



Biennial Review of KHSU-KansasCOM Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program 2024

The Kansas Health Science University Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine (KHSU-KansasCOM) conducts a comprehensive review of all drug and alcohol abuse policies and prevention programs every two years. This evaluation process is designed to assess the effectiveness of existing measures and identify opportunities for enhancement. By systematically analyzing these programs, the College ensures that it continuously adapts and improves its strategies to effectively address substance abuse, thereby supporting the overall well-being and safety of the campus community.

- [Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989](#)
- [Drug and Alcohol Policy](#)
- [Impaired Medical Student Policy](#)

The above policies were recently evaluated on 6/1/2024 and republished on the KHSU-KansasCOM website in the following locations:

- Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989:
<https://kansascom.kansashsc.org/student-life/student-resources/alcohol-and-drugs-policy/>
- Drug and Alcohol Policy: <https://kansascom.kansashsu.org/student-life/student-resources/campus-safety/>
- AY 2024-2025 Student Handbook & Academic Catalog (SHAC)/Impaired Medical Student Policy:
<https://catalog.kansashsc.org/content.php?catoid=150&navoid=18555&hl=impaired+medical+student&returnto=search>

As part of its biennial review, KHSU-KansasCOM collaborates with three specialized organizations that provide assessments and treatments for drug and alcohol issues. These partnerships enable the College to obtain expert insights and implement best practices in substance abuse prevention and treatment.

- Kansas Medical Society-Professionals' Health Program
623 SW 10th Avenue
Topeka, Kansas 66612
(800) 332-0156
www.fsphp.org/kansas
- Carolyn Westgate, MS, LCPC, Program Director
Acumen Institute
4321 W. 6th Street
Lawrence, Kansas 66049
(785) 856-0473
www.acumeninstitute.org
- Professional Renewal Center
1421 Research Park Dr., #3B
Lawrence, Kansas 66049
(877) 978-4772
www.prckansas.org

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Communication

October 2, 2024

9/24/25, 4:27 PM

Mail - Hannah Piechowski - Outlook



Drug Free Schools and Communities Notice

From Hannah Piechowski <hpiechowski@kansasasc.org>
Date Wed 10/2/2024 1:54 PM
Bcc KHSC-Students-All <KHSC-Students-All@kansasasc.org>

Dear Student Doctors,

I hope this email finds you well!

In line with our commitment to fostering a safe and healthy environment for all KHSU-KansasCOM campus community members, we would like to inform you about our compliance with the **Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986, as amended in 1989**.

KHSU-KansasCOM is dedicated to promoting responsible conduct and ensuring the well-being of our students. In adherence to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (amended in 1989), we are required to provide information about our policies regarding the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on campus. Specifically, an Institution of Higher Education (IHE) participating in Title IV, HEA programs must distribute the following information.

1. Prohibited conduct pertaining to illicit drugs and alcohol use by students and employees:

The KHSU-KansasCOM prohibits the unlawful manufacture, possession, use, distribution, sale, or purchase of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on medical school property or as part of any KHSU-KansasCOM activities. The sale, possession, and consumption of alcohol or cereal malt beverages is permissible only by persons of lawful age for events and locations specifically approved pursuant to KHSU-KansasCOM policies.

Employees at KHSU-KansasCOM are provided this policy as part of the new employee orientation process, which explains that a violation of the policy could result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

2. Applicable legal sanctions under federal, state, and local law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol:

Legal sanctions under federal, state, and local law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol are severe. Such sanctions include substantial fines, imprisonment, loss of driving privileges, and loss of federal financial aid. There can also be severe implications for future physicians and their potential for licensing. For more specific information concerning these sanctions, visit the section of the policy on Sanctions.

3. Health risks associated with alcohol and drug use:

Alcohol consumption poses several health risks, including impaired judgment, impaired coordination, and impaired attention, which may lead to difficulty in safely navigating one's environment or difficulty in safely operating a motor vehicle. Unlawful drug use poses multiple health risks that can negatively impact academic, occupational, and social functioning. For more information about health risks associated with alcohol and drug use, visit the section of this policy on Health Risks.

4. Drug or alcohol counseling and related programs that are available to students and employees:

<https://outlook.office.com/mail/id/AAQkADZhzjdhYzU5LTZlMDQlNDFlNS04NTFkLTA3YTk0ZTYzMTdlZAAQAjJxSV5n3tCupPCoxZ4F04%3D>

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Drug and alcohol counseling, treatment, and related programs are available through a referral by KHSU-KansasCOM Counseling Services and found within the Wichita community and within the state of Kansas. For more information about substance abuse assessment screening and counseling for KHSU-KansasCOM employees and students, contact Human Resources or the Office of Student Affairs. Additional information about drug or alcohol counseling is available in the section of this policy on Drug and Alcohol Counseling and Programs.

