" effects or to produce an altered sense of reality—a "high." Disorders of memory (loss) and of mood often occur in chronic users.

*Cocaine (stimulant):* Cocaine, crack, and related forms are usually used for stimulation and to produce a sense of euphoria. All forms of cocaine are highly addictive, producing a habit that is extremely difficult to stop. In some individuals, cocaine may produce fatal cardiac rhythm disturbances.

*Amphetamines (stimulants):* Amphetamines, and their new derivatives “crystal,” “ice,” and Ecstasy, are used for stimulation. These compounds are very addictive and may produce psychotic and violent behaviors.

*LSD & PCP (hallucinogens):* These chemicals are used to produce “altered states” to escape reality. They are very dangerous and can cause psychosis.

*Valium, Barbiturates, etc. (depressants):* These and other prescription drugs of this type are usually used for their sedative or hypnotic effects. Some of these drugs are highly addictive, and others can cause seizures (convulsions) in individuals who take them over long periods of time. These drugs can be fatal if mixed with alcohol or other depressants.

*Heroin, Codeine, etc. (narcotics):* These are some of the most addictive substances known. They produce a high or euphoria. Withdrawal can produce convulsions or even coma. Overdose is common and can result in death. Needle-drug users are in high-risk group for infection with the human immunodeficiency virus, thought to be the cause of AIDS.

*Other:* Many medications and drugs have the potential for abuse. If you have concerns or questions, ask for professional advice.

For further information on commonly abused drugs go to the National Institute on Drug Abuse at <http://www.drugabuse.gov/DrugPages/DrugsOfAbuse.html>