New College of Florida
The Honors College

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Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Notice

1 message

Alexander Tzoumas <atzoumas@ncf.edu> Wed, Sep 9, 2026 at 2:27 PM
To: students <students@ncf.edu>, Faculty <faculty@ncf.edu>, Staff <staff@ncf.edu>

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

New College of Florida intends to support a safe and productive living, learning, and working environment for all faculty, staff, and students. To that end, our institution is a Drug-and Alcohol-Free Workplace and prohibits the illicit possession and/or use of drugs and alcohol on campus.

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Amendments of 1989 and the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 require institutions of higher education to distribute the following information on an annual basis. We have had updates to our Student Code of Conduct and want the campus to be aware of the new code and other policies relevant to this act. Please take a moment to read this notification and click on the relevant links. The notification contains information about the following:

1. Standards of Conduct
2. Legal Sanctions and Penalties
3. Health Risks
4. Resources
5. Discipline

1. Standards of Conduct

New College of Florida (NCF) is committed to providing a campus environment free from the illegal acts related to controlled substances, alcohol, and other drugs. The following list pertains to applicable NCF regulations and policies relating to this matter. Students who work for NCF may be covered by employee policies. These policies apply to all on-campus activities and off-campus activities officially sponsored by NCF, including student-sponsored social activities and professional meetings attended by employees.

- 6-3004 Alcohol and Other Drugs
- 6-3005 Student Code of Conduct
- 3-4021 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace
- New College of Florida Housing Rules and Regulations

2. Legal Sanctions and Penalties

Federal, state, and local laws outlaw possession, use and distribution of illegal drugs, including but not limited to cocaine, heroin, LSD, PCP, marijuana, and other narcotic drugs. Additionally, these laws prohibit possession and use of alcohol by underage persons, distribution of alcohol to underage persons, sale of alcohol without a license, and driving under the influence of alcohol or illicit substances.

Penalties for violation of drug laws include fines, imprisonment, and other restrictions and removal of civil liberties and privileges. If any unlawful distribution of drugs gives rise to the unlawful death of a human being, it is punishable as a capital felony. Penalties for violation of alcohol laws may include the revocation of driving privileges, fines, and imprisonment. A student or employee who violates the 6-3004 or 6-3005 policies is subject both
to the institution’s sanctions and to criminal sanctions provided by federal, state, and local law if applicable. Additionally, students with criminal convictions have limited eligibility for federal student aid.

The following is a list of important local and state statutes:

- Sarasota County Ordinances
  - Chapter 6 – Alcoholic Beverages
  - Chapter 86 – Offenses and Miscellaneous Provisions – Division 3. – Prohibited Drugs
- Florida Statutes
  - Chapter 561: Beverage Law: Administration
  - Chapter 562: Beverage Law: Enforcement
  - Chapter 563: Beer and Malt Beverages
  - Chapter 564: Wine
  - Chapter 565: Liquor
  - Chapter 856: Drunkenness; Open House Parties; Loitering; Prowling; Desertion
  - Chapter 893: Drug Abuse Prevention & Control
- Financial Aid
  - Impact on Financial Aid due to Criminal Convictions

3. Health Risks

The use of alcohol and drugs can result in the following health concerns:

Drug	Health Risks
Alcohol	• Alcohol use disorder • Liver disease • Heart disease • Depression • Stroke • Stomach bleeding • Sleep disorders • High blood pressure • Increased risk of drowning and injuries from violence, falls, and motor vehicle crashes • Increased risk of oral cancers and female breast cancer
Cannabis/Marijuana	• Slowed reaction time • Problems with balance and coordination • Increased heart rate and appetite • Problems with learning and memory • Anxiety • Chronic cough • Frequent respiratory infections
Hallucinogens (Ketamine, LSD, Psilocybin)	• Problems with attention, learning, and memory • Raised blood pressure • Dangerously slowed breathing • Depression • Ulcers • Kidney problems • Loss of appetite • Tremors • Frightening flashbacks • Paranoia • Mood swings • Muscle weakness
MDMA (Ecstasy/Molly)	• Sharp rise in body temperature leading to kidney failure or death • Long lasting confusion • Depression