5. Imposition of disciplinary sanctions:

The Office of Student Affairs and Services oversees student compliance with alcohol and drug-free compliance. Any student or employee who uses, possesses, manufactures, sells, or distributes controlled substances or alcohol in violation of the law on medical school property or at medical school activities will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with applicable policies KHSU-KansasCOM, the Kansas Board of Regents, and regulations and laws of the state of Kansas. In addition to referral for prosecution, disciplinary actions by KHSU-KansasCOM will include, at a minimum, the required completion of a substance abuse assessment and any recommended treatment and may include more severe sanctions up to and including suspension, dismissal, and termination of employment.

Sanctions

Penalties for violations of drug and alcohol under federal law for unlawful possession of a controlled substance in violation of **21 U.S.C. §844(a)**, include:

- **First Conviction:** term of imprisonment of not more than one year, a minimum fine of \$1,000, or both.
- **Second Conviction:** At least 15 days in prison but not more than two years, a minimum fine of \$2,500 but not more than \$250,000 for an individual, or both.
- **After two convictions:** At least 90 days in prison but not more than three years, a minimum fine of \$5,000 but not more than \$250,000 for an individual, or both.

For more information about maximum penalties for violation of the Federal Controlled Substances Act and Related Laws, see <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL30722.pdf>

- Unlawful distribution of a controlled substance to an individual without that individual's knowledge with the intent to commit a crime of violence, including rape, is punishable by up to 20 years of imprisonment, a maximum fine of \$250,000. **21 U.S.C. §841(b)(7)**.
- Unlawful distribution of a controlled substance, possession with intent to distribute, or manufacturing a controlled substance in, on, or within 1,000 feet of a public college or university is punishable by not less than one year of imprisonment and twice the maximum penalty provided by law. For second convictions, the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment is three years and three times the maximum punishment provided by law. **21 U.S.C. §860**.
- Penalties for drug traffickers and possessors also include loss of federal benefits, including student loans and federal financial assistance, and civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for each violation. **21 U.S.C. §862 and 21 U.S.C. §844a(a)**.

Drugs – State Law Penalties

Penalties under Kansas law for the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs are based on the quantity of drug, type of drug, and criminal history of the defendant. *See K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 21-5706*. Maximum penalties range from fines of \$100,000 to \$500,000 and imprisonment from 10 months to 17 years.

Alcohol-related Penalties Under State Law

It is illegal under Kansas law and local ordinance for a person of any age to consume alcoholic liquor on public property except when permitted by the KHSU-KansasCOM policy. A violation of this state law is

punishable by a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$200, imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both.

It is illegal under Kansas law and local ordinances for persons under 21 years of age to possess, consume, obtain, purchase, accept as a gift, or attempt to obtain alcoholic liquor or cereal malt beverages. Maximum penalties include a fine up to \$500 (a mandatory minimum fine of \$200 for persons 18 and 21 years of age); completion of 40 hours of public service; completion of a community-based alcohol and drug educational or training program with costs assessed to the offender; and mandatory suspension of driving privileges for 30 days for a first conviction; 90 days for a second conviction; and one year for a third or subsequent conviction.

Convictions for Driving Under the Influence (DUI) include a mandatory alcohol and drug evaluation and requirement to follow any recommendation made as a result of that evaluation with costs assessed to the defendant and additional penalties, including:

- First Conviction
 - o A fine of not less than \$750 nor more than \$ 1,000, and
 - o Imprisonment of not less than two days nor more than six months.
 - o Mandatory minimum of 48 consecutive hours in imprisonment
 - o Driving privileges are suspended for 30 days, followed by a 180-day ignition interlock restriction.
- Second Conviction
 - o A fine of not less than \$1,250 nor more than \$1,750
 - o Imprisonment of not less than 90 days nor more than one year
 - o Mandatory minimum 120 hours imprisonment
 - o Driving privileges are suspended for one year, followed by a one-year ignition interlock restriction.
- Third Conviction
 - o A fine of not less than \$1,750 nor more than \$2,500
 - o Imprisonment of not less than 90 days nor more than one year
 - o Mandatory minimum 90 days imprisonment
 - o Driving privileges are suspended for one year, followed by a two-year ignition interlock restriction.
- Fourth Conviction
 - o A fine of not less than \$2,500
 - o Imprisonment of not less than 90 days nor more than one year
 - o Mandatory minimum of 90 days of imprisonment
 - o Driving privileges are suspended for one year, followed by a three-year ignition interlock restriction. (For a fifth conviction, driving privileges are suspended for one year, followed by a 10-year ignition interlock restriction)

Refusal to take a preliminary breath test is a traffic infraction, usually resulting in a fine. Refusal to take the breath, blood, or urine test offered at the police station for a first offense will result in suspension of driving privileges for one year and two years required use of an ignition interlock device. Local city ordinances for drug and alcohol offenses impose sanctions similar in severity to state law.

Health Risks

The consumption of alcohol poses several health risks, including impaired judgment, impaired coordination, and impaired attention, which may lead to difficulty in safely navigating one's environment or difficulty in safely operating a motor vehicle.

