

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program

Standards of Conduct

FTTC prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol or controlled substances by any students or employees on its property or as part of any of its activities except as they may be prescribed by a qualified physician or other person licensed, registered, or otherwise permitted to distribute, dispense, or administer a controlled substance to treat an individual's physical or mental condition. Controlled substances are listed in Schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act found in 21 U.S.C. 812 and as further defined by regulations found at 21 CFR 1300.11 through 1300.15.

This program is adopted to and in compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

Legal Sanctions

Local, state, and federal laws provide for a variety of legal sanctions for the unlawful possession and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. These sanctions include, but are not limited to, incarceration and monetary fines.

The Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970, as amended and adopted by the United States Congress, provides penalties including imprisonment ranging up to life in prison, fines up to four million dollars, and forfeiture of property for the unlawful possession or distribution of controlled substances.

Oklahoma law provides that any person convicted of distributing, dispensing, or possessing with intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance or a counterfeit substance shall be guilty of a felony and may be imprisoned up to 20 years and fined up to \$100,000 depending on the type of controlled substance involved. Subsequent convictions shall be punishable by twice the imprisonment and info otherwise authorized.

FTTC cooperates with all police authorities and may employ all methods of drug detection available to eliminate illegal trafficking and use of controlled substances. Enforcement agencies may be enlisted to thwart illegal drug activity by the use of agent investigations, canine (dog) searches, and sophisticated means of electronic surveillance, photography and recording.

County and city laws are similar to federal and state laws. If drugs are involved, the city will most likely defer to the state or federal authorities because their penalties are more severe. If alcohol is involved, you may be convicted of violating both local and state law and punished according to both laws.

Health Risks

The illegal use of controlled substances has a substantial and detrimental effect on the health and general welfare of the American people. More than 25,000 people die each year from drug-related accidents or health problems. With most drugs, it is probable that users will develop psychological and physical dependence. The health risks associated with the unlawful use of controlled substances depend on the combination used and the individual using them. The following are general categories of drugs and their effects.

Narcotics: Also known as opioids, this includes drugs such as fentanyl, methadone, and OxyContin. These drugs can create psychological and physical dependence. Negative effects include slowed physical activity, constriction of the pupils, flushing of the face and neck, constipation, nausea, vomiting, and slowed breathing.

Depressants: This drug class includes barbiturates, downers, roofies, and tranquilizers. Individuals may abuse these drugs to experience euphoria, to enhance a drug high, to deal with the side effects of other drugs, or to facilitate sexual assault. Depressants can affect the mind by causing amnesia, reduce reaction time, impair mental functioning and judgment, and cause confusion. They impact the body by causing slurred speech, loss of motor coordination, weakness, headache, lightheadedness, blurred vision, dizziness, nausea, vomiting, low blood pressure, and slowed breathing.

Stimulants: This includes amphetamines, Ritalin, diet aids, methamphetamine, and cocaine, among others. These drugs produce a sense of exhilaration, enhance self-esteem, and extend wakefulness for a prolonged period. Chronic, high-dose use is often associated with agitation, hostility, panic, aggression, paranoia, and suicidal or homicidal tendencies. Physical symptoms may include dizziness, tremors, headache, flushed skin, chest pains and palpitations, excessive sweating, vomiting, and abdominal cramps.

Hallucinogens: One of the oldest groups of drugs, hallucinogens are known for their ability to alter human perception and mood. Some forms include acid, mushrooms, LSD, and MDMA (ecstasy). The drugs cause perception distortions, flashbacks, elevated heart rate, increased blood pressure, and dilated pupils.

Anabolic Steroids: This is a synthetically produced variant of the naturally occurring male hormone testosterone that is abused in an attempt to promote muscle growth, enhance athletic or other physical performance, and improve physical appearance. High doses can cause mood and behavioral effects, such as mood swings, hostility, impaired judgment, increased aggression. They can stunt height in adolescents; cause early sexual development, acne, and stunted growth in boys; induce permanent physical changes, such as deepening of the voice and/or menstrual irregularities in females; and high cholesterol levels in both men and women.

Alcohol: Short term effects include behavioral changes, impairment of judgment and coordination, greater likelihood of aggressive acts, respiratory depression, irreversible physical and mental abnormalities in newborns (fetal alcohol syndrome) and death. Long-term effects of alcohol abuse include damage to the liver, heart and brain, ulcers, gastritis, malnutrition, delirium tremors and cancer. Alcohol combined with other barbiturates/depressants can prove to be a deadly mixture.

Cannabis (marijuana, hashish, hash, etc.): Cannabis impairs short-term memory, comprehension, concentration, coordination, and motivation. May also cause paranoia and psychosis. Marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing agents than tobacco smoke. The way in which marijuana is smoked, deeply inhaled, and “held” in the lungs for a long period, enhances the risk of getting cancer. Combined with alcohol, marijuana can produce a dangerous multiplied effect.

