

SUBSTANCE ABUSE RULES AND REGULATIONS

A student who, on school grounds, during a school session, or anywhere at a school-sponsored activity, is under the influence of alcohol, drugs or mood altering substances or possesses, uses, dispenses, sells or aids in the procurement of alcohol, narcotics, restricted drugs, mood altering substances, or any substance purported to be a restricted substance or over the counter drug shall be subjected to the process pursuant to the provisions and procedures outlined below.

The parent(s)/guardian(s) of any student who is required to take medication (prescribed by a physician) during the school day shall so inform the school nurse, LEARN staff, or the person designated to act in the absence of a nurse. Such medication will then be administered under the supervision of the school nurse or the designated individual.

All students of LEARN are in special education and laws relating to the PPT process must be followed. In addition, LEARN students are placed in host schools that may have their own substance abuse policy. It is important that the policies of the LEA and LEARN work together for the benefit of the school and its students.

Procedures

- I. Any teacher or other school personnel who believes that any student is not functioning properly, should contact the designated administrator who will take responsibility to see that the student is immediately seen by a nurse or other individual capable of evaluating the student. This individual and the teacher will document the referral. The staff is not being asked to evaluate whether or not this is chemical in nature. They are not being used to label or diagnose, but to report behavioral observations that might signal the need for more assessment.
- II. The nurse will determine whether the student is in need of urgent medical attention. If so, the nurse will administer any first aid required and/or immediately request emergency services and will immediately notify the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and LEARN administration.
- III. If urgent medical attention is not required, the nurse will inform the administrator of the student's condition. The administrator will then contact and inform the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) of the situation, including physical and behavioral observations.
- IV. If it is determined that the student's inability to function properly is due to drug or alcohol abuse, the following shall apply:

CONSEQUENCES OF ALCOHOL OR OTHER DRUG ABUSE**A. Consequences for the Use, Sale or Possession of Intoxicants or Mood Altering Drugs in a Manner Not Prescribed by a Physician.**

Any student in LEARN using, in possession of, or under the influence of intoxicants, mood altering drugs, or look-alike drugs, or in possession of related drug paraphernalia during a school session, on school premises, or anywhere at a school-sponsored activity shall automatically be subject to the following actions:

1. First Violation

Any student found to be in violation of this policy for the first time during his/her tenure at LEARN will be suspended from school. The police will be notified in the case of possession. The sending LEA will be contacted, and a PPT will be convened as soon as possible if appropriate. In some cases the school administrator may make a referral to appropriate agencies licensed to assess and treat drug and alcohol abuse.

The PPT for identified students will consider the following options for action:

- a. In School counseling;
- b. Involvement in alcohol and other drug abuse groups in the school;
- c. Referral to self-help groups within the community that are specifically set up to assist the person involved with alcohol or other drugs; and
- d. Referral to appropriate agencies (i.e. agencies licensed to assess and treat drug including alcohol, abuse).

The PPT will set the guidelines for failure to comply.

2. Second Violation

Any student found to be in violation of this policy for the second time during his/her tenure at LEARN, shall be suspended. The police will be notified in the case of possession if appropriate.

The LEA will be notified, and a PPT will be convened as soon as possible.

- a. The PPT will give serious consideration to the following actions in which the student must
 - I. Seek and complete an assessment by a physician or related agency (NOTE: the chosen agency must be licensed to evaluate drug, including alcohol, problems);
 - II. Demonstrate compliance with the treatment program as recommended after the assessment;
 - III. Successfully complete the treatment program; and
 - IV. Agree to a behavioral contract between the student, school administration and a representative of the assessment group as a condition of readmittance to the program.
- b. Review PPT recommendations and student actions up to present.

- c. As a result of the second violation, the PPT will give due consideration to the appropriateness of LEARN as a placement.
- d. The PPT shall develop guidelines for failure to comply.

3. Third Violation

The police will be notified. The student will be suspended. The PPT will be called as soon as possible if appropriate. The PPT will examine the appropriateness of LEARN as a placement and take into consideration (a) impact on other students (b) other available options (c) student's perceptions.

B. Readmission to School after a Third Violation

Reentry to LEARN will be determined with PPT process.

C. Student Enrollment in Non-Public or Public Education During the Period of Rules Enforcement

Any student who elects to enroll in any non-public or public education during the period of time affected by these rules and then chooses to re-enroll in LEARN will be enrolled only under the conditions specified by agreement with administration during the placement PPT.

D. Consequences for Selling, Dealing, or Giving Away Intoxicants or Mood Altering Drugs

Any student found to be exchanging, distributing, selling, giving away, or possessing an intoxicant or mood altering drug with the intention of exchanging, distributing, selling or giving away such intoxicants or mood altering drugs, look-alike drugs or paraphernalia on school premises or while participating in or attending any school sponsored activity, will be subject to the same actions previously outlined in this policy, and the police will be notified.

E. Use of Possession of Intoxicants, Mood Altering Drugs, Look-Alike Drugs and Paraphernalia in Student Owned/Operated Vehicles

Any student who owns and/or operates a vehicle on school grounds or for school sponsored activities must accept responsibility for the vehicle and the contents of the vehicle. This responsibility subjects the owner or student operator to the full ramifications of this policy.

F. Administrative Guidelines

- 1) The Executive Director shall provide for the development of administrative rules relating to this policy to include all relevant definitions.
- 2) Prescription medications are to be construed as exceptions to this policy when used by the individual for whom they are prescribed in the manner and amount prescribed.
- 3) Designated school personnel may search a student's car, locker, and bag and may demand that a student empty his/her pockets if there is reasonable cause to believe that the student possesses objects or chemicals which may endanger the health, safety, and welfare of himself/herself and/or others.
- 4) When the LEA policy and the LEARN policy do not coincide, the appropriate administrators shall mutually agree as to which policy(ies) shall be in place. All policies and actions must comply with IDEA.