

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICIES



BROWN MACKIE COLLEGE
ALBUQUERQUESM

Alcohol/Drug Possession, Usage, and Distribution Policy

Drug-Free Workplace and College

The use of illegal drugs and the abuse of alcohol at Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque or in facilities controlled by Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque are prohibited by College regulations and are incompatible with the Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque goal of providing a healthy educational environment for students, faculty, staff, and guests. The following information is provided in compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989.

Effects of Drugs and Alcohol

Although individuals often use drugs and alcohol to achieve a variety of effects on mind and body that are found to be temporarily useful or pleasurable, drugs can be highly addictive and injurious. A person can pay a price in terms of his or her physical, emotional, and social health.

This price can be paid in a number of ways. The risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, is increased through unwanted or unprotected sex when one is under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Drugs can be the trigger for violent crime. Economic and legal problems usually follow directly when one tries to support a drug habit by resorting to crime. The dependence, illness, loss of job, and loss of family or friends that can result from drug or alcohol use and abuse can be tragic.

In keeping with the mission of Education Management Corporation and the requirements of state and federal law Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque has adopted this program to ensure a drug-free college and workplace and to prevent the use of controlled substances and the abuse of alcohol.

Health Risks Associated with the Use of Alcohol

Short-Term Risks

- Increased risks of accidents and injuries
- Alcohol-related traffic accidents (the leading cause of death for teens)
- Alcohol slows reaction time, decreases muscle coordination, and impairs vision
- Fatal overdose
- Unconsciousness or blackout
- Death by aspiration of vomit
- Nausea
- Gastritis

Long-Term Risks

- Increased blood pressure
- Increased risk of heart attack
- Brain damage resulting in permanent psychosis
- Cancer of the mouth, esophagus, or stomach
- Liver damage (cirrhosis, alcohol hepatitis, cancer)
- Ulcers and gastritis
- Pancreatitis
- Birth defects
- In males, testicular atrophy and breast enlargement
- In females, increased risk of breast cancer
- Prolonged, excessive drinking can shorten life span by 10 to 12 years

Health Risks Associated with the Use of Drugs

Amphetamines (Speed, Uppers)

- Malnutrition
- Hallucinations
- Dependence, psychological, and sometimes physical

Deliriants (Aerosols, Lighter Fluid, Paint Thinner)

- Permanent damage to lungs, brain, liver, bone marrow
- Loss of coordination, confusion, hallucinations
- Overdose causing convulsions, death

Depressants (Barbiturates, Tranquilizers, Methaqualone)

- Confusion, depression, loss of coordination
- Dependence — physical and psychological
- Coma, death (caused by overdose)
- Can be lethal when combined with alcohol

Hallucinogens (LSD, PCP, DMT, STP, Mescaline)

- Hallucinations, panic, irrational behaviors (which can lead to increased risk of accidents, injuries)
- Tolerance overdose leading to convulsions, coma, death
- Possible birth defects in children of LSD users

Intravenous Drug Use

- Places one at risk for HIV infection (the virus causing AIDS) when needles are shared

Marijuana and Hashish

- Chronic bronchitis
- Decreased vital capacity
- Increased risk of lung cancer
- In men, lower levels of testosterone and increase in abnormal sperm count

Stimulants (Cocaine)

- Painful nosebleeds and nasal erosion
- Intense “downs” that result in physical and/or emotional discomfort
- Tolerance and physical dependence can develop

Narcotics (Heroin, Morphine, Codeine, Opium)

- Malnutrition
- Hepatitis
- Loss of judgment and self-control leading to increased risk of accidents, injuries
- Dependence
- Overdose leading to convulsions, coma, death

*Sanctions***Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque Sanctions**

Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque, in all of its actions, seeks to uphold local, state, and federal laws. Insofar as permitted by these laws, the Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque will apply sanctions that could lead to a student being fined, suspended, or expelled or an employee being disciplined, suspended, or dismissed for violation of the Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque standards of conduct. Students and employees may also be referred for prosecution. Disciplinary sanctions may include the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program, at the student’s or employee’s expense, if necessary.

State and Federal Sanctions*New Mexico State Sanctions*

New Mexico law makes it illegal to possess a controlled substance, and the penalties imposed for unlawfully possessing such substances in New Mexico depends on the type and amount of drug involved:

Drug	Amount	Penalty
Marijuana	1 ounce or less	Up to 15 days imprisonment and/or \$50-\$100 fine
	More than 1 but less than 8 ounces	Up to 1 year imprisonment and/or \$100-\$1,000 fine
	8 ounces or more	Up to 18 months imprisonment and/or up to \$5,000 fine
Methamphetamine and similar	Any amount	Up to 18 months imprisonment and/or up to \$5,000 fine
All other Schedule I, II, III, or IV drugs	Any amount	Up to 1 year imprisonment and/or \$500-\$1,000 fine

New Mexico imposes penalties for the manufacture, intentional distribution, or possession of illegal drugs with the intent to distribute as follows:

