

# COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF VERMONT

## SUBSTANCE USE AND ABUSE POLICY

October 21, 1999  
Revised July 1, 2018

*See also:*

*Complaint Resolution policy*

*VSC Employee Handbook*

*VSC Policy 314*

*Disruptive Persons policy*

*Student Assistance Program policy*

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### POLICY

Community College of Vermont (CCV) intends to maintain a positive working and learning environment in its academic centers, classrooms, and at its related events. CCV restricts the use of alcohol and prohibits the use of illicit drugs and/or controlled substances, tobacco products and devices, or any substances that may inhibit healthy academic or professional interaction by staff, students, or faculty members.

### PROCEDURES

1. In accordance with VSC policy 314, tobacco use is prohibited in all CCV academic centers. Tobacco use is defined as the burning, lighting or use of a tobacco product and any other smoking or vaping device that includes, but is not limited to cigarettes, cigars, electronic cigarettes (e-cigarettes), and pipes.
  - a. The College will make available educational materials and programs related to alcohol and substance use and abuse, including referral information on counseling and rehabilitation.
  - b. Persons whose behavior violates the VSCS Tobacco Use Reduction and Prevention Policy may be subject to the provisions of the Disruptive Person Policy.
2. Alcohol may not be served or consumed at CCV academic centers.
  - a. In rare instances, exceptions to serving alcohol may be made. Alcohol may not be present or provided without the expressed written permission of the executive director and the president.
  - b. At appropriate off-site CCV functions, alcohol may be served if it is legally permitted and where non-alcoholic beverages are also available.
  - c. Alcohol may not be served or paid for by the College, under any circumstances.
  - d. Anyone in violation of the College's alcohol policy will be subject to an investigation under the "Responding to Imminent and/or Serious Incidents" provisions of the Disruptive Person policy. The College may notify the appropriate authorities if anyone under 21 years of age is found to be procuring, possessing, or consuming alcohol illegally under the provisions of Title 2, Vermont State Statutes Annotated, Chapter 21.

3. The possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and prescription drug misuse are prohibited at the College or college- related events.
  - a. Any persons suspected of possessing, using, or distributing illicit drugs or misusing prescription drugs at the college or college- related events may be questioned immediately by a supervisor or other appropriate college official.
  - b. Anyone who possesses, uses, or distributes illicit drugs or misuses prescription drugs at the college or college-related events may be dismissed from employment, other contractual or professional responsibilities, or academic programs.
  - c. Despite the change in Vermont state law, federal law continues to classify marijuana as a controlled substance and prohibits marijuana use, possession, and distribution at educational institutions and on the premises of all recipients of federal funds. Accordingly, CCV prohibits the use, possession, and distribution of marijuana at the college and college-related events.
  - d. Violations of the College's drug policy or of State or Federal law will likely result in disciplinary action and/or criminal charges. Any student found to be in possession of any drug declared illegal under the provisions of Title 18, Vermont State Statutes Annotated, Chapter 84, or in possession of any associated paraphernalia may be subject to investigation under the “Responding to Imminent and/or Serious Incidents” provisions of the Disruptive Persons policy.
  - e. The Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 requires that employees convicted of illicit drug use in the work place report such convictions to their employer within five days; the college must then report such convictions to the appropriate federal agency within ten days.
  - f. Under federal regulations, a student convicted of a drug related felony or misdemeanor that took place while the student was receiving Federal Student Aid, will become ineligible to receive further aid for a specified period of time upon conviction. Federal Student Aid includes grants, loans, and work assistance otherwise provided to eligible college students under Title IV of the Higher Education Act.