2026–2027

Dear Members of the Carnegie Mellon University Community:

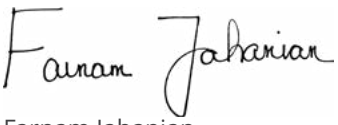
This publication shares the university's alcohol and drug policies for faculty, students and staff, as well as information about the physical and psychological effects of alcohol and drug abuse and misuse.

While the university maintains strict policies regarding the illegal use of alcohol and drugs, we also encourage any individual who is experiencing substance use difficulties to take advantage of the support available to you. On page 17 of this publication, we have included a list of resources, both on campus and in the greater Pittsburgh area.

If you suspect you may have a substance use problem, I urge you to take advantage of the support available to you. I also encourage you to share these resources with any university community member in need.

Thank you for adhering to these policies and for ensuring the well-being of our campus community.

Sincerely,



Farnam Jahanian
President
Henry L. Hillman President's Chair

This publication is coordinated by staff in the Office of the Dean of Students. Please do not hesitate to contact us at 412-268-2075 should you have questions.

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Carnegie Mellon Alcohol and Drug Policy

Policy Statement

Carnegie Mellon University is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy community that supports the academic mission of the institution. In keeping with this commitment, the university permits the use of alcohol or drugs within its community only in a manner that is legal, responsible and consistent with the expectations outlined in this policy. Further, the university makes available information and resources so that its community members are positioned to assist anyone whose personal well-being may be negatively impacted due to misuse of alcohol or drugs.

This policy applies to all members of the university community, including all faculty, staff and students. This policy also applies to contractors, volunteers and visitors while on university property (whether owned or leased) or while being paid or reimbursed with university funds. This policy focuses on compliance with laws in the United States and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. However, as a global university with operations throughout the world, Carnegie Mellon is equally committed to compliance with all applicable alcohol and drug laws in all jurisdictions in which the university operates.

Policy on Illegal Drugs

The unlawful manufacture, possession, distribution, sale or use of drugs is prohibited at the university. This prohibition applies to the unlawful possession, distribution, sale or use of illegal narcotics, prescription drugs and other illegal drugs. It is a violation of this policy for prescription drugs to be provided to or used by someone other than the person for whom they were prescribed. It is also a violation of this policy for prescription drugs to be used in a manner for which they were not prescribed.

The university complies with all applicable federal, state and local laws. The U.S. federal Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 requires institutions of higher education that receive federal funds to comply with U.S. federal drug laws. Although some state and local governments have legalized the use of various forms of marijuana, federal law continues to prohibit the manufacture, possession, distribution, sale or use of marijuana. As such, in accordance with U.S. federal law, all forms of marijuana, including prescription medical marijuana, are prohibited on all university property (whether owned or leased) and in connection with all university programs.

Faculty, staff and student-workers are prohibited from being under the influence of any drugs (including prescription drugs) that cause impairment and impact the ability of employees to perform their jobs. University employees with a license to operate specialized vehicles or equipment (e.g., commercial driver's license or pilot's license) must follow all applicable rules prohibiting the use of drugs before and/or while operating the vehicle/equipment.

Policy on Alcohol

The unlawful manufacture, possession, distribution, sale or use of alcohol is prohibited at the university.

All members of the university community are expected to comply with applicable laws regarding the possession, consumption, transportation and distribution of alcohol. Except as set forth below or as otherwise prohibited by applicable departmental-level rules, the lawful consumption of alcoholic beverages on university property (whether owned or leased) and/or in connection with university programs by individuals of legal drinking age (21 years or older in United States) is permitted by the university. In these circumstances, however, the university expects faculty, staff, students, contractors and all other visitors to conduct themselves, both individually and collectively, in a responsible manner and in compliance with this policy.

The consumption of alcohol and/or the possession of open containers of alcohol are prohibited (i) while outdoors on university property, (ii) while inside university facilities in common areas, theaters, galleries, dining facilities or other spaces that are accessible by the public, (iii) while in classrooms, labs, studios or other instructional spaces when a course is in session, and (iv) at all on-campus athletic facilities. However, alcohol may be served and consumed in these locations where permitted under Section IV of this policy concerning Social Host and Alcohol Event Registration.

All university employees, including faculty, staff and student-workers, are expected to observe the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct. Faculty, staff and student-workers who are of legal drinking age who choose to engage in the consumption of alcohol are expected to do so responsibly. Faculty, staff and student-workers are prohibited from working while intoxicated or impaired. Furthermore, faculty, staff and student-workers are prohibited from consuming alcohol in a manner that in any way impairs the performance of job duties, endangers the physical well-being of oneself or others, or could result in the damage of property (in most circumstances, employees are to refrain from consuming alcohol when performing their normal academic, administrative, technical or professional duties). University employees with a license to operate specialized vehicles or equipment (e.g., commercial driver's license or pilot's license, etc.) must follow all applicable rules prohibiting the use of alcohol before and/or while operating the vehicle/equipment.

Sale of Alcohol

In all cases, Carnegie Mellon complies with the law of the applicable jurisdiction regarding the sale of alcohol. Under Pennsylvania law, a liquor license is required to sell alcohol. The university does not possess a liquor license. As such, alcohol may not be directly or indirectly sold in connection with any university program or activity in Pennsylvania unless the alcohol is sold and/or served by a third-party that possesses a valid liquor license and, if necessary, an off-premises catering permit. The indirect sale of alcohol includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- The sale of tickets, entrances fees or required donations to attend an event where alcohol is served; and
- The use of drink tickets in connection with paid admission to an event where alcohol is served.