	• Problems with attention, memory, and sleep • Increased anxiety
Tobacco	• Increased blood pressure, breathing, and heart rate • Exposes lungs to a variety of chemicals. Vaping also exposes lungs to metallic vapors created by heating the coils in the device • Increased risk of cancer, especially lung cancer when smoked and oral cancers when chewed • Chronic bronchitis • Emphysema • Heart disease • Leukemia • Cataracts • Pneumonia

Note: Data from National Institute on Drug Abuse (September, 2023). Retrieved from: https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/commonly-used-drugs-charts

4. Resources:

- **Immediate Need/Emergency:**

For immediate assistance due to the danger associated with drugs or alcohol, please contact the NCF Police Department. From an on-campus phone, dial 4210; from any other phone, dial 487-4210. Information about Medical Amnesty - Section 4.

- **University Education & Prevention:**

Health and Wellness Center (HWC) is located on the Bayfront Campus, and contains within it, the CAPS program (Counseling & Psychological Services) and Health Services. CAPS consists of Director, Dr. Beth-Anne Blue and has six full-time staff who provide counseling (individual, group and couples) and other mental health services (e.g., Case Management, consultations, etc.). While the HWC/CAPS does not offer any type of programmatic treatment of substance use disorders, they do offer counseling services, student health services, case management, health promotion services, and referrals for substance use disorders programmatic treatment. Two medical providers are available part-time at HWC to treat minor illnesses or injuries, or to receive an EKG and a Sports Physical. Students can reach out for consultations and appointments at 941-487-4300, Option 1; email wellness@ncf.edu, or visit the website: https://www.ncf.edu/departments/health-wellness-center/. For mental health crises after hours/holidays/weekends, please call the Crisis Hotline at 941-487-4300, Option 2.

Healthy Outreach & Prevention Services (HOPS) is located in W2115 - Peterson Residence Hall. The Coordinator is Glory Patterson, MPH, who runs the student peer education program, and is available to collaborate with other departments or give presentations of their own on wellness issues on campus. They can be reached at healthpromotion@ncf.edu; and are part of the Health and Wellness Center.

ESPYR (Employee Assistance Program) is available 24/7 and is a free benefit that provides information, training, health education, short-term counseling services to employees, and more. To access online services, visit www.espyr.com and request the login information, or contact ESPYR by calling 800-869-0276.

- **Off Campus Intervention & Treatment:**

Tobacco Free Florida's Area Health Education Center

Smart Recovery

Moderation Management

Alcoholics Anonymous

Narcotics Anonymous

Suncoast NA

Centerstone: 941-782-4600, https://centerstone.org/

Mindsol Wellness Center: 941-256-3725, https://mindsolsarasota.com/

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Helpline (SAMHSA): Free, confidential, 24/7, 365-day-a-year treatment referral and information service (in English and Spanish) for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders: 1-800-662-HELP (4357)

5. Discipline

NCF will impose sanctions on students and employees consistent with
local, state, and federal law up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct.

- **Employees**

In accordance with the 3-4021 Drug- and Alcohol-Free Workplace, 3-4014 Disciplinary Action, and 3-4007 Misconduct policies or the Collective Bargaining Agreement (as applicable), employees shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action by College authorities as set forth in the applicable rules and laws governing such actions.
Actions may include a written reprimand, suspension, or dismissal.

- **Students**

In accordance with 6-3005 NCF Student Code of Conduct and the Student Conduct Process and Procedures, when a student allegedly violates the 6-3004 Alcohol and Other Drugs policy or the related provisions in the Student Code of Conduct, they will be referred to the Division of Student Affairs, which will handle the matter in accordance with established procedures. The Office of Student Affairs will investigate and determine responsibility and if determined, sanctions will be imposed. NCF may make disclosures to the parent of a student regarding the student's violation of any federal, state, or local law, or any rule or policy of the institution, governing the use or possession of alcohol or a controlled substance without the student's consent, if it is determined that the student committed a disciplinary violation with respect to that use or possession.

Thank you,

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