

# Alcohol and Other Drug Policy Guide for Students

## **INTRODUCTION**

Issues related to alcohol and other drug use by college and university students are receiving increased levels of national attention. The following information is provided as part of Purdue University Calumet's continuing efforts to address these issues and to promote the health, welfare, and quality of life of all its students.

The effects of alcohol and other drug use may include an impairment of academic performance, deterioration of interpersonal relationships, and health problems related to nutritional deficiencies. Also, alcohol and other drug impaired traffic crashes remain the leading cause of serious injury and death among those of traditional college age. Consequences of a conviction for an alcohol or other drug offense may also include a negative impact on future employment opportunities.

## **ALCOHOL IS REALLY A DRUG.**

Alcohol is the most commonly used intoxicating substance in America. Generally, adults who drink alcoholic beverages do so without experiencing significant problems. However, alcohol abuse is a serious problem for 10 to 15% of those who drink. Reduced levels of health and life expectancy are common among alcohol abusers. In addition, an issue of growing concern on college campuses is the relationship of alcohol to violence, especially sexual assault. A recent study at a Big Ten university found that approximately 80% of the men and 70% of the women involved in incidents of sexual assault had been drinking when the assault occurred.

## **A CONVICTION FROM AN ALCOHOL-RELATED OFFENSE MAY AFFECT FUTURE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.**

In the past several years, convictions for alcohol-related offenses, especially driving offenses, have had a serious negative impact on the ability of recent graduates to get the jobs they want. Many students convicted of driving while intoxicated have been forced to settle for lower salaries at less prestigious companies. Conviction records for misdemeanors and infractions also may influence one's ability to be bonded or to enter a licensed profession. Admission to graduate or professional school may also be affected. It is common for credit and other reporting agencies to record such information in their files. In addition, once convicted of driving while intoxicated (or with a 0.10% or higher Blood Alcohol Concentration), a person must file proof of financial responsibility (usually insurance) with the state for a period of three years. This means that the insurance company must be notified of a conviction before the driver's license is returned. It is not unusual for insurance rates to triple after a DWI conviction. (Alcohol-Drug Information Center, Indiana University, 1990)

## **INDIANA STATE LAWS CONCERNING ALCOHOL:**

All Purdue University Calumet (PUC) students are responsible for complying with local, state, and federal laws regarding alcohol. The following information regarding Indiana State Law is current as of publication and is not intended to substitute for legal advice. For a complete listing of the alcoholic beverage laws consult the "Indiana Alcoholic Beverage Laws, 1990." Copies of this document are available for examination through the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Dean of Students, Lawshe Hall, room 352.

### VIOLATIONS/PENALTIES

Class C Infraction (up to \$500 fine and loss of minor's driver's license):

- \* Misrepresentation of age for the purpose of purchasing alcoholic beverages.
- \* A person 21 or older who encourages, aids, or induces a minor to possess or use an alcoholic beverage.

Class C Misdemeanors (imprisonment for up to 60 days and fine of up to \$500):

- \* Illegal possession of alcohol by a person younger than 21 years of age who knowingly: 1) possesses an alcoholic beverage; 2) consumes it; or 3) transports it on a public highway when not accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.
  - \* To sell, barter, exchange, provide, or furnish an alcoholic beverage to a minor.
  - \* A person younger than 21 years of age present in a tavern, bar, or other public place where alcoholic beverages are available. (In addition to the misdemeanor, the minor's license may be revoked for up to one year even if I.D. was not used).
- CAUTION ON FAKE I.D.s: Under certain circumstances, local prosecutors have used the criminal code rather than the alcoholic beverage code to prosecute users of fake I.D.s. Misdemeanor charges of "deception" and felony charges of forgery have been filed. Also, under federal law, possession or use of fake or altered driver's licenses, or state or federal I.D. cards can be punishable by a fine of up to \$25,000 and/or a five-year jail term.

**ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG IMPAIRED DRIVING:** It is illegal to operate a motor vehicle while impaired -- even at blood alcohol levels below 0.10%! Indiana law states, anyone operating a motor vehicle within the state gives "implied consent" to submit to a chemical test of intoxication (breath, blood, or urine). Failure to submit to the test may be used as evidence in court and will result in a longer driver's license suspension than if the test were administered and failed. Criminal sanctions for alcohol and other drug impaired driving include fines and imprisonment, license suspensions, and can include mandatory education or treatment programs.

## **INDIANA STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS WHICH ADDRESS OTHER DRUGS:**

Drugs other than alcohol can also create legal risks for college students. The Controlled Substance Act regulates drugs that have been declared by the Attorney General to have abuse potential. Such drugs include: marijuana, hashish or hash oil, cocaine, LSD and other hallucinogens, barbiturates and other sedative-hypnotics, amphetamines and other prescription stimulants,

MDMA (ecstasy), PCP and similar drugs. It is illegal under both state and federal law (the Controlled Substances Act) to:

\* deal (sell), manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use an illegal drug or controlled substance.

\* encourage, aid, or induce another person to deal, manufacture, distribute, dispense, possess, or use an illegal drug or controlled substance.