Social Host and Alcohol Event Registration

A "University Event with Alcohol" is a university event where alcohol will be served either (1) on campus, or (2) off-campus where the alcohol is paid for directly, in whole or in part, with university funds, or where reimbursement, in whole or in part, is made for the purchase of alcohol using university funds. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following activities are not University Events with Alcohol for purposes of Social Host and registration requirements (however, the other provisions of this Alcohol and Drug Policy still apply):

i. consumption of alcohol by students of legal drinking age in an on-campus private residence;

ii. consumption of alcohol in an on-campus private residence that is leased, rented or otherwise occupied by an employee of the university, where no students are expected and/or permitted to attend (excluding students who are relatives of the employee);

iii. consumption of alcohol in a private office with a door and lock that is occupied by no more than four (4) faculty and/or staff members and where no students are present, and

iv. any events registered through the process that fraternities and/or sororities are required to use in order to host an event with alcohol.

As detailed in the Social Host & Alcohol Event Registration Procedures, a University Event with Alcohol must be registered with and approved in advance by the Office of the Dean of Students, and at least one Social Host must be designated for the University Event with Alcohol. These procedures set forth the requirements for University Events with Alcohol, the requirements for Social Hosts and the types of events exempt from these requirements.

The Social Host for each University Event with Alcohol is responsible for (1) ensuring that alcohol is served only to individuals who are of legal drinking age, (2) ensuring that individuals who are visibly intoxicated are not served alcohol, and (3) oversight of the event consistent with the Social Host Responsibility Guidelines set forth in the Social Host & Alcohol Event Registration Procedures.

The university will provide a legal defense and/or indemnity to any individual who serves as a Social Host of a University Event with Alcohol, pursuant to the Social Host & Alcohol Event Registration Procedures, and subject to the attached Terms and Conditions for Social Host Defense and Indemnity.

The rights of faculty and Trustees and Officers of the University who serve as Social Hosts are not governed by the Terms and Conditions for Social Host Defense and Indemnity. Rather, faculty defense and indemnity rights continue to be governed by Article VIII of the University By-Laws concerning Professional Protection Regarding Faculty Members. Defense and indemnity rights of Trustees and Officers of the University continue to be governed by Article IX of the University By-Laws concerning Liability and Indemnification of Trustees and Officers.

Sanctions and Medical Amnesty

The university community values the health and safety of its members and supports an environment that encourages students to come to the assistance of one another. As specified in the Active Medical Assistance Protocol students will be granted amnesty from university disciplinary action and University Police action when assistance from emergency services personnel is appropriately sought for individuals in need of immediate medical attention due to alcohol or drug use. In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, similar amnesty from criminal prosecution is also available to individuals pursuant to 18 Pa.C.S. 6308.1 and 35 P.S. 780-113.7.

Campus Resources

The university provides the following resources to individuals seeking assistance relating to the abuse of alcohol or drugs.

- Counseling & Psychological Services — Counseling and Psychological Services (CaPS) is available as a resource to students for initial assessment of drug and alcohol use, and referrals to off-campus outpatient and inpatient treatment programs.
- University Health Services — University Health Services (UHS) also provides students with initial assessment of drug and alcohol use and referrals to CaPS or off-campus treatment programs, in addition to substance abuse prevention education, through its Office of Health Promotion. Individual sessions are offered alongside online programs to assist students in assessing their own usage patterns and reducing the risks associated with substance abuse. UHS also facilitates the Collegiate Recovery Community at the university to support and connect students and their allies who are choosing sobriety. Information about appropriate community support groups is available through CaPS and UHS. Some of the support programs available in the Pittsburgh area include: Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Al-Anon and the Adult Children of Alcoholics Network of Greater Pittsburgh.
- Employee Assistance Program — Carnegie Mellon has established an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), sponsored and paid for by the university, to facilitate employees' efforts to resolve problems that can affect job performance and general well-being. EAP services include counseling and support relating to substance abuse.

Additional Information in Support of Carnegie Mellon's Drug and Alcohol Policy

Laws of the Commonwealth Relating to Use of Alcoholic Beverages

The laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania concerning the use of alcoholic beverages read as follows:

Section 6308 (a): A person commits a summary offense if he/she, being less than 21 years of age, attempts to purchase, purchases, consumes, possesses or knowingly and intentionally transports any alcohol, liquor, malt or brewed beverages.

Violation:

- Maximum penalty for first offense: $500 fine; 90 days imprisonment.
- Maximum penalty for subsequent offenses: $1,000 fine; 90 days imprisonment.
- Police required to notify parents.

6308.1. Safe harbor for violation of section 6308(a):

(a) Immunity for the individual seeking medical attention for another — An individual shall not be prosecuted for an offense under section 6308(a) (relating to purchase, consumption, possession or transportation of liquor or malt or brewed beverages) if the individual can establish all of the following:

(1) A law enforcement officer first became aware of the individual's violation of section 6308(a) because the individual placed a 911 call or contacted campus security, police or emergency services, based on a reasonable belief that another individual was in need of immediate medical attention to prevent death or serious bodily injury.

(2) The individual reasonably believed the individual was the first individual to make a 911 call or contact campus security, police or emergency services and report that the other individual needed immediate medical attention to prevent death or serious bodily injury.

(3) The individual provided the individual's own name to the 911 operator or equivalent campus security officer, police or emergency services personnel.

(4) The individual remained with the other individual needing medical assistance until a campus security officer, police or emergency services personnel arrived and the need for the individual's presence ended.

