

## **Drug Free Schools and Campuses Act**

In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Campuses Act and its implementing regulations (34 CFR Part 86), the following information is being provided to all students and employees as a statement of University policy.

Messiah University prohibits the manufacture, possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs and alcohol by all students both on and off campus when enrolled in course work, when living in University housing, when engaged in a University activity, when representing the University, or when intersecting with anyone affiliated with the University. Sanctions may range from letter of reprimand to expulsion. As noted in the Student Handbook, a record of disciplinary sanctions is kept in the Student Success and Engagement Office files while the student is at Messiah. University officials, as well as parents, may be involved or notified when appropriate. In addition, University, state, and federal financial aid may be lost as the result of documented violation of alcohol and drug laws.

Messiah University prohibits the manufacture, possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs or alcohol by all employees on its property, when engaged in University work or activities, or when representing the University. Sanctions for violation of this policy may range from written reprimand to termination of employment, although counseling or treatment may first be directed.

The University may also involve local law enforcement officials when appropriate. Illegal possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, or illegal use or possession of alcohol can be punished under applicable local, state, and federal law. Possible punishments can include stringent fines, loss of driver's license, loss of possessions obtained through the profits of or used in the sale or distribution of illegal drugs, and/or imprisonment.

The health risks associated with the use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol are significant. Alcohol and other drugs affect brain functioning, result in direct injury to body tissue, result in several thousand traffic fatalities each year, lead to addiction in some individuals, and can alter moods in a potentially harmful way.

The University desires and is prepared to help students and employees who have a drug or alcohol related problem. Students who ask for help will be treated through the Counseling Center rather than through the disciplinary process in most circumstances. Similarly, employees seeking assistance will be provided with access to substance abuse programs, community resources for assessment and treatment, and counseling. Confidential assistance is available through Counseling Services. The University will also refer students to off-campus treatment centers if requested or if the issues being addressed warrant such referral.

For additional information on resources available, students should contact the Engle Center or Doug Wood, Associate Dean of Students. Employees should contact Amanda Coffey, Vice President of Human Resources and Compliance. Also, please see the Messiah Drug and Alcohol Use Prevention Programs found on Messiah's web at:

[https://www.messiah.edu/info/22490/living\\_in\\_community/3723/drug\\_and\\_alcohol\\_abuse\\_prevention\\_programs](https://www.messiah.edu/info/22490/living_in_community/3723/drug_and_alcohol_abuse_prevention_programs)

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*(\*Sent via mass email to all undergraduate and graduate students first week of classes each semester.)*