

# AMNESTY FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE VIOLATION POLICY

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*Division: Student Affairs*

## *Policy Statement*

The Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy covers situations such that, in the judgment of others, a student requires medical assistance because of drug or alcohol use. It is intended to encourage students to come forward without fear of disciplinary action being taken against the intoxicated student or those who seek to help them. This policy affirms that failure to call for medical assistance in an alcohol or drug related emergency may constitute a violation of our community standards.

## *Policy Statement Details*

Terra State Community College is an institution committed to promoting the intellectual, physical and social development of all individuals. As such, Terra State Community College seeks to prevent the abuse of drugs and alcohol, which can adversely affect performance and threaten the health and safety of students, employees, their families, and the general public. TSCC complies with all federal, state, and local laws concerning the unlawful possession, use, and distribution of drugs and alcohol.

As a community, Terra State Community College encourages students to assist other students who may be in need, either on or off campus. The college recognizes disciplinary sanctions may serve as a barrier to students seeking medical/crisis assistance for themselves or others in alcohol and drug related emergencies. Whenever a student seeks medical or crisis assistance for another student who is in violation of school policy related to alcohol or drug-related violations, both parties may be exempt from disciplinary sanctions as they pertain to the safety of the individuals

## *Procedures*

Students contacting emergency personnel including Campus Safety, in the following situations are covered under the Terra State Community College Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy.

1. An individual student who voluntarily contacts emergency medical assistance for themselves related to alcohol or drug use.
2. An individual student who voluntarily contacts emergency medical assistance on behalf of another person related to alcohol or drug use.

In all cases in which the Terra State Community College Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy applies, all students involved in an incident, including the person(s) who made the contact and the student(s) experiencing the emergency, will meet with the Dean of Student Success or his/her designee. At the meeting, the incident will be reviewed, and an appropriate response will be determined. This may include the following:

1. Alcohol and Other Drugs (Assessment) & Mental Health Counseling
2. Substance abuse education
3. Participation in an education awareness group or class
4. Educational assignment(s)

The student involved will not receive formal student conduct action, regardless of conduct history, provided the student completes all meetings and conditions. If a student fails to attend their scheduled meeting or fails to

complete the required outcomes of the meeting, they will be in violation of the Student Conduct Policy for failure to comply. The student code of conduct can be found at <https://terra.edu/codeofconduct>.

The Terra State Community College Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy does not excuse or protect students who repeatedly violate the College’s Student Code of Conduct; abuse of the Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy is not condoned. The Office of Safety and Security and the residential life staff are expected to follow their processes and procedures for any situation whether or not the Terra State Community College Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy may be applicable.

The Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy does not apply to students experiencing alcohol or drug related emergencies that are found by a College official.

When a student's role is that of an alleged respondent in any alleged violation(s) of the Terra State Community College Code of Conduct concerning sexual misconduct, verbal or physical abuse or harassment, distribution of controlled substances, property damage, or an action that results in the student’s arrest, the situation does not fall under the Terra State Community College Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy.

Alcohol poisoning and drug overdose are severe and life-threatening medical emergencies. Students may encounter this type of emergency during their time at Terra State Community College. Sometimes students are afraid to seek emergency medical care when alcohol poisoning or drug overdose is suspected because they do not want to get themselves or others in trouble. In order to encourage students to seek emergency medical care, Terra State Community College has instituted the Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy for Alcohol and Drug Emergencies.

*Resources*

1. **Student Code of Conduct** – <https://terra.edu/codeofconduct>
2. **TSCC BIT Team** - [https://terra.edu/life\\_at\\_terra\\_state/student\\_services/campus\\_safety\\_and\\_security/tscc\\_bit\\_information.php](https://terra.edu/life_at_terra_state/student_services/campus_safety_and_security/tscc_bit_information.php)
3. **TSCC Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program** - [https://www.terra.edu/life\\_at\\_terra\\_state/student\\_services/campus\\_safety\\_and\\_security/drugs\\_and\\_alcohol\\_prevention\\_program.php](https://www.terra.edu/life_at_terra_state/student_services/campus_safety_and_security/drugs_and_alcohol_prevention_program.php)
4. **TSCC Annual Security Report** - [https://www.terra.edu/life\\_at\\_terra\\_state/student\\_services/campus\\_safety\\_and\\_security/annual\\_security\\_reports.php](https://www.terra.edu/life_at_terra_state/student_services/campus_safety_and_security/annual_security_reports.php)

Documentation

NA

Definitions

**Term Definition**

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|--------------------------|---|
| <i>Amnesty</i>           | A pardon or forgiveness of violations of policy   |
| <i>Alcohol Poisoning</i> | When the concentration of alcohol in the blood reaches dangerous levels and can cause the body and it’s functions to cease, leading to potential organ damage and eventually death if not treated medically. Symptoms can include confusion, difficulty remaining conscious, vomiting, seizures, slow breathing or gaps in breathing, slow heart rate, clammy skin, dulled responses (such as no gag reflex (which prevents choking), and extremely low body temperature. |

*Drug Overdose*

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|  | Excess consumption or abuse of a substance in a manner that is greater than the body can process, which can cause the body and its functions to cease, leading to potential organ damage or death if not treated medically. Symptoms can include vomiting, confusion, being unresponsive, slowed breathing, erratic pulse, and chest pains. |
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*Approval History*

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Policy/Procedure or Entire Document</i> | <i>Notes (Types of Actions)</i>   | <i>**Approved by</i>               |
|-------------|--|---|------------------------------------|
| 5/16/2019   | Entire Document                            | Issued  | Unknown                            |
| 3/8/2021    | Entire Document                            | Edited to rename from "Good Neighbor Policy" to "Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy" according to AG request.<br><br>"Good Neighbor Policy" throughout the document replaced with "Amnesty for Drug and Alcohol Use Violation Policy."<br><br>Also, minor punctuation edits. | Todd Long                          |
| 4/23/2023   | Entire Document                            | Transferred to New Template<br><br>Updated Associate Dean of Students to Dean of Student Success<br><br>Added resources   | Tim Shaal, Dean of Student Success |
| 2/24/2026   | Entire Document                            | Policy Reviewed. No updates   | Tim Shaal, Dean of Student Success |
|             |  |   |                                    |

\*\*Full name of CASA Committee Chair, signatory, or designee

**Effective Date: 5/16/2019**

**Next Review Date: 4/23/2029**