Consuming alcohol may alter a person's ability to learn or retain information or negatively impact academic, occupational, or social functioning. At low doses, alcohol causes disinhibition and mood lability, increasing risk of inappropriate sexual acts or aggressive behavior.

Alcohol depresses the central nervous system and, at high doses, can cause respiratory depression and death. Repeated use of alcohol can lead to a maladaptive usage pattern referred to as alcohol dependence. Alcohol dependence is marked by increased physiological tolerance of alcohol's effects and alcohol withdrawal upon sudden cessation of use. Alcohol withdrawal symptoms include autonomic hyperactivity such as anxiety, sweating, and tachycardia; tremors, nausea, vomiting, hallucinations, psychomotor agitation, seizures, and death. Long-term use of alcohol can cause permanent damage to vital organs, particularly to the brain and the liver.

Illicit drug use poses multiple health risks that can negatively impact academic, occupational, and social functioning. For information on specific adverse effects of a particular drug, please refer to the United States Drug Enforcement Administration's list of illicit drugs and associated risks at <https://www.dea.gov/factsheets>.

Student Professionalism & Code of Conduct

KHSU-KansasCOM requires all students to be responsible individuals who possess the highest standards of integrity, honesty, and personal conduct. These traits are prerequisites to independent learning, professional development, the successful performance of academic and clinical assignments, and the conduct of one's personal life. Accordingly, students are expected to adhere to a standard of behavior consistent with KHSU-KansasCOM's high standards both on and off campus. Compliance with institutional policies, rules, and regulations, in addition to city, state, and federal laws, is required of all students.

Additional information about KHUC-KansasCOM's policies related to substance use and the maintenance of a drug-free environment in the following resources:

1. **Student Handbook and Academic Catalog:** Students can refer to the [Student Handbook and Academic Catalog](#) for in-depth insights into our substance-use policies, including the [Student Professionalism & Code of Conduct Policy](#) and the [Student Drug & Alcohol Policy](#). These guidelines are established to provide a secure and conducive learning atmosphere.
2. **KHSU-KansasCOM Website Resources:**
 - The [Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989](#) information is published on our public website at the following link: [Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989](#).
 - The [Student Drug and Alcohol Policy](#) is also published on our public [Campus Safety](#) page.

We kindly ask that all members of the KHSU-KansasCOM community familiarize themselves with these policies to promote a culture of responsibility, respect, and well-being. If you have any questions or need further clarification about these policies, please contact the Office of Student Affairs & Services.

Thank you for your commitment to upholding these standards and contributing to the overall safety and health of our campus. Together, we can continue to create an environment that nurtures personal and professional growth.

Sincerely,

Student Affairs

Hannah Rushe Piechowski, Ph.D. (pe-ah'-ski) she/her/hers
Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
o. 316.315.5679

9/24/25, 4:27 PM

Mail - Hannah Piechowski - Outlook

m. 859.221.5784
217 E. Douglas Ave. Wichita, KS 67202
www.kansascom.org

[Schedule a meeting with Dr. Piechowski!](#)



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Enforcement of Policy

See policies and processes here:

- Student Handbook and Academic Catalog: <https://catalog.kansashsc.org/>
- Professional Code of Conduct: <https://catalog.kansashsc.org/content.php?catoid=183&navoid=24236#key-professionalism-policies-and-procedures>
- Student Performance Committee Process: <https://catalog.kansashsc.org/content.php?catoid=183&navoid=24236#professionalism-and-student-conduct>

Overview of Cases Involving Alcohol and Drugs

Year	Alcohol Cases	Drug Cases
2022	0	0
2023	0	0
2024	0	0

Consistency of Sanctions

As no cases were reported, processed, or adjudicated that involved drugs or alcohol in 2022, 2023, or 2024, sanctions were consistent. Potential sanctions can be found in the Student Handbook and Academic Catalog listed here:

<https://catalog.kansashsc.org/content.php?catoid=183&navoid=24236#student-conduct>

Retention of Records

Kansas Health Science University and the Kansas College of Osteopathic Medicine abide by the Records Retention Policy and FERPA Policy. Student conduct and adjudication records are housed in Guardian, a product of Campus Kaizen.

Records Retention Policy in SHAC:

<https://catalog.kansashsc.org/content.php?catoid=183&navoid=24233#academic-records>

FERPA Policy in SHAC:

<https://catalog.kansashsc.org/content.php?catoid=183&navoid=24233#student-privacy-and-family-education-rights-and-privacy-act-ferpa->

Program and Policy Recommendations

The Kansas Health Science University Local Risk and Compliance Committee meets each quarter to assess risk and make policy recommendations. Additionally, an annual assessment of all policies and procedures is conducted for the Student Handbook and Academic Catalog. Changes and program improvements follow a thorough review process involving respective parties, students, administration, and compliance authorities.

Contacts for Review

Dr. Richard Winslow

Senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Strategic Academic Programs

Dr. Hannah Piechowski

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs