



Policy Name:	Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy				
Section Number:	04.02	Section Title:	Campus	President's Office	
Policy Owner:	President		Last updated:	August 2024	Reviewed: August 2024
Status:	Active		Due for Review:	August 2029	

Section 1. Purpose

In keeping with its educational mission, Jones County Junior College (Jones or College) utilizes primarily educational strategies as the major approach to addressing problems related to the abuse of alcohol and other drugs by any member of the college community (students, faculty and staff). However, any member of the college community who violates the drug and alcohol policy will be subject to prosecution and punishment by the civil authorities and to disciplinary procedures of the college. Employees of the College are also subject to the Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Policy.

Section 2. The Board of Trustees of JONES adopted the above policy to accomplish the following:

1. Aid in the prevention of alcohol and other drug abuse through strong educational efforts.
2. Encourage and facilitate the use of counseling services and rehabilitation programs by those members of the College community who need their assistance with alcohol and other drug related problems.
3. Discipline appropriately those members of the College community who engage in substance abuse and related behaviors.

Section 3. Educational Efforts

JONES provides educational programs aimed at preventing the abuse of alcohol and other drugs. Educational efforts are directed toward all members of the College community and includes information about the incompatibility of the abuse or sale of alcohol and other drugs with the goals of JONES; the health hazards associated with the abuse of alcohol and other drugs; the incompatibility of alcohol and other drug abuse with the maximum achievement of educational, career, and other goals; and the potential legal consequences of involvement with alcohol and other drugs.

Section 4. Counseling and Rehabilitation Services

Those students, faculty, or staff who seek assistance through the college for an alcohol or drug related problem shall be provided with information about counseling and rehabilitation services available through both college and community resources. Professional standards of confidentiality shall be observed at all times. Individuals are encouraged to voluntarily avail themselves of services. For those working in good faith with treatment or rehabilitation agencies, every attempt will be made to return the individual to full employment or student status.

Section 5. Disciplinary Actions

Students, faculty members, administrators, and other employees are responsible, as citizens, for knowing about and complying with the provisions of Mississippi law that make it a crime to possess, sell, deliver, or manufacture those drugs designated collectively as “controlled substances” in Section 41-29-113 et. seq. of the Mississippi Statutes. The following minimum penalties shall be imposed by The College for the particular offenses described.

Section 6. State Sanctions Governing Illegal Drugs

6.1.- According to the Mississippi Code for Prohibited Acts and Penalties, 41-29- 139, except as authorized by state code, it is unlawful to sell, barter, transfer, manufacture, distribute, dispense or possess with intent to sell, barter, transfer, manufacture, distribute or dispense, a controlled substance or counterfeit substance. Persons convicted in the cases involving controlled substances classified in Schedules I and II of Section 41-29-113 and Section 41-29-115 of the Mississippi Statutes may be imprisoned up to 30 years and/or fined up to \$500,000.

6.2.- Persons convicted in the cases involving controlled substances classified in Schedules III through V of Section 41-29-117, Section 41-29-119 and Section 41- 29-121 of the Mississippi Statutes may be imprisoned up to 15 years and/or fined up to \$100,000.

6.3. The complete Mississippi Code for penalties can be found at <http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/mscode/>

Section 7. College Sanctions Governing Illegal Drugs

7.1. Trafficking in Illegal Drugs

For the illegal manufacture, sale or delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver, of any controlled substance identified in Schedules I and II of Section 41-29-113 and Section 41-29-115 of the Mississippi Statutes, (including, but not limited to heroin, cannabis, mescaline, lysergic acid diethylamide or LSD, opium, cocaine, amphetamine, MDMA or ecstasy, methaqualone), any student shall be expelled and any faculty member, administrator, or other employee shall be discharged.

For a first offense involving the illegal manufacture, sale or delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver, of any controlled substance identified in Schedules III through V of Section 41-29-117, Section 41-29-119, Section 41- 29-121 of the Mississippi Statutes (including, but not limited to steroids, diazepam, phenobarbital), the minimum penalty shall be suspension from enrollment or from employment.

For a second offense, any student shall be expelled and any faculty member, administrator, or staff employee shall be discharged.

7.2 Illegal Possession of Drugs

For a first offense involving the illegal possession of any controlled substance identified in Schedules I or II of Section 41-29-113 and Section 41-29-115 of the Mississippi Statutes, the minimum penalty shall be suspension from enrollment or from employment.

For a first offense involving the illegal possession of any controlled substance identified in Schedules III through V or Section 41-29-117, Section 41-29-119, and Section 41-29-121 of the Mississippi Statutes, the minimum penalty shall be probation for a period to be determined on a case-by-case basis. A person on probation may be required to participate in a drug education and counseling program, consent to regular drug testing, and accept such other conditions and restrictions as the appropriate college official deems appropriate.

Refusal or failure to abide by the terms of probation on second or other subsequent offenses involving the illegal possession of controlled substances, progressively more severe penalties shall be imposed, including expulsion of student and discharge of faculty members, administrators, or employees

7.3. Possession, Sale, or Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages

Possession, sale, or consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus or at off-campus college sponsored activities is prohibited. Alcoholic beverages include, but are not limited to beer, wine, distilled spirits, wine coolers, and liqueurs.