(b) Immunity for the individual needing medical attention — An individual needing medical attention shall be immune under this section from prosecution for an offense under section 6308(a) if another individual reported the incident and remained with the individual needing medical attention and is entitled to immunity under this section.

(c) Limitations — The immunity described under this section shall be limited as follows:

(1) This section may not bar prosecuting a person for an offense under section 6308(a) if a law enforcement officer learns of the offense prior to and independent of the action of seeking or obtaining emergency assistance as described in subsection (a).

(2) This section shall not interfere with or prevent the investigation, arrest, charging or prosecution of an individual for a crime other than an offense under section 6308(a).

(3) This section shall not bar the admissibility of evidence in connection with the investigation and prosecution for a crime other than an offense under section 6308(a).

(4) This section shall not bar the admissibility of evidence in connection with the investigation and prosecution of a crime with regard to another defendant who does not independently qualify for immunity under this section.

(d) Good faith immunity — In addition to any other applicable immunity or limitation on civil liability, a law enforcement officer, campus security officer or prosecuting attorney who, acting in good faith, charges a person who is thereafter determined to be entitled to immunity under this section shall not be subject to civil liability for the filing of the charges.

Section 6309 (a): A person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the third degree if he/she knowingly, willfully, and falsely represents to any licensed dealer or other person, any minor to be of full age, for the purpose of inducing any such licensed dealer or other person, to sell or furnish any liquor or malt or brewed beverage to a minor.

Violation:
- Maximum penalty: one year imprisonment.
- Minimum penalty: $300 fine.

Section 6310.1 (a): A person commits a misdemeanor of the third degree if he/she intentionally and knowingly sells or intentionally and knowingly furnishes, or purchases with the intent to sell or furnish, any liquor or malt or brewed beverage to a person who is less than 21 years of age.

Violation:
- Maximum penalty: one year imprisonment.
- Minimum penalty: $1,000 fine for first violation; $2,500 fine for subsequent violations.

Section 6310.6: Definitions: “Furnish” to supply, give or provide to or allow a minor to possess on premises or property owned or controlled by the person charged.

Section 6310.7 (a): A person commits a summary offense if he/she intentionally and knowingly sells or furnishes nonalcoholic beverages to any person under 21 years of age. Definition: “nonalcoholic beverages” means any beverage intended to be marketed or sold as nonalcoholic beer, wine or liquor having some alcohol content but does not contain more than 0.5% alcohol by volume.

Violation:
- Maximum penalty: $300; 90 days imprisonment.

Liquor Code Title 47 Section 4-493.1, Unlawful acts relative to liquor, malt and brewed beverages and licensees

It shall be unlawful –

Furnishing liquor or malt or brewed beverages to certain persons:
For any licensee or the board, or any employee, servant or agent of such license or of the board, or any other person, to sell, furnish or give any liquor or malt or brewed beverages, or to permit any liquor or malt or brewed beverages to be sold, furnished or given, to any person visibly intoxicated or to any minor.

City of Pittsburgh Social Host Ordinance

Ordinance Amending the Pittsburgh City Code, Title Six: Conduct, Article I: Regulated Rights and Actions; Chapter 601: Public Order, by adding Section 601.19, Social Hosts and Disorderly Gatherings and supplementing Title Six: Conduct, Article 7: Disruptive Properties: Chapter 670: Disruptive Property Abatement, by amending Section 670.02, Disruptive Property Defined by adding the following to the list of Sections is 670.02(a)(1):601.19 (Social Host and Underage Drinking)

Whereas, Events and gatherings held on residential property where alcohol is possessed or consumed by persons under the age of twenty-one (21) years are harmful to those persons and constitute a potential threat to public health, safety, and welfare requiring prevention or abatement; and

Whereas, Holding residential property owners and residential property lessees are responsible for accommodating or conducting an event or gathering where underage possession or consumption of alcohol occurs will help deter underage consumption; and

Whereas, Social Host ordinances in communities across the country, such as Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN; Eugene, OR; Laguna Beach, CA; San Diego, CA; and several others, have been found to reduce underage drinking and associated crimes or destruction of property; and

Whereas, Social Host ordinances are a means to protect residential property owners and property lessees from serious state civil liability for the actions of their guests; now therefore

Be it resolved that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1: The Pittsburgh City Code is hereby supplemented at Title Six: Conduct, Article 1: Regulated Rights and Actions; Chapter 601: Public Order, by adding Section 601:19, Social Hosts and Disorderly Gatherings and supplementing Title Six: Conduct, Article 7: Disruptive Properties: Chapter 670: Disruptive Property Abatement, by amending Section 670.02, Disruptive Property Defined, by adding the following to the list of Sections in 670.02(a)(1): 601.19 (Social Host and Underage Drinking), as follows:

601.19 SOCIAL HOSTS AND UNDERAGE DRINKING.

(a) Purpose: City Council seeks to reduce underage possession and consumption of alcohol by imposing penalties on those person(s) who host events where persons under twenty-one (21) years of age possess or consume alcohol.

(b) Definitions: As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meaning indicated, unless a different meaning clearly appears from the context:

(1) Constructive knowledge. Knowledge which a person is presumed by law to have, regardless of whether he or she actually does, where that knowledge is obtainable by the exercise of reasonable care.

(2) Gathering. An assembly for a social occasion or other activity. A gathering shall not include assemblies on the licensed property of a retail intoxicating liquor or three and two-tenths (3.2) percent malt liquor licensee, municipal liquor store, or bottle club permit-holder who is regulated by 47 P.S. 744-307.

(3) Host. A person who owns, leases or is in possession and control of the residential property where a gathering takes place.

(4) Person. Any individual, partnership, co-partnership, corporation or any association of one (1) or more individuals.

