SUBSTANCE USE REGULATIONS

POLICY

Sherman College provides information on alcohol and drug awareness for its students, including the annual distribution of program information. Counseling resources are available through the Office of Student Affairs.

I. Standards Of Conduct for Employees and Students Regarding Drugs and Alcohol

A. The possession, use or distribution of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the premises of the college, except during prior-approved college-sponsored events. In such cases, the event organizer must obtain prior written consent from the college president or his or her designee.
B. The possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs or substances of any kind is prohibited on the premises of the college.
C. The unlawful possession, use, manufacture or distribution of illegal drugs or substances and alcohol on or off campus is cause for immediate dismissal.

II. Legal Requirements

A. South Carolina Law: Individuals must be 21 years of age to purchase, possess, and/or consume alcohol. It is illegal to give or sell alcoholic beverages to persons who are under 21 years of age or who are intoxicated.
B. Open Container Law: The State of South Carolina complies with the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21): The State of South Carolina has voluntarily submitted its open container law to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for review and has been found to be in compliance with the provision in the federal highway bill, TEA-21.

Open Container (beer, wine): South Carolina law prohibits having an open container of beer or wine in a moving vehicle of any kind, except in the trunk or luggage compartment. If you are convicted of violating this law, you face a fine of up to $100 or imprisonment for up to 30 days. (S.C. Code of Laws Section 61-4-110).

Open Container (liquor): South Carolina law prohibits having an open container of liquor in a moving vehicle of any kind, except in the trunk or luggage compartment. If you are convicted of violating this law, you face a fine of up to $100 or imprisonment for up to 30 days. (S.C. Code of Laws Section 61-4-4020).

III. Sanctions

Students and visitors must adhere to federal, state, local and college rules and regulations.

Students found to be in violation of Sherman College's Code of Conduct, or the Substance Use Regulations Policy will be held accountable for their actions and will face disciplinary action and/or legal prosecution.

The list of student infractions provided below is not exhaustive. The sanctions listed are the minimum sanction that will be given and do not limit the maximum sanction that may be imposed.

1. Manufacture of illegal drugs and/or distribution of illegal drugs or substances: Dismissal
2. Possession and/or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal substances while on campus: Dismissal
3. Providing patient care while under the influence of alcohol and/or illegal drugs or substances: Dismissal

*Acceptable appeals regarding dismissals may be made to the college after 6 months.

Students may also be held accountable for allowing or soliciting violations of the standards of conduct by their guests. Campus disciplinary sanctions include, but are not limited to:

1. Written warnings
2. Probation
3. Fines
4. Suspension and/or dismissal

Individuals and sponsoring groups are accountable for their choices and behavior. If alcohol or other drug violations occur, the following disciplinary systems may be utilized:

1. College's Student Conduct Review Board
2. Legal prosecution

In extenuating circumstances, the college reserves the right to determine alternative sanctions if deemed appropriate.

IV. Title IV Guidelines

The college will adhere to the regulations/procedures as stated in the Title IV Guidelines concerning Financial Aid status and application.

Title IV Guidelines are stated as follows:

The FAFSA Simplification Act helps promote equal access to higher education. The act removes the restriction on financial aid eligibility for those with drug convictions. In doing so, it recognizes the importance of education as a pathway to rehabilitation. Now, students with prior drug offenses can apply for aid without fearing automatic disqualification. This enables them to pursue their educational goals and build a brighter future.

The FAFSA Simplification Act removes federal barriers to financial aid. However, colleges may still penalize students with drug convictions. Some schools have their own policies about admission or participation in certain programs. Thus, while the federal government no longer considers drug convictions in financial aid decisions, students may still face consequences at the institutional level.

See: https://studentaid.gov/understand-aid/eligibility/requirements/criminal-convictions

V. Health Risks and Contact Information

Students needing information concerning the health risks associated with alcohol and/or drug abuse should contact the Office of Student Affairs to obtain a campus *Drug Prevention Program and Resource Guide* or refer to the electronic guide posted on the college's website.

Also see:

Policy 8004 – Student Code of Conduct
Policy 8013 – Tobacco Use