**ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS INFORMATION**

**& MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY POLICY**

**Federal Law**

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (amends the Higher Education Act) [**20 U.S.C. § 1011i**](http://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/search/display.html?terms=1011i&url=/uscode/html/uscode20/usc_sec_20_00001011---i000-.html); [**34 C.F.R. § 86.1**](http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr;sid=119bce39af28f16006f4803c75d1690d;rgn=div5;view=text;node=34%3A1.1.1.1.31;idno=34;cc=ecfr) et seq.; 55 Fed. Reg. 33,580 (Aug. 16, 1990)

This law requires institutions receiving federal financial assistance to establish drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs for students and employees. Students and employees must receive materials annually that contain standards of conduct, a description of the various laws that apply in that jurisdiction regarding alcohol and drugs, a description of the various health risks of drug and alcohol abuse, a description of counseling and treatment programs that are available, and a statement on the sanctions the university will impose for a violation of the standards of conduct.

Students and employees are entitled to a paper copy of this policy. Students can request a paper copy by contacting the Dean for Student Affairs at ext. 211. Employees can request a paper copy by contacting Human Resources at ext. 208.

**Health Risks**

The risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol are numerous and include physical and mental impairment, emotional and psychological deterioration and devastating effects on family and friends. There are obvious risks such as suffering a hangover, being charged with driving under the influence or while intoxicated, and sustaining or causing personal injury. There are a number of less obvious risks associated with alcohol and other drug abuse that students might not realize, including:

* Poor academic performance
* Poor job performance
* Poor social interactions
* Unwanted and inappropriate sexual activity
* Sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS
* Pregnancy
* Jeopardizing future career prospects, (e.g., admission to law school and employment with the federal government)

In addition, alcohol and other drug abuse puts the user at considerable health risk, which can include nausea, vomiting, cancer, liver damage, elevated blood pressure, psychotic episodes, hallucinations and, in some cases, death. In addition to the risk to the abuser of illicit drugs and alcohol are the risks to fellow classmates, the public and to unborn children.

**Prevention**

The decision to use alcohol or drugs is a choice that has potentially serious health, academic and legal consequences. According to the American College Health Association (2008), you can reduce your risk for abuse by doing the following:

Know your limits – Consider your personal or family history for substance abuse and take action to avoid situations that may lead you to use alcohol or drugs.

Develop your own risk reduction strategies – If you decide to use drugs, but you regularly violate your risk reduction strategies, you should seek help from someone you trust (also see resources listed below).

Consider your reasons for using alcohol or drugs – After evaluating your reasons for substance use (i.e. to feel good, to be more social comfortable), identify other avenues by which to achieve the same results. If you need help determining alternative ways to achieve these results, you should seek help from someone you trust (also see resources listed below).

**University Standards of Conduct and Sanctions**

Drug Use: Mount Mary is a Drug Free Campus. Possession, use, manufacturing, distribution, and/or sale, and student involvement in illicit use of narcotics, amphetamines, barbiturates, LSD, marijuana or any other harmful drug is illegal and is prohibited. Students shall not possess any illegal or controlled substance in crude or refined form except under the direction of a licensed physician. Students shall not possess any items that are designed for the use of drugs (pipes, blow tubes, bowls, bongs, etc.). Any items that are fashioned for the purpose of facilitating or disguising drug use will also be considered a violation of this policy. Student involvement in such matters is a Mount Mary University concern whether they occur on or off campus and irrespective of any action by civil authorities.

Alcohol Use: Mount Mary University adheres to state laws and the legal drinking age. Proof of age must be shown at events where alcohol is available on the Mount Mary campus. The unauthorized sale, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by students on campus is prohibited unless permission has been granted for its use at specific University-sponsored functions. Off campus use or possession of alcoholic beverages is governed and controlled by state and/or local laws. Each group sponsoring social activities where alcohol will be served on campus must publish procedures in compliance with state law and Mount Mary policy.

Use of Alcohol in Caroline Residence Hall: Wisconsin law states that the age to use alcoholic beverages is 21. Caroline Hall extends that right as a privilege to those who meet the legal qualifications. Our goal as an educational institution is to create an environment that encourages individuals to make responsible decisions. Mount Mary University does not encourage the use of alcoholic beverages, nor does it condone underage consumption. It respects the privilege extended by the state of Wisconsin. Guidelines for alcohol use in Caroline Hall are found in the Caroline Hall Handbook.