(5) Underage drinking. Any gathering involving the serving of alcoholic beverages to a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years and/or the consumption of alcoholic beverages by a person under the age of twenty-one (21) years.

(c) Prohibited conduct. Host may not, knowingly or with constructive knowledge, conduct or accommodate a gathering including underage drinking.

(d) Penalties. Any host who violates the provisions of this section shall be subject to: A fine not to exceed five hundred dollars ($500.00) and in default thereof, imprisonment not exceeding seventy-two (72) hours.

(e) Exceptions.
(1) It will be an affirmative defense to a violation of section (c) that the conduct was part of a legally protected religious observance.

(2) It will be an affirmative defense to a violation of section (c) that the defendant is a parent or guardian of the underage person and the defendant gave or furnished the alcoholic beverage to that person solely for the consumption in the defendant's household.

(f) Severability. If any provision of this section or the application to any person or circumstance is held invalid in a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity does not affect other provisions. Any other application of this section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application and for this purpose the provisions of this section are declared severable.

Section 2. The Pittsburgh City Code is hereby supplemented at Title Six: Conduct. Article 7: Disruptive Properties: Chapter 670: Disruptive Property Abatement, by amending Section 670.02, Disruptive Property Defined, by adding the following to the list of Sections in 670.02(a)(1): 601.19 (Social Host and Underage Drinking)

Sanctions Under Applicable Federal and State Law Relating to Illegal Drugs

The Pennsylvania laws concerning the use of alcoholic beverages and the sanctions for the violations of those laws are stated on page 5.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the United States of America and many other jurisdictions in which Carnegie Mellon operates have enacted laws concerning what are commonly known as illegal drugs or controlled substances.

The Federal Penalties & Sanctions for Illegal Possession of a Controlled Substance are as follows:

21 U.S.C. 844(a):
First conviction: Up to one year imprisonment and a fine of at least $1,000 but not more than $100,000, or both.

After one prior drug conviction: At least 15 days in prison, not to exceed two years, and a fine of at least $2,500 but not more than $250,000, or both.

After two or more prior drug convictions: At least 90 days in prison, not to exceed three years, and a fine of at least $5,000 but not more than $250,000, or both.

Flunitrazepam: Possession is punishable by imprisonment for up to three years, the otherwise applicable fine, or both.

The court must assess the reasonable costs of the investigation and prosecution unless it finds that the person lacks the ability to pay. The former special five-year crack-cocaine possession provision was repealed in 2010 and no longer applies.

21 U.S.C. 853(a)(2): Criminal forfeiture of property used, or intended to be used, to commit or facilitate a felony controlled-substance offense.

21 U.S.C. 881(a)(4) and (a)(7): Civil forfeiture may apply to conveyances used or intended for use to transport, receive, possess, or conceal controlled substances and to real property used or intended to facilitate a drug-law violation punishable by more than one year of imprisonment, subject to statutory exceptions and defenses.

21 U.S.C. 844a: A civil penalty of up to $10,000 may be imposed for possessing a personal-use amount under the statutory criteria. The civil-penalty provision remains in force under current federal law; the earlier effective-date contingency has been satisfied.

21 U.S.C. 862 - Distribution: For a first conviction, a court may deny designated federal benefits for up to five years; for a second conviction, up to 10 years; and for a third or subsequent conviction, permanently.

21 U.S.C. 862 - Possession: For a first conviction, a court may deny designated federal benefits for up to one year and/or require treatment, testing, or community service. For a second or subsequent conviction, the denial may last up to five years.

For this statute, 'Federal benefit' includes grants, contracts, loans, and professional or commercial licenses provided by a federal agency. It excludes retirement, welfare, Social Security, health, disability, veterans, and public-housing benefits.

Federal student aid: A drug conviction does not by itself make a student ineligible for Title IV federal student aid. A separate court-imposed denial under 21 U.S.C. 862 can create a federal-benefit hold during the denial period.

18 U.S.C. 922(d) and (g): Federal firearms restrictions apply to persons within the statutory categories, including a person convicted of a crime punishable by more than one year and an unlawful user of, or person addicted to, a controlled substance. The restriction is not triggered by every possession conviction in the same way.

Miscellaneous: Revocation of certain federal licenses and designated benefits, for example pilot licenses and professional or commercial licenses, may be available to a sentencing court or vested within the authorities of individual federal agencies, subject to current law. Public-housing benefits are specifically excluded from the definition of a federal benefit under 21 U.S.C. 862.

See Page 11 for further information regarding Federal Trafficking Penalties.

The following provisions reflect the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act and related criminal statutes. Maximum penalties vary by substance, conduct, prior convictions, and other facts.

Pennsylvania Penalties and Sanctions

MISDEMEANORS:

1. **Misrepresentation:** It is unlawful for any person to acquire or obtain possession of a controlled substance by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception or subterfuge. **Penalty (maximum):** the schedule-specific maximums in 13(f) apply – Schedule I or II narcotic: 15 years and $250,000; PCP, methamphetamine, coca/cocaine, or more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana: 10 years and $100,000; other Schedule I, II, or III substance: five years and $15,000; Schedule IV: three years and $10,000; Schedule V: one year and $5,000; specified GHB, MDMA, MDA, and related compounds: 15 years and $250,000.

2. **Possession:** It is unlawful for a person to knowingly or intentionally possess a controlled or counterfeit substance unless he/she is registered under the act or obtains the substance by use of a valid prescription. **Penalty:** In the case of a first offense, imprisonment for one year, a fine of $5,000, or both. For a subsequent violation committed after a final conviction, imprisonment for three years, a fine of $25,000, or both.