Tobacco/nicotine: Tobacco causes some 170,000 people in the United States to die each year from smoking-related coronary heart disease. Thirty percent of the 130,000 cancer deaths each year are linked to smoking, lung, larynx, esophagus, bladder, pancreas, and kidney cancers strike smokers at increased rates. Emphysema and chronic bronchitis are ten times more likely among smokers.

Drug Prevention

The following are drug prevention activities:

- Wellness brochure rack maintained in the Career Planning Center
- A list of drug abuse and prevention hotline telephone numbers in the career advisors’ offices.
- The Francis Tuttle school district provides a licensed Employee Assistance Program at no cost to the employee through Chance to Change
- The Call SAM (Student Assistance by Mercy) hotline 1-855-225-2726 provides crisis counseling and treatment resource referrals for students, staff, and their families. The hotline is staffed with mental health professionals 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.
- The Francis Tuttle website will include a student resource page that provides students with resources for drug abuse, available at <https://www.francistuttle.edu/student-experience/resources/counseling-services>.
- The Francis Tuttle school district provides two part-time licensed counselors to their employees.
- The Career Planning Center has licensed professional counselors (LPCs) on staff who can counsel students on drug and alcohol abuse prevention. Students needing referral will receive a list of community agencies that provide counseling assistance for chemical dependency.
- The Career Planning Center will add drug and alcohol prevention to the Canvas course that they provide students during the re-enrollment process.
- The district implemented MindWise, a mental health screening tool, available at <https://screening.mentalhealthscreening.org/Francis-Tuttle>.

FTTC does not sponsor any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment or rehabilitation or re-entry programs.

Violations

Student Policies and Procedures

POLICY:

It is policy that any teacher who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student may be under the influence of or said student has in his/her possession any of the following as they are now defined by law shall immediately notify the appropriate administrator or his/her designee of such suspicions:

1. Non-intoxicating beverages (i.e., 3.2 beer, wine coolers);
2. Alcohol beverages;
3. Controlled dangerous substances; and/or
4. Imitation controlled dangerous substances.

The administrator shall immediately notify the Superintendent or his/her designee. A high school student's parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified immediately.

PROCEDURES:

Any student suspected of being under the influence of or in the possession of beer or alcohol or under the influence of or in the possession of a controlled dangerous substance on school grounds or during school activities will immediately be referred to an administrator. The administrator shall then immediately notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of said student of the matter except in the case of an adult student.

The administrator shall suspend a student found to have violated these provisions for a minimum of five (5) days. Depending on the circumstances of the violation, the administrator may recommend a long-term suspension up to the remainder of the semester and the next succeeding semester for a high school student. In the case of an adult student, the administrator may recommend dismissal. The student may be required to seek assessment and/or counseling from a person trained in the treatment of chemical abuse. The student will be responsible for providing verification of compliance with the assessment recommendations.

Any student in possession of imitation controlled dangerous substances will be liable for the same penalty. Counterfeit drugs, drug paraphernalia, and chemicals that provide a mood-altering effect are included as controlled substances.

A second offense will result in long-term suspension for the high school student or dismissal for the adult student. Any such disciplinary action may be appealed in accordance with the appropriate high school or adult method of appeal found in this section.

Conspiracy/Chain/Sale/Distribution/Delivery of Drugs/Alcohol

A high school student found to be in the chain of distribution/sale/delivery of drugs or alcohol will incur a long-term suspension for the remainder of the current semester and the next succeeding semester. An adult student will be dismissed.

Seizure and Removal of Controlled Dangerous Substance(s)

A school authority shall immediately deliver any controlled dangerous substance(s), removed or otherwise seized from any minor or other person, to a law enforcement authority for appropriate disposition (§70-24-132)

Students on Individualized Education Program (IEP) in Possession

If a high school student is attending the District with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), a meeting of the student's IEP committee will be convened prior to considering imposing long-term

suspension. A meeting will also be held with the student's IEP committee to review the results of any required assessment or counseling as discussed in the above sections.

Staff Responsibilities of Students in Possession

No officer or employee of the District or any member of the Board of Education shall be subject to any civil liability for any statement, report, or action taken in assisting or referring for assistance, to any medical treatment or social service agency or facility or any substance abuse prevention and treatment program, any student reasonably believed to be abusing or incapacitated by the use of non-intoxicating beverages, alcoholic beverages or a controlled dangerous substance unless such assistance or referral was made in bad faith or with malicious purpose. No office or employee of the District shall be responsible for any treatment costs incurred by a student as a result of any such assistance or referral to any medical treatment, social service agency or facility, or substance abuse prevention and treatment program.

NOTE: A student is defined as any individual who is currently enrolled part-time or full-time in any instructional program at Francis Tuttle.

Biennial Review

FTTC conducts a review of its drug prevention program every two years. The review is used to determine the effectiveness of the program and as a toll for implementing changes to the program. The review is conducted with representatives from the Administration, Student Administrative Services, and the Career Planning Center. The Francis Tuttle Board of Education must approve any changes to the Francis Tuttle policies and procedures manual through their annual review.

Updated July 2024