

Alcohol Policy/ Substance Abuse Policy

Students may not consume, sell, distribute, or serve alcohol beverages anywhere on campus (including parking lots, athletic fields, etc.) Enforcement will be through normal disciplinary channels.

The possession, distribution, sale, or use of drugs that are considered illegal unless prescribed by an authorized practitioner is prohibited throughout the College campus. Enforcement will be through normal disciplinary channels.

Please see the annual Notice to Students and Employees under the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (PL 101-226) for further information, including health risks, legal sanctions, and sources of assistance for substance abusers.

Alcohol and drug use policies are specifically delineated in compliance with Section 1213 (P.L. 101-226) of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. Campus prevention programs include formal coursework, speakers and workshops, awareness weeks, brochures, and self-help support groups.

Annual Notice to Students and Employees

Section 1213 (P.L. 101-226) of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act requires institutions of higher education that receive federal funds to adopt and implement a program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees that at a minimum includes:

1. Annual distribution to each student and employee:
 - a. Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use of distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities;
 - b. A description of the applicable legal sanctions under local, State, or Federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
 - c. A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol;
 - d. A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or reentry programs that are available to employees or students; and
 - e. A clear statement that the institution will impose sanctions on students and employees (consistent with local, State, and Federal law) and a description of these sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct required by paragraph 1-a; and
2. A biennial review by the institution of its program to:
 - a. Determine its effectiveness and implement changes to the program, if they are needed; and
 - b. Ensure that the sanctions required by paragraph 1-e are consistently enforced.

Columbia -Greene Alcohol Policy — (28.0Alcohol Beverages–Board Manual):

- a. Alcohol beverages may not be consumed, distributed, or served on campus, except at special College events that have been granted specific approval by the President or his/her designee; however, only nonalcoholic beverages may be served and/ or sold at student sponsored events on campus.
- b. In compliance with Section 65 of the alcohol Beverage Control Law, in no case will persons under twenty-one (21) years of age be served or permitted to purchase alcoholic beverages anywhere on campus.

Alcohol Policy/Substance Abuse Policy Note:

All students, employees, visitors, and invitees to Columbia-Greene Community College are subject to the policies, procedures, rules, and regulations of the College while on campus. Students may not consume, sell, distribute, or serve alcohol beverages anywhere on campus (including parking lots, athletic fields, etc.). Enforcement will be through normal disciplinary channels. The possession, distribution, sale, or use of drugs that are considered illegal, unless prescribed by an authorized practitioner, is prohibited throughout the College campus. Enforcement will be through normal disciplinary channels. The College regulations pertaining to student conduct apply to sponsored off-campus activities, including all field trips. Regulations will also be strictly enforced on College vehicles or chartered vehicles while students are in transit to and from sponsored events.

N.B. The College administration interprets this section to exempt lawful alcohol consumption provided by licensed vendors on their premises. Articles of the Penal Law are directly aimed at unlawful traffic in mind-affecting drugs. They are compatible with the Public Health Law Articles and set criminal penalties for possession or sale of drugs considered harmful or subject to abuse. The seriousness of the offense and penalty imposed upon conviction depend on the individual drug amount held or sold.

Specific sections of interest in Article that are not included:

- Section 220.44 makes a sale of a controlled substance in or near school grounds, to a person less than 19 years of age, a Class B felony;
- Section 220.45 makes criminal possession of a hypodermic instrument a Class A misdemeanor;
- Section 220.46 makes criminal injection of another person with a narcotic drug, with consent of that person, a Class E felony;
- Section 220.50 bans possession or sale of drug paraphernalia; deals with things that dilute drugs, like dextrose or mannite, and gelatin capsule, plastic envelopes, etc. considered commercial preparation materials. (Class E felony)
- Section 220.60 makes criminal possession of certain ‘precursors’ of controlled substances used in their preparation or manufacture, but not the drugs themselves, a Class E felony (for example, ergot or diethylamide).

N.B. Under the Penal Law, a gift of drugs, including marijuana, is treated as a sale. A misdemeanor is a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than 15 days, but not more than one year. A felony is a crime punishable by imprisonment for more than one year.

Unlawful possession of alcohol.

On January 1, 1990, a package of new state laws made it illegal for persons under twenty one (21) years of age to possess alcoholic beverages. Under the new laws, under age persons found possessing alcohol may be given a summons to appear in a local court.

Local Resources:

Twin Counties Recovery Services, Inc.

Greene County

428 West Main St., Catskill, NY 12414

Phone: (518) 943-2036

Columbia County

47 North 5th St., Hudson, NY 12534

Phone: (518) 828-9300

Drinking Driver Program

Phone: (518) 828-9486

The college will, to the best of its resources, support any employee who is identified as needing assistance by confidentially recommending appropriate drug counseling and rehabilitation. Employees are assured that all attempts will be made to preserve an employee's status at this College while assistance is sought by the employee. In the event disciplinary action becomes necessary, all rules governing such action will be followed in accordance with relevant provisions of Civil Service Law, Collective Bargaining Agreements, or such other personnel policies as may relate to the individual's employment.

Students who violate College policy and/or regulations are subject to disciplinary action that may include suspension and expulsion.

The College's prevention program includes:

- Speakers, workshops throughout the year
- Drug and Alcohol Abuse Awareness Weeks
- Brochures widely available, distributed at Orientation
- Student Activities
- Orientation presentation
- Self-help support groups
- Restroom Rap

Alcohol

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. 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. 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 convulsion. 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. Mothers 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 greater risk than other youngsters of becoming alcoholics.

Contact person:

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