

Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine (VTCSOM)

Statement: Drug-Free Workplace/Drug Screening
Subject: Student Affairs
Administrator: A. Knight
Rev.: 2
Original date: 9/1/2010
Revision dates: 12/8/2016

1 Purpose

Drug-Free Schools and Communities

In accordance with the federal Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988, the federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, the Commonwealth of Virginia's Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs, and the Carilion Clinic Drug-free Workplace Policy, it is the policy of VTCSOM that the unlawful or unauthorized manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of alcohol and illicit drugs by students on VTC property or as part of any VTC activity (unless alcohol is served as part of the activity) is prohibited. This includes prescription medications that are being used contrary to how they were prescribed. Any student who violates this policy is subject to disciplinary action up to and including referral to the MSPPC for violation of the SEPCP, referral for prosecution, and/or referral for satisfactory participation in an appropriate evaluation or rehabilitation program. Failure of VTC to comply with this requirement could result in the loss of federal funds to the school.

2 Policy

In compliance with federal law, VTC seeks to educate students about the potential negative consequences, including health risks, associated with the abuse of alcohol or drugs. VTC also provides referrals and support for students for counseling, treatment and rehabilitation services for drug or alcohol problems. Students who feel they are experiencing a problem with drugs or alcohol can self-refer to counseling services for a confidential assessment. The counselor will then determine the appropriate resources for the student and refer them to a program or provider.

3 Procedures

For a mandatory referral (violation), the student must comply with the determination of the MSPPC regarding the terms of the referral, how the student will be monitored through treatment, and the aftercare plan for them.

Students are also eligible for the services of the Virginia Tech VT Campus Alcohol Abuse Prevention Center. An online alcohol prevention course entitled "Alcohol Wise" is available for all students at:

<http://www.dsa.vt.edu/campuslife/AlcoholWise.php>

Further information on the VT Alcohol Abuse Prevention Center resources and services can be found at:

<http://www.alcohol.vt.edu/CAAPC/services.htm>

Other resources available for students experiencing problems with drugs and/or alcohol include:

- Alcohol and Drug Abuse Helpline, 1-800-ALCOHOL [252-6465]
- Al-Anon/Alateen, 1-888-4Al Anon [425-2666]
- Alcoholics Anonymous (AA), (540) 343-6857 or www.aa.org
- Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
- National Drug Treatment Referral Routing Service, 1-800-662-HELP (4357)
- Narcotics Anonymous (NA), 818-773-9999 or www.na.org
- National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information (NCADI), 1-800-729-6686 or www.health.org

Drug Screening

VTC requires a drug screen upon matriculation and may be repeated at any time for reasonable suspicion or cause. VTC defines reasonable suspicion testing based on the following criteria:

- Direct observation of the student's abnormal behavior;
- Change in behavior such as absenteeism, tardiness, or significant deterioration of performance;
- A reliable report of drug use provided by a credible source that has been corroborated by the Senior Dean for Academic Affairs or the Associate Dean for Student Affairs;
- The student is believed to pose a risk to self or others; or
- If the student is involved in an accident or incident that results in potential harm or actual harm to another person.

Screening may be requested by Patient Centered Learning facilitators, Block Directors (or their designees), the Senior Dean for Academic Affairs, the Associate Dean for Student Affairs, VTC security officers, or other appropriate agents of VTC. Students who refuse testing will be referred to the MSPPC for possible sanctions, up to and including dismissal.

The results of drug screens are sent to the Associate Dean for Student Affairs for review, and are confidential and available only to officials with an absolute need to know. Students with verified abnormal tests are in violation of the SEPCP and will be brought before the MSPPC for review and further action as outlined in the Violations of the SEPCP Policy.