

The College is committed to creating and maintaining an environment that is free of alcohol abuse. The College prohibits the possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages on campus or as any part of the College's activities unless it is done so in accordance with applicable College policies, and it also enforces the state's underage drinking laws.

The College enforces Federal and State drug laws. The possession, sale, manufacture, or distribution of illegal drugs is prohibited on campus or as any part of the College's activities. Violators of the College's policies or Federal and State laws regarding illegal drugs will be subject to disciplinary action and possibly criminal prosecution.

Federal Drug Laws (updated 08.05.2024)

Denial of Federal Benefits (21 U.S.C. § 862) A federal drug conviction may result in the loss of federal benefits, including loans, grants, scholarships, contracts, and licenses, although the Department of Education has said it will no longer disqualify students from Title IV aid for a federal or state conviction for possession or sale of a controlled substance.

Forfeiture of Personal Property and Real Estate (21 U.S.C. § 853) Any person convicted of a federal drug offense punishable by more than one year in prison shall forfeit to the United States any personal or real property related to the violation. A warrant of seizure may be issued and property seized at the time an individual is arrested on charges that may result in forfeiture.

Federal Drug Trafficking Penalties (21 U.S.C. § 841) Penalties for federal drug trafficking convictions vary according to the type and quantity of the controlled substance involved in the transaction. Penalties for subsequent convictions are more severe. Federally-defined schedules of controlled substances are published at 21 U.S.C. 812.

In the case of a controlled substance in schedule I or schedule II, GHB (or, "liquid ecstasy"), or flunitrazepam (or, "rohypnol"), a person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years. If death or serious bodily injury results from the use of a controlled substance which has been illegally distributed, the person convicted on federal charges of distributing the substance faces the possibility of a life sentence and fines ranging up to \$10 million.

In the case of a controlled substance in schedule III, a person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 10 years, and if death or serious bodily injury results, shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 15 years or a fine not to exceed \$500,000, or both, for a first offense.

For less than 50 kilograms of marijuana, the term of imprisonment shall not be more than five years, and the fine shall not be more than \$250,000, or both, for a first offense.

In the case of a schedule IV substance, the term of imprisonment shall not be more than five years, and the fine shall not be more than \$250,000, or both, for a first offense.

Persons convicted on federal charges of drug trafficking within 1,000 feet of an elementary school, secondary school, college, or university (**21 U.S.C. § 860**) face penalties of prison terms and fines which are twice as high as the regular penalties for the offense, with a mandatory prison sentence of at least one year, unless the offense involves five grams or less of marijuana.

Federal Drug Possession Penalties (21 U.S.C. § 844) Persons convicted on federal charges of possessing any controlled substance face penalties of up to one year in prison, a mandatory fine of no less than \$1,000, or both. Second convictions are punishable by not less than 15 days but not more than two years in prison and a minimum fine of \$2,500. Subsequent convictions are punishable by not less than 90 days but not more than three years in prison and a minimum fine of \$5,000.

*For the most recent and complete Federal Trafficking Penalties information, visit the website of the [U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration](#).

Drug and Alcohol State Laws (Texas)

Category	Summary (Texas Code Annotated)
Possession of Marijuana	<p>A Class B misdemeanor occurs if the amount of marijuana possessed is 2 ounces or less. A Class A misdemeanor occurs if the amount of marijuana possessed is between 2 ounces and 4 ounces. <i>See</i> Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 481.121(b). An individual adjudged guilty of a Class B misdemeanor will be punished by a fine not to exceed \$2,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 180 days, or both. An individual adjudged guilty of a Class A misdemeanor will be punished by a fine not to exceed \$4,000, confinement in jail for a term not to exceed 1 year, or both. <i>See</i> Tex. Penal Code Ann. §§ 12.21 – 12.22. As the amount of marijuana increases, the crime classification becomes more severe and related penalties increase.</p> <p>Qualified medical professionals are authorized to prescribe low-THC cannabis (no more than .05%) to qualifying Texas residents with certain medical conditions. Tex. Occupations Code Ann. §§169.002-169.003.</p>
Controlled Substances	<p>Texas Health & Safety Code Ann. §§ 481.101 – 481.141 cover a wide range of offenses related to controlled substances. Penalties for the possession and delivery of illegal drugs include prison sentences and monetary fines and vary widely by the type of drug, amount confiscated, and whether the individual possessed or manufactured/delivered the controlled substance. Trafficking controlled substances will result in more severe penalties.</p> <p>As an example, a person who possesses less than 28 grams of a controlled substance listed in Penalty Group 3 (i.e., anabolic steroids) is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed \$4,000, confinement in jail for up to 1 year, or both. Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 481.117; Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 12.21. A person who knowingly or intentionally possesses less than 1 gram of a controlled substance listed in Penalty Group 1 (i.e. opiates) or 1-B (i.e. fentanyl) is guilty of a state jail felony. A person found guilty will be subject to confinement in a state jail for any term of 180 days up to two years, and may be fined up to \$10,000. Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 481.115 and Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 12.35.</p> <p>It is a defense to prosecution under certain, defined circumstances if the actor was the first person to request emergency medical assistance in response to the possible overdose of another person or was the victim of a possible overdose for which emergency medical assistance was requested during an ongoing medical emergency. Tex. Health & Safety Code Ann. § 481.117.</p>
Alcohol and Minors	<p>A minor who consumes alcohol outside the visible presence of the minor's adult parent/guardian or spouse is punishable by a fine of \$250 to \$2,000 and imprisonment for up to 180 days. The court may also impose penalties like community service, driver's license suspension, and education or treatment. <i>See</i> Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code Ann. § 106.04. A minor may possess an alcoholic beverage while in the course and scope of the minor's employment. <i>See</i> Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code § 106.05.</p> <p>An adult 21 years of age or older who is not a minor's parent/guardian or spouse is liable for damages proximately caused by the intoxication of a minor under the age of 18 if the adult served the minor or allowed the minor to be served alcoholic beverages that contributed to the minor's intoxication on the premises owned or leased by the adult. <i>See</i> Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code Ann. § 2.02.</p> <p>A person may purchase an alcoholic beverage for or give an alcoholic beverage to a minor if the person is the minor's adult parent/guardian or spouse and is visibly present when the minor possesses or consumes the alcoholic beverage. <i>See</i> Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code Ann. § 106.06(b).</p> <p>A minor commits an offense if the minor falsely states that he/she is 21 years of age or older or presents any document that indicates he/she is 21 years of age or older to a person engaged in selling or serving alcoholic beverages. <i>See</i> Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code Ann. § 106.07.</p>
Driving While Intoxicated (DWI)	<p>One is guilty of driving while intoxicated if he or she has a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent or more. This is a Class B misdemeanor, with a minimum term of confinement of 72 hours. An offender can also be subject to fines, revocation/suspension of license, a vehicle interlock system, and educational programs. <i>See</i> Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 49 <i>et seq.</i> and Tex. Transp. Code Ann. § 524.022.</p>