A person is expected to be responsible for his or her behavior at all times. Conduct which is in violation of the state, county, and municipal laws or the University regulations relating to the use of alcoholic beverages will involve the student in University disciplinary procedures, with sanctions ranging from a warning to expulsion and referral for prosecution, regardless of the action that may be taken by civil authority. University action may be taken if an individual’s conduct is inappropriate to an educational institution and to a residential community, whether or not his or her actions may be due to the consumption of alcoholic beverages. See my.mtmary.edu to review the Student Conduct Code, Section B. 1., for additional information regarding the potential sanctions for alcohol/drugs/illegal substances violations.

**State and Federal Laws and Sanctions**

ALCOHOL – There are substantial restrictions against the sale, possession and distribution of alcohol in Wisconsin. It is against the law to sell alcohol to anyone not of the legal drinking age of 21 and there is a concurrent duty on the part of an adult to prevent the illegal consumption of alcohol on his/her premises, Wis. Stats.125.07(1)(a). Violation of this statute can result in up to $500 forfeiture for a first offense, with higher fines and imprisonment for subsequent violations. It is against the law for an underage person to attempt to buy an alcoholic beverage, falsely represent her age, or enter a licensed premise except to conduct lawful business. First offenders can be fined up to $500, ordered to participate in a supervised work program and have their driver’s license suspended, Wis. Stats.125.07(4).

DRUGS - Wisconsin laws prohibit drug possession and delivery through the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Wis. Stats. 961. This mandates stiff penalties, including large fines and long periods of imprisonment. For a first-time conviction of possession of a controlled substance, a person can be sentenced up to one year in prison and fined up to $5000, Wis. Stats. 961.41(2r). The penalties will vary depending on the amount and type of drug confiscated, the number of previous offenses by the individual, and if the individual intended to manufacture, sell or possess the drug. Wis. Stats. 961.41. In addition to the stringent penalties for possession or delivery, the sentences can be doubled when exacerbating factors are present, such as when a person distributes a controlled substance to a minor, Wis.Stats.961.46(1).

The federal government revised the penalties against drug possession and trafficking when it adopted the Federal Sentencing Guidelines that reduce or eliminate the discretion that federal judges may use in sentencing offenders of federal drug statutes. Under current statutes, courts can sentence a person up to one year of imprisonment and a $5000 fine for unlawful possession of a controlled substance such as marijuana. Federal law creates special penalties for the possession of certain drugs such as cocaine base, also known as crack. For the possession of 5 grams of cocaine base, a federal judge is obligated to sentence a person to at least 5 years (and up to 20years) imprisonment. A sentence of life imprisonment is required for a conviction for the distribution of a controlled substance that results in death or bodily injury. The Federal Sentencing Guidelines eliminated parole in the federal judicial system.

**Mount Mary University Alcohol and Other Drug Resources**

Anyone interested in receiving assistance with an alcohol or other drug issue should contact one of the following offices:

Counseling Center - (414) 258-4810, ext. 378; Haggerty Library 135

Campus Safety - (414) 258-4810, ext. 421; Caroline Hall 054

Director of Residence Life (for resident students) - (414) 258-4810, ext. 169; Caroline Hall 155

**Community Alcohol and Other Drug Resources**

**Hotlines:**

Addiction Resource Council - (262) 524-7921

Alcoholics Anonymous - (414) 771-9119

Milwaukee Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Impact) - (414) 276-8487

Community Information Line (IMPACT) - (414) 773-0211\*

**Community Treatment Facilities:**

Aurora Sinai Behavioral Health Services - (414) 219-5000

Lutheran Social Services Outpatient - (414) 325-3096

Aurora Psychiatric Hospital—Wauwatosa - (414) 454-6600

Meta House (women) - (414) 962-1200

Genesis Behavioral Services Inc. - (414) 342-6200

St. Mary’s Hospital Milwaukee - (414) 961-3300

**National Resources:**

National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information – (800) 729-6686; [www.health.org](http://www.health.org)

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency – (212) 269-7797; [www.ncadd.org](http://www.ncadd.org)

National Institute on Drug Abuse – (301) 443-1124; [www.drugabuse.gov](http://www.drugabuse.gov)

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