State Laws are outlined as follows:

1. The legal drinking age in Mississippi is 21.
2. Selling, giving, or serving alcoholic beverages to persons under 21 is unlawful.
3. In Mississippi, this law extends to possession of alcoholic beverages by anyone under 21.

It is unlawful for any person to misrepresent or misstate his or her age in order to obtain alcoholic beverages. This includes the manufacture or use of false identification. Any person who does either of these things for the purpose of obtaining alcohol shall be fined a maximum of \$500, and/or serve up to 30 days community service. Section 67-3-70.

D.U.I. (Driving while under the influence of alcohol or other drugs) Section 63-11-30 provides A mandatory suspension of license for a period of not less than 90 days.

- Fines of up to \$1,000 and /or 48 hours in jail. - Mandatory attendance and completion of an alcohol safety education program. Subsequent offenses warrant larger fines, imprisonment, license suspension, and seizure of vehicle. Commercial driving privileges will be suspended.

Under Mississippi's "zero tolerance for minors" code section, if a person under the age of 21 has a Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) of two one hundredths of a percent (0.02%) or more, but lower than eight one hundredths of a percent (0.08%), then that person shall be in violation of section 63-11-30 (3) (a).

- Upon conviction of any person under the age of 21, such person shall have his driver's license suspended for 90 days and shall be fined \$250 and completion of alcohol and drug program.

7.4 Federal Drug Trafficking Penalties Federal penalties for drug trafficking are listed on the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's website at http://www.dea.gov/druginfo/ftp_chart1.pdf

7.5. In addition to the legal requirements and penalties above, students found to be in violation of this college policy will be subject to penalties under the student Code of Conduct. Faculty and staff in violation of this college policy will be subject to disciplinary actions as outlined in college disciplinary procedures. Mandatory participation in rehabilitation and educational programs will be regulated by State and Federal statutes.

7.6 Conditions for Immediate Suspension

When a student, faculty member, administrator, or other employee has been charged by the college with a violation of policies concerning alcohol and other drugs, he or she may be suspended from enrollment or employment before initiation or completion of regular disciplinary proceedings, if assuming the truth of the charges, the responsible authority concludes that the person's continued presence within the college community would constitute clear and immediate danger to the health or welfare of other members of the college community. An immediate suspension and subsequent hearing will be in accordance with college disciplinary procedures.

7.7 Civil Conviction for Drug and Alcohol Offenses

If employees of JONES in performance of college duties within the scope of their employment are convicted of an offense related to drugs or alcohol, they will be subject to the same penalties as the offense would warrant if the offense were committed on college property or at a college sponsored event. The term "conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with responsibility to determine violations of Federal or State criminal drug statutes. The individual involved is required to notify the college of the conviction or incident within five (5) working days following said conviction or incident.

The abuse of alcohol and/or drugs is harmful to the individual's health and may cause serious health problems, breaks down the family structure, decreases productivity in the workplace, and impairs the education and learning process.

7.8 Health Risks

Alcohol

- Alcohol is absorbed directly into the bloodstream, physically affecting the whole body. Health risks associated with the abuse of alcohol include headaches, nausea, vomiting, weight gain, high blood pressure, impaired immune system, upper digestive tract cancer, liver disease, alcohol poisoning, which causes unconsciousness and even death. Other long-term effects of heavy alcohol use include loss of appetite, vitamin deficiencies, stomach ailments, sexual impotence, central nervous system damage, and memory loss.

Drugs

- The use of drugs is harmful and addictive. The abuse of prescription drugs and "recreational" drugs come with potentially harmful side effects that can have serious and long-term effects on your health. Improper drug use can cause immediate life-threatening health problems such as heart attack, respiratory failure, and coma. Combining drugs with each other or with alcohol is especially dangerous. Before taking any drug, you should seek and read from many sources the side effects of drugs and seek guidance from a medical doctor or pharmacist.

Resources

- Drug and alcohol counseling and referral services are available to the College community through the various Guidance and Counseling Programs and the School Nurse. A complete listing of drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs is also available to employees and students of the College through these programs.

- The College will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees as outlined in this policy for violation of the standards of conduct required by the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program.

Biennial Review

- A biennial review of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program will be conducted to:
 - 1. Determine its effectiveness and implement changes to the program as needed; and
 - 2. To ensure that disciplinary sanctions described in the policy are consistently enforced.

7.9.-A list of counseling centers is available in the Counseling Center or from the Office of Student Affairs.

8.0 Headings

All headings contained in this Policy are solely for the purpose of reference only, and shall not limit or otherwise affect any of the terms or provisions of this Policy and shall not be construed or interpreted in connection with any term or provision of this Policy.

JONES COLLEGE STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

Jones County Junior College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, or disability in its programs, activities, or employment practices. The following persons have been designated to handle inquiries and grievances regarding the non-discrimination policies: (ADA/ Section 504) Sarah Jones, Director of Counseling & ADA Coordinator, Student Affairs, phone 601-477-4070; email ADACoordinator@jcc.edu and (Title IX) Dr. Brittany Barron, Title IX Coordinator, Hutcheson Hubbard Administration Building, phone 601-477-4127; email brittany.weatherford@jcc.edu. Jones County Junior College, 900 South Court Street, Ellisville, MS 39437.