3. **Possession and distribution of a small amount of marijuana (30 grams of marijuana or eight grams of hashish):** It is unlawful for a person to possess a small amount of marijuana for personal use; to possess it with the intent to distribute it; or to distribute it. **Penalty:** Imprisonment for 30 days, a fine of $500, or both.

4. **Use and delivery of paraphernalia:** It is unlawful for a person to use, deliver or possess, with the intent of using or delivering, paraphernalia (such as grow kits, pipes, needles and roach clips) to grow, conceal or ingest drugs. **Penalty:** Imprisonment up to one year, a fine of $2,500, or both. Delivery by a person at least three years older to a person under 18 carries up to two years and $5,000.

FELONIES:

1. **Delivery:** It is unlawful for a person to manufacture, deliver or possess, with intent to manufacture or deliver, a controlled substance by a person not registered under this act. **Penalty (maximum):** Schedule I or II narcotic: 15 years and $250,000; PCP, methamphetamine, coca/cocaine, or more than 1,000 pounds of marijuana: 10 years and $100,000; other Schedule I, II, or III substance: five years and $15,000; Schedule IV: three years and $10,000; Schedule V: one year and $5,000; specified GHB, MDMA, MDA, and related compounds: 15 years and $250,000.

Distribution to a minor: Under 14, a person age 21 or older who is not drug-dependent and distributes a Schedule I-V substance to a person under 18 who is at least four years younger may receive up to twice the imprisonment otherwise authorized by 13(f), plus the otherwise authorized fine. Separately, 18 Pa.C.S. 6314 generally requires at least one year of total confinement when an adult over 18 is convicted of delivery or possession with intent to deliver to a minor.

Repeat trafficking offense: Under 15, imprisonment and the fine for a second or subsequent conviction under 13(a)(30) may be up to twice the otherwise authorized amount.

Xylazine: Pennsylvania permanently placed xylazine in Schedule III effective May 15, 2024, with statutory exceptions for legitimate veterinary use and secure-storage requirements.

Note: Manufacture means the production, preparation, propagation, compounding, conversion or processing of a controlled substance.

Federal Trafficking Penalties - Quantity Thresholds

Current 21 U.S.C. 841 thresholds for the listed Schedule I and II substances.

Substance	Schedule	Lower Quantity Tier	Higher Quantity Tier
Cocaine	II	500 to 4,999 grams mixture	5 kilograms or more mixture
Cocaine Base	II	28 to 279 grams mixture	280 grams or more mixture
Fentanyl	II	40 to 399 grams mixture	400 grams or more mixture
Fentanyl-Related Substance	I	10 to 99 grams mixture	100 grams or more mixture
Heroin	I	100 to 999 grams mixture	1 kilogram or more mixture
LSD	I	1 to 9 grams mixture	10 grams or more mixture
Methamphetamine	II	5 to 49 grams pure, or 50 to 499 grams mixture	50 grams or more pure, or 500 grams or more mixture
PCP	II	10 to 99 grams pure, or 100 to 999 grams mixture	100 grams or more pure, or 1 kilogram or more mixture

Penalty Tier	Penalty
Lower quantity tier	**First offense:** Not less than five years and not more than 40 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years and not more than life. Fine of not more than $5 million if an individual or $25 million if other than an individual. **After one qualifying prior serious drug felony or serious violent felony:** Not less than 10 years and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury results, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than $8 million if an individual or $50 million if other than an individual.
Higher quantity tier	**First offense:** Not less than 10 years and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years and not more than life. Fine of not more than $10 million if an individual or $50 million if other than an individual. **After one qualifying prior serious drug felony or serious violent felony:** Not less than 15 years and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury results, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than $20 million if an individual or $75 million if other than an individual. **After two or more qualifying prior convictions:** Not less than 25 years; the same maximum fines apply.

Enhanced mandatory minimums require the qualifying prior convictions specified in 21 U.S.C. 841. The HALT Fentanyl Act, signed July 16, 2025, permanently placed fentanyl-related substances in Schedule I. Legal information is current through August 28, 2026.

Federal Trafficking Penalties - Other Schedules

Full maximum imprisonment and fine information for quantities not listed on page 11.

Substance / Quantity	Penalty
Other Schedule I and II substances Any drug product containing gamma hydroxybutyric acid Flunitrazepam, 1 gram	**First offense:** Not more than 20 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years and not more than life. Fine not more than $1 million if an individual or $5 million if other than an individual. **After a prior felony drug conviction:** Not more than 30 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, life imprisonment. Fine not more than $2 million if an individual or $10 million if other than an individual.
Other Schedule III drugs	**First offense:** Not more than 10 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, not more than 15 years. Fine not more than $500,000 if an individual or $2.5 million if other than an individual. **After a prior felony drug conviction:** Not more than 20 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, not more than 30 years. Fine not more than $1 million if an individual or $5 million if other than an individual.
Other Schedule IV drugs (excluding one gram or more of flunitrazepam)	**First offense:** Not more than five years. Fine not more than $250,000 if an individual or $1 million if other than an individual. **After a prior felony drug conviction:** Not more than 10 years. Fine not more than $500,000 if an individual or $2 million if other than an individual.
Schedule V drugs	**First offense:** Not more than one year. Fine not more than $100,000 if an individual or $250,000 if other than an individual. **After a prior felony drug conviction:** Not more than four years. Fine not more than $200,000 if an individual or $500,000 if other than an individual.

These are statutory maximums and mandatory ranges. The charging subsection, drug quantity, death or serious bodily injury, criminal history, and other facts determine the applicable range in a particular case. See 21 U.S.C. 841.

Federal Trafficking Penalties - Marijuana, Hashish and Hashish Oil

Quantity penalties under 21 U.S.C. 841. Federal scheduling changed in April 2026 as explained below.

Substance / Quantity	Penalty
Marijuana: 1,000 kilograms or more mixture, or 1,000 or more plants	**First offense:** Not less than 10 years and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years and not more than life. Fine not more than $10 million if an individual or $50 million if other than an individual. **After one qualifying prior:** Not less than 15 years and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury results, life imprisonment. Fine not more than $20 million if an individual or $75 million if other than an individual. **After two or more qualifying priors:** Not less than 25 years.
Marijuana: 100 to 999 kilograms mixture, or 100 to 999 plants	**First offense:** Not less than five years and not more than 40 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years and not more than life. Fine not more than $5 million if an individual or $25 million if other than an individual. **After one qualifying prior:** Not less than 10 years and not more than life. If death or serious bodily injury results, life imprisonment. Fine not more than $8 million if an individual or $50 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana: 50 to 99 kilograms mixture, or 50 to 99 plants **Hashish:** more than 10 kilograms **Hashish oil:** more than 1 kilogram	**First offense:** Not more than 20 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, not less than 20 years and not more than life. Fine not more than $1 million if an individual or $5 million if other than an individual. **After a prior felony drug conviction:** Not more than 30 years. If death or serious bodily injury results, life imprisonment. Fine not more than $2 million if an individual or $10 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana: under 50 kilograms, except 50 or more plants; or 1 to 49 plants **Hashish:** 10 kilograms or less **Hashish oil:** 1 kilogram or less	**First offense:** Not more than five years. Fine not more than $250,000 if an individual or $1 million if other than an individual. **After a prior felony drug conviction:** Not more than 10 years. Fine not more than $500,000 if an individual or $2 million if other than an individual.

Effective April 28, 2026, FDA-approved marijuana products and marijuana subject to a state medical-marijuana license are Schedule III. Unlicensed bulk marijuana, other unlicensed marijuana, marijuana extract, and synthetic THC remain Schedule I. The quantity penalties above continue to apply to prohibited trafficking conduct. CMU policy independently prohibits all forms of marijuana on university property and in university programs. A federal hemp-definition amendment is scheduled to take effect November 12, 2026; consult then-current 7 U.S.C. 1639o and 21 U.S.C. 802. Legal information is current through August 28, 2026.

Pennsylvania Drug-Offense Penalty Chart

Maximum penalties under 35 P.S. 780-113 to 780-115 and related statutes.

Controlled Substance	Prohibited Acts	Maximum Penalty
Schedule I or II narcotic	Possession: first offense; subsequent offense	1 year / $5,000; 3 years / $25,000
	Acquisition by fraud; possession with intent to deliver; delivery	15 years / $250,000
	Qualifying distribution to a minor	30 years / $250,000
PCP, methamphetamine, coca or cocaine; marijuana over 1,000 pounds	Possession: first offense; subsequent offense	1 year / $5,000; 3 years / $25,000
	Acquisition by fraud; possession with intent to deliver; delivery	10 years / $100,000
	Qualifying distribution to a minor	20 years / $100,000
Small amount of marijuana 30 grams or less; hashish 8 grams or less	Possession for personal use; possession with intent to distribute; distribution	30 days / $500
Other Schedule I, II or III nonnarcotic Includes xylazine except authorized veterinary activity	Possession: first offense; subsequent offense	1 year / $5,000; 3 years / $25,000
	Acquisition by fraud; possession with intent to deliver; delivery	5 years / $15,000
	Qualifying distribution to a minor	10 years / $15,000
Schedule IV	Possession: first offense; subsequent offense	1 year / $5,000; 3 years / $25,000
	Acquisition by fraud; possession with intent to deliver; delivery	3 years / $10,000
	Qualifying distribution to a minor	6 years / $10,000
Schedule V	Possession: first offense; subsequent offense	1 year / $5,000; 3 years / $25,000
	Acquisition by fraud; possession with intent to deliver; delivery	1 year / $5,000
	Qualifying distribution to a minor	2 years / $5,000

Repeat 13(a)(30) trafficking penalties may be doubled under 15. Separately, 18 Pa.C.S. 6314 generally imposes a one-year mandatory minimum for an adult over 18 convicted of delivery or possession with intent to deliver to a minor.

Pennsylvania permanently placed xylazine in Schedule III effective May 15, 2024, with statutory exceptions for legitimate veterinary use and secure-storage requirements.

Health Risks Associated with the Use of Alcohol*

Excessive alcohol use has immediate effects that increase the risk of many harmful health conditions. **Immediate risks** are most often the result of binge drinking and include the following:

- Injuries, such as motor vehicle crashes, falls, drownings and burns
- Violence, including homicide, suicide, sexual assault and intimate partner violence
- Alcohol poisoning, a medical emergency that results from high blood alcohol levels
- Risky sexual behaviors, including unprotected sex or sex with multiple partners; these behaviors can result in unintended pregnancy or sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV
- Miscarriage and stillbirth or fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASDs) among pregnant individuals

Over time, excessive alcohol use can lead to the development of chronic diseases and other serious problems including:

- High blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, liver disease and digestive problems
- Cancer of the breast, mouth, throat, esophagus, liver and colon
- Learning and memory problems, including dementia and poor school performance
- Mental health problems, including depression and anxiety
- Social problems, including lost productivity, family problems and unemployment
- Alcohol dependence or alcoholism

By not drinking too much, you can reduce the risk of these short- and long-term health risks.