Drug	Amount	Penalty
Marijuana	100 pounds or less	Up to 18 months imprisonment and/or up to \$5,000 fine
	More than 100 pounds	Up to 3 years imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine
Methamphetamine and similar	Any amount	Up to 9 years imprisonment and/or fine not exceeding \$10,000
All other Schedule I, II, III, or IV drugs	Any amount	Up to 3 year imprisonment and/or fine up to \$5,000
Schedule V drugs	Any amount	Up to 180 days imprisonment and/or \$50-\$100 fine

New Mexico law also prohibits the distribution of illegal drugs to minors. One who is found guilty of distributing any amount of marijuana to minors is subject to imprisonment of up to 3 years and/or a fine not exceeding \$5,000. One who distributes any amount of any other Schedule I, II, III, or IV drug may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment not to exceed 9 years and/or be fined up to \$10,000.

Albuquerque law prohibits the possession of one ounce or less of marijuana and the manufacture or distribution of any controlled substance. Violators are subject to up to 90 days imprisonment and/or fine not exceeding \$500.

Driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs is illegal in New Mexico and carries the following penalties:

First offense: imprisonment up to 90 days and/or a fine not exceeding \$500

Second offense: imprisonment between 2 and 364 days and/or a fine between \$500 and \$1,000

Third offense: imprisonment between 30 and 364 days and/or fine between \$750 and \$1,000

Fourth offense: imprisonment of 18 months

Fifth offense: imprisonment of 2 years

Sixth offense: imprisonment of 30 months

Seventh and subsequent offenses: imprisonment of 3 years

It is illegal to sell or give alcohol to anyone under 21 years of age. Violators are subject to up to 18 months imprisonment and/or a fine not exceeding \$5,000. It is also illegal for minors to buy, attempt to buy, receive, or possess alcohol in New Mexico. Minors who violate this law are fined up to \$1,000, ordered to perform community service, and have their driving licenses suspended. Minors who present false identification for the purpose of procuring or attempting to procure alcohol are subject to up to six months' imprisonment and a fine of \$500.

Albuquerque law imposes penalties of imprisonment for up to 90 days and/or a fine not to exceed \$500 for those who are guilty of assisting minors to obtain alcohol, drinking in public, and minors purchasing or consuming alcohol.

Federal penalties and sanctions for illegal possession of a controlled substance include the following:

First Conviction Up to one year in prison, fine of \$1,000 to \$100,000, or both

Second Conviction At least 15 days and up to two years imprisonment, \$5,000 to \$250,000 fine, or both

After Two Drug Convictions At least 90 days and up to three years in prison, \$5,000 to \$250,000 fine, or both. Special federal sentencing provisions for possession of crack cocaine include a mandatory prison term of at least five years and up to 20 years, fine of up to \$250,000, or both, for a first conviction if the amount of crack exceeds five grams, for a second conviction if amount exceeds three grams, and for a third or subsequent conviction if the amount exceeds one gram.

Additional federal sanctions may also apply including forfeiture of vehicles used to transport controlled substances, denial of federal benefits including student loans, grants, and contracts, and denial or revocation of certain federal licenses and benefits.

The application of law and penalties vary from case to case depending on circumstances. The preceding information is not to be relied on as legal advice. Always consult a qualified attorney for legal advice.

Convictions for Drug-Related Offenses

Any student convicted of any drug-related criminal statute must notify the dean of academic affairs, in writing, no later than five (5) days after such conviction regardless of where the offense occurred. This is because under federal and state laws, any student convicted of a drug-related felony offense must be denied all federal and state assistance, including Pell Grants, SEOG, and ACG grants. However, a criminal conviction shall not be necessary to find that a student has violated these standards of conduct, and Brown Mackie College — Albuquerque need not, and ordinarily will not, defer its own actions and sanctions pending the outcome of any criminal proceeding.

Danger Signals Indication a Drug or Alcohol Problem

Following is a listing of classic danger signals that may indicate the presence of a drug or alcohol problem:

- Abrupt changes in mood or attitude
- Decreased efficiency at work or at school
- Frequent absences, tardiness, and/or early departures
- Relationship problems with family, friends, and co-workers
- Unusual outbursts of anger and hostility
- Social withdrawal

Advising

If you observe any of these changes in yourself or another student, you are encouraged to talk with faculty or staff member.

Abuse of alcohol or drugs can lead to dependency and addiction, with serious consequences for personal health and overall quality of life. There are drug and alcohol counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation facilities available in our area where students and employees may seek advice and treatment. The student advisor staff or a faculty member will refer you to one that meets your needs.

Albuquerque Area Resources

These organizations may be contacted for help.

Alcoholics Anonymous
1921 Alvarado NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
505-266-1900

Narcotics Anonymous
Albuquerque, NM 87110
(505) 260-9889

Behavioral Health Resource Center
612 Encino Place NE
Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 244-3408
bhrcs.org

National Sexual Assault Hotline
800-656-HOPE

Call for meeting times and locations.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse Hotline (1-800-662-4357) is available from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., Monday through Friday and from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. on weekends.

A list of emergency and sliding-fee scale resources is available from the student advisor.