

**Drug Free Schools and Campuses (DFSC) Regulations** – require all institutions of higher education, as a condition of receiving federal funds or other forms of federal financial assistance under any federal program, to certify that they have implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. Implementation of this regulation requires a written policy, distribution to all students and employees and a biennial report on the effectiveness of the programs and the consistency of policy enforcement.

**I. Policy:** The possession, and/ or consumption (without valid dental or medical prescription), distribution, manufacture or sale of alcoholic beverages, illegal or dangerous drugs on East Georgia College property or at institutionally approved events off campus is prohibited. Any employee who is convicted of the unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, use or possession of a controlled substance, marijuana, or other illegal or dangerous drug, or who admits guilt of any such offense in a court proceeding is in violation of the above policy.

**II. Institutional sanctions** for violations of the above policy are located in Section 5.3 "Dismissal, Demotion or Suspension" section of this *Employee Handbook*. All sanctions imposed by East Georgia College are subject to review as provided in the Grievance and Appeals Procedure in Section 5.4 of this handbook. An employee who has been dismissed or suspended without pay and is later reinstated shall be entitled to recover back pay unless the president or his designee determines otherwise.

**III. State Legal Sanctions:** If the employee is also a student, he or she is directed to the Student Handbook for additional sanctions such as suspension and denial of loans, grants or scholarships. **Criminal Sanctions:** Under Georgia and federal law, it is a crime to possess, manufacture, sell, or distribute illegal drugs. As required by federal regulations, you may view charts detailing [federal penalties for marijuana trafficking](#), [federal penalties for drug trafficking](#), and the [state drug law summary](#). (Cut and paste to hyperlink?)

Federal sanctions for the illegal possession of drugs include imprisonment up to 1 year and/or a minimum fine of \$1,000 for a first conviction; imprisonment for 15 days-2 years and a minimum fine of \$2,500 for a second drug conviction; and imprisonment for 90 days-3 years and a minimum fine of \$5,000 for a third or subsequent drug conviction. For possession of a mixture or substance which contains a cocaine base, federal sanctions include 5-20 years in prison and a minimum fine of \$1,000, for a first conviction if the mixture or substance exceeds 5 grams, for a second conviction if the mixture or substance exceeds 3 grams, and for a third or subsequent conviction if the mixture or substance exceeds 1 gram. Additional possible penalties for the illegal possession of drugs are forfeiture of real or personal property used to possess or to facilitate possession of a controlled substance if the offense is punishable by more than 1 year imprisonment; forfeiture of vehicles, boats, aircraft, or any other conveyance used, or intended for use, to transport or conceal drugs; civil fine up to \$10,000 per violation; denial of federal benefits, such as student loans, grants, contracts, and professional and commercial licenses for up to 1 year for a first and up to 5 years for a second or subsequent offense; successful completion of a drug treatment program; community service; and ineligibility to receive or purchase a firearm.

Georgia law prohibits the purchase or possession of alcohol by a person under the age of 21, or the furnishing of alcohol to such a person. Driving under the influence of alcohol or other drugs also is illegal. It is against Georgia law, under certain circumstances, to walk or be upon a roadway while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. The punishment for these offenses may include imprisonment, payment of a fine, mandatory treatment and education programs, community service, and mandatory loss of one's driver's license.

**IV. Health Risks:** The following information on health risks is from *What Works: Schools Without Drugs*, U. S. Department of Education (1992):

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 convulsions. 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.

**V. Counseling and Treatment Resources: Substance Abuse Services Available in Area**

- For inpatient detoxification services, contact Emanuel Recovery Program (478-237-3369) located at 207 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro, Georgia. This is a 5 day program. Help and assistance is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. The cost of these services often depends on the medication received. Group counseling is one of the services provided. The inpatient program emphasizes the "disease model" of addiction. Patients attend Alcoholics Anonymous as well as Narcotics Anonymous.

For outpatient substance abuse services, the individual should contact Ogeechee Behavioral Health Services (located at 223 North Anderson Drive in Swainsboro, Georgia) 478-289-2530 for an appointment. Once the appointment is scheduled, the individual will meet with a Mental Health Counselor. The Counselor determines if the individual qualifies for out-patient services or further services from the clinic. If determined eligible for services, the individual is scheduled for a second appointment to see the nurse and doctor. Some insurance policies are accepted as payment. There is also a sliding fee scale for services based on the individual's income.