

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM  
HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER RULES**

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**34.02.99.Z1 Alcohol and Illegal Substance Abuse**

*Approved February 21, 2000*

*Approved May 26, 2004*

Supplements System Policy 34.02.99

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**1. OVERVIEW**

- 1.1 The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center is committed to maintaining a healthy working and learning environment that is free from substance abuse as well as compliant with state and federal laws. Its primary concern related to substance abuse is prevention and treatment.
- 1.2 Consistent with the Health Science Center's commitment to substance abuse prevention, each component campus provides information on available counseling services in its publications and other communications with employees and students

**2. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT**

- 2.1 All members of the Health Science Center community are expected to abide by state and federal laws pertaining to controlled substances and illegal drugs. More specifically, the Health Science Center prohibits the illicit use, sale, attempted sale, conveyance, distribution, manufacture, cultivation, dispensation, purchase, attempted purchase, and possession of illegal drugs, or controlled substances, at any time and in any amount or in any manner on HSC premises or at HSC sponsored activities. Illicit drugs include all drugs for which possession is illegal under federal or state law, including prescription drugs for which the individual does not have a valid prescription.
- 2.2 The purchase, consumption and possession of alcoholic beverages in facilities under the control of the HSC shall in all respects comply with state laws and with guidelines as defined in System Policy 34.03 and System Regulation 34.02.01.
- 2.3 Failure to comply with this rule by any employee may constitute grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination, in compliance with System Policy 32.02 and System Regulation 32.02.02. An employee who violates any of the drug laws will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and be subject to prosecution in accordance with the law. Legal sanctions for violation of local, state and federal laws may include, but are not limited to: fines, probation, jail or prison sentences.

2.4 Disciplinary action in cases involving drug or alcohol related violations by students may result in suspension, dismissal or expulsion from the Health Science Center. Severity of the sanctions will depend upon the nature and seriousness of each case and may be subject to prosecution in accordance with applicable laws. Specific disciplinary procedures will be followed as outlined in the student handbooks of each HSC component.

2.5 Employees shall report suspected violations of this rule to their immediate supervisors or to their campus Human Resources office.

2.6 Students shall reports suspected violations of this rule according to the procedures outlined in the applicable student handbook.

### **3. EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS**

3.1 To implement an effective alcohol and drug abuse preventative plan, the Health Science Center (HSC) will use both formal and informal channels of communication to:

- 1) Disseminate information to educate both students and employees about the health risks associated with the abuse of alcohol and controller/illegal substance abuse.
- 2) Distribute information that describes and encourages the use of counseling and treatments available to both students and employees in local and regional area.
- 3) Provide referrals to local treatment centers and counseling programs. These referrals will be made within a supportive, confidential environment under the auspices of the campus Health Services, Counseling Center, and/or Human Resources.

### **OFFICE OF RESPONSIBILITY**

Vice President for Academic Affairs