Penalties for the violations cited above vary depending upon the substance (drug), the quantity of the substance, the number of violations related to the offense, and the schedule of the controlled substance. For more information about state and federal laws regarding controlled substances consult "Drugs of Abuse," 1988 Edition, Department of Justice. Copies of this document are available for examination through the PUC Police and the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Dean of Students.

### **PUC REGULATIONS ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS:**

PUC regulations state that the use, possession, or distribution of narcotics or dangerous drugs is prohibited except as expressly permitted by the laws of the state of Indiana. PUC regulations prohibit the possession or use of alcoholic beverages in or on PUC property, regardless of the person's age.

PUC prohibits the service or possession of alcoholic beverages at any student organization function on campus. Members of recognized fraternities and sororities are subject to the following conditions concerning possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the premises of their houses: (1) under no circumstances may alcoholic beverages be sold; (2) alcoholic beverages may not be available at any event where an admission fee is charged; (3) alcoholic beverages may not be consumed outside the house; (4) alcoholic beverages and containers for alcoholic beverages may not be displayed outside the house; and (5) alcoholic beverages may not be provided or consumed at an open event. In addition, PUC regulations prohibit the use of university funds or those of registered student organizations for the purchase of alcohol. All sponsoring organizations are equally responsible for open and closed (members and invited guests only) events and for compliance with PUC regulations and applicable Indiana state laws. Violations of any of these conditions may result in University action. For a listing of University regulations, consult the PUC "Alcohol Policy" and the "Regulations Governing Student Conduct, Disciplinary Proceedings, and Appeals." Copies are available at the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Dean of Students, Lawshe Hall, room 352.

### **VIOLATIONS OF PUC REGULATIONS AND LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW REGARDING THE USE OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS:**

Any student suspected of being in violation of these regulations may be subject to disciplinary proceedings conducted by a representative of the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Dean of Students. Students who are found guilty may be subject to the following procedures and disciplinary

sanctions: referral to counseling, restitution, reprimand and warning, disciplinary probation, probated suspension, suspension, expulsion, or other educationally sound sanctions.

NOTE: When appropriate, referral for prosecution under local, state, and federal laws may occur. Indiana state law allows PUC to investigate and act on any suspicion of violation of local, state, or federal law. PUC may also investigate and take action in incidents occurring in states other than Indiana.

**POSSIBLE HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUG USE:**

Ethyl alcohol is the active drug found in alcoholic beverages. Alcohol has a depressant effect on the body. In addition, at intoxicating doses, alcohol can decrease heart rate, lower blood pressure and respiration rate, and result in decreased reflex responses and slower reaction times. The following chart (from "Drugs of Abuse," 1988 edition, a Department of Justice publication) details health risks of using controlled substances.

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES - USES AND EFFECTS			
Category of Drug	Addictive Potential	Possible Effects	Withdrawal Syndrome
Narcotics*	h,m,l	A,B,C,D,E,R,S,T,U,V	yes
Depressants*	h,m,l	F,G,H,R,S,W,X,U,V	yes
Cannabis*	m,u	A,P,Q,G,BB,CC,DD	yes
Hallucinogens*	h,u	N,O,AA,DD,V	unknown
Stimulants*	h,m	S I,J,A,K,L,M,Y,Z,N,T,V	yes

\* A variety of drugs are represented within each category of controlled substances.

**KEY**

- Addictive Potential: h=high; m=moderate; l=low; u=unknown  
 - Possible Effects: A=euphoria; B=drowsiness; C=respiratory depression; D=constricted pupils; E=nausea; F=slurred speech; G=disorientation; H=drunken behavior without odor of alcohol; I=increased alertness; J=excitation; K=increased pulse rate and blood pressure; L=insomnia; M=loss of appetite; N=illusions and hallucinations; O=poor perception of time and distance; P=relaxed inhibitions; Q=increased appetite; R=slow and shallow breathing; S=clammy skin; T=convulsions; U=coma; V=possible death; W=dilated pupils; X=weak and rapid pulse; Y=agitation; Z=increase in body temperature; AA=longer more intense "trip" episodes; BB=fatigue; CC=paranoia; DD=possible psychosis.

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL INFORMATION, COUNSELING, TREATMENT, OR REHABILITATION:**

PUC has several campus-wide committees whose members are working to address the issues of alcohol and other drugs. Services to assist students are offered through the following offices on campus:

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| * University Counseling Center                                            | Gyte-5          | 989-2366         |
| * Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Services and Dean of Students | Lawshe Hall-352 | 989-2367         |
| * Counseling and Guidance Practicum Center                                | Gyte-3F         | 989-2366 or 2318 |

Many off-campus resources are also available for counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation. These include community mental health agencies, hospital drug and alcohol treatment programs, and private organizations and therapists. Students may pursue assistance or treatment through these resources on their own initiative, or may be assisted by any of the above university offices in obtaining a referral.

PUC recognizes that the ultimate responsibility for conduct remains with the individual student. The goals of the University are to facilitate responsibility through the prevention policy presented in this document and to impose the described sanctions upon those who choose to violate University regulations.