***Source:** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (January 3, 2018). Fact Sheets: Alcohol Use and Health. In Alcohol and Public Health. Retrieved from www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/alcohol-use.htm

Health Risks Associated with Other Drugs of Abuse*

Tobacco and Nicotine Products (cigarettes, e-cigarettes, cigars, bidis, hookah, snuff, nicotine pouches and chew): Cigarette smoking harms nearly every organ in the body, and smoking is the leading preventable cause of premature death in the United States. Nonsmokers may be exposed to second or thirdhand smoke (residue left on surfaces from cigarette smoke) and are at increased risk for many physical and behavioral health impacts including lung disease, asthma, hyperactivity and premature death. Health risks of tobacco use include: addiction, cancer, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, stroke, heart attack and vascular disease. E-cigarette vapor has been found to contain carcinogens and toxic chemicals. Until more studies are conducted, the health consequences of repeated exposure to these chemicals are unknown.

Marijuana: Addiction, learning and memory problems, impaired coordination, increased risk of lung infections, anxiety, paranoia and psychotic episodes

Cocaine: Addiction, anxiety, irritability, paranoia, nosebleeds, loss of smell from snorting, skin infection, risk of contracting Hepatitis C or HIV from needle injection, heart attack, stroke, seizures and death

MDMA (Ecstasy, Molly): Addiction, increased heart rate and blood pressure, depression, anxiety, sleep problems and death

Opioids (including heroin, synthetic opioids such as fentanyl and pain relievers available legally by prescription, such as oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine and opioid analogs such as xylazine and medetomidine): Addiction, overdose and death, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, infection of heart lining and valves, liver or kidney disease and, among pregnant women, low birth weight babies

Prescription and Over-the-Counter Drugs of Abuse:

Opioids (for pain) – Addiction, constipation, depressed breathing and death
Central Nervous System Depressants (for anxiety and sleep disorders) – Addiction, slowed heart rate and depressed breathing
Stimulants (for ADHD and narcolepsy) – Addiction, irregular heartbeat, seizures, heart failure, hostility, paranoia and sleep problems
Dextromethorphan (DXM, active ingredient in cough and cold medicine) – Numbness, nausea and vomiting, increased heart rate and blood pressure, brain damage

Hallucinogens (LSD, Peyote, Psilocybin, PCP, Ayahuasca, and DMT): Hallucinations, flashbacks within a few days or more than a year after use, increased heart rate and blood pressure, nausea and vomiting, panic and psychosis

Synthetic Cannabinoids: (Delta-8, K2, Spice): The chemical composition of synthesized cannabinoids is unknown and makes it difficult to understand toxicity and users may experience dramatically different effects than expected. Known risks include: increased heart rate, vomiting, agitation, confusion and hallucination.

Steroids (Anabolic-Androgenic): Mood and behavior problems, aggression, psychiatric dysfunction, addiction, liver damage, high blood pressure, jaundice, renal failure, severe acne, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, various gender and age specific hormonal problems

**Source:* National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2016-2018). DrugFacts Publications. Retrieved from https://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/finder/t/160/DrugFacts

Club Drugs (GHB, Ketamine and Rohypnol): Uncertainties about sources, chemicals and contaminants used to manufacture many club drugs make it difficult to determine toxicity and medical risks. Known health risks include: coma, seizures, nausea, breathing problems, high blood pressure, date rape and death.

Inhalants: Hearing loss, limb spasms, brain damage, bone marrow damage, liver or kidney damage, blood oxygen depletion, suffocation, heart failure, death

Methamphetamine: Addiction, emotional and cognitive problems, anxiety, paranoia, hallucinations, violent behaviors, insomnia, increased heart rate and blood pressure, extreme weight loss, dental problems, HIV/AIDS, hepatitis

Kratom: Nausea, itching, sweating, dry mouth, constipation, seizures, hallucinations, dependence or addiction

Synthetic Cathinones ("Bath Salts"): Paranoia, hallucinations, panic attacks, delirium, agitation, violent behaviors

Counseling and Psychological Services (CaPS) and University Health Services (UHS) are available as resources to the student population for initial assessment of drug and alcohol problems, and referrals to off-campus outpatient and inpatient treatment programs.

Active Medical Assistance Protocol (AMAP)

The university community values the health and safety of its members and supports an environment that encourages students to come to the assistance of one another. To that end, the active medical assistance protocol (AMAP) sets forth an expectation that community members take responsible action when the health or safety of a student is compromised due to overuse or abuse of alcohol or illicit substances and/or as a result of hazing activity.

Amnesty from university disciplinary action and University Police action will be granted to the student(s) for whom medical assistance is summoned and for those seeking assistance from emergency services personnel when all of the following conditions apply:

1. An individual contacted emergency services personnel based on a reasonable belief that another individual was in need of immediate medical attention, which had not otherwise been sought, to prevent death or serious bodily injury;
2. The individual seeking assistance provided their own name to the emergency services personnel; and
3. The individual requesting assistance remained with the individual believed to be in need of medical assistance until emergency services personnel arrived and the need for the concerned individual's presence had ended.

Those seeking assistance will be assured that the university will likewise not pursue further university action against any individual or organization involved in such an incident when appropriate medical attention is sought. Students who are directly involved in attending to the compromised student until help arrives will also be granted amnesty from university action. Students involved in an incident for which amnesty is granted will be provided appropriate educational or developmental interventions.

In cases where help is indicated but not sought, the most severe disciplinary action will be taken against all students involved.

This protocol extends the university's previously established Alcohol Medical Assistance Protocol (1999) and is consistent with the spirit of several Pennsylvania laws that include safe harbor provisions granting immunity from criminal prosecution for seeking medical assistance.

Employee Resources

Employees of the university who have a drug or alcohol problem are eligible to take advantage of the Employee Assistance Program.

As an institution of higher education, Carnegie Mellon, in providing an environment designed to facilitate excellence in teaching and research, recognizes the importance of the university's human resources. The university believes that the job performance of each individual employee determines the quality of the institution as a whole. Furthermore, the university recognizes that job performance may be affected by personal issues that, when addressed in a timely, confidential and professionally supportive manner, can be successfully resolved. Carnegie Mellon, therefore, has established an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), sponsored and paid for by the university, designed to facilitate an individual's efforts to resolve personal issues that can affect job performance and general well-being.

Policy

The EAP provides professional and confidential assistance, information and services to employees and their household members to address pressing issues or to bolster their professional or personal lives. Employees can use the EAP to enhance their own and their family's well-being by accessing resources related to work/home life balance, quality day care or summer camp for children, stress management, financial and retirement planning, health and wellness issues and many others. The EAP also provides many career development tools, such as supervisory resources, time management techniques, change management guidance, skills development information and other professional issues. Lastly, the EAP can help individuals address personal issues that may have an impact on their personal and professional lives. Topics that can be addressed through the EAP include: marital, troubled family members or children, alcohol or drug abuse, psychological or financial and legal issues. In these situations, the EAP can provide direct assistance or refer one to the appropriate resource to help find resolution. All counseling through the EAP is on a voluntary basis, even if recommended to the employee by management. Consultation or contact with the EAP in any way will not jeopardize an individual's job security, limit promotional opportunities within the university, or relieve the employee of his or her responsibility to meet acceptable job performance and attendance standards. Information regarding any employee using the services will be held in strictest confidence by the EAP counseling service. No information will be released regarding an individual without written authorization from that employee.

Carnegie Mellon has contracted with a private counseling and service organization to administer the confidential EAP services. The EAP provides access to professional counselors to assess problems and provide referrals for those individuals requiring specialized or long-term assistance in resolving issues. There is no cost for initial assessments and/or referrals; however, fees for the services of referral resources are the responsibility of the individual and/or his or her group health plan. The EAP will coordinate referrals, where possible, with the employee's existing health insurance coverage in order to minimize costs to the individual.

Procedures

SELF-REFERRAL

Employees can elect to use the EAP service at their own initiative and may contact the EAP directly. A counselor will work with the employee to assist in identifying the cause of the problem, resolving the problem, and, as appropriate, referring the employee to other treatment or counseling. Any assistance or referral provided by the EAP will remain confidential.

The EAP website also provides a 24-hour, seven-day a week source for information, solutions and practical tips for managing time, work, money, relationships, family issues, etc.

HOUSEHOLD MEMBER ASSISTANCE

Any member of an employee's household, including his or her registered Domestic Partner, may use the services of the EAP. Once contacted, a counselor will provide the necessary assessment over the telephone and, if necessary, will arrange for further counseling or other services. Again, initial assessments and referrals are provided to household members at no cost; however, fees for the services of referral resources are the responsibility of the household member and/or his or her group health plan.

TIME OFF FOR COUNSELING

Employees are expected to use the EAP on their own time. Any time off from work to attend a counseling session is treated the same as other absences due to personal illness, injury or medical appointments. Arrangements should be made with the employee's supervisor in advance to schedule time away from work or make up any time lost.

SUPERVISORY REFERRAL

Management referral to the EAP is based on:

1. A request by the employee for assistance with a personal issue; or
2. A pattern of decline in an employee's work performance or attendance; or
3. A particular on-the-job incident that indicates the possible presence of a personal issue.

An employee's supervisor may suggest an EAP referral when he/she detects a decline in an employee's on-the-job behavior or overall work performance. The EAP and Human Resources provide assistance to supervisors in recognizing and referring issues that may be appropriate for counseling services.

Supervisors may contact the EAP and receive objective advice on employee relations, performance issues, interpersonal work conflicts, etc. It is not the supervisor's job to attempt to diagnose an employee's personal issues. It is the supervisor's responsibility to correct poor job performance through the use of the university's Progressive Disciplinary Procedure. At the same time, all supervisors at the university are strongly encouraged to take full advantage of the EAP and make referrals whenever there is any indication of job performance difficulty.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Specialized training for faculty, supervisors and upper-level administrators will be offered to help them recognize job performance issues which may be a result of personal problems or substance abuse. Other training and awareness seminars and workshops will be made available as necessary.

RELEASE OF INFORMATION

All counseling is conducted in strict confidence and no information from an individual's record will be provided to anyone without the individual's written consent.

Resources

Where to go if you need help:

CAMPUS

Name	Phone Number	Website
University Police	412.268.2323	cmu.edu/police
Counseling and Psychological Services	412.268.2922	cmu.edu/counseling
University Health Services	412.268.2157	cmu.edu/health-services
Human Resources (EAP)	1.844.744.1370	cmu.edu/hr/work-life/support/eap
Office of the Dean of Students	412.268.2075	cmu.edu/student-affairs/dean
Office of Community Responsibility	412.268.2140	cmu.edu/student-affairs/ocr

PITTSBURGH

Name	Phone Number	Website
Alcoholics Anonymous	412.471.7472	pghaa.org
Al-Anon	1.800.628.8920	al-anon.org
Gateway Rehabilitation Center	412.697.0928	gatewayrehab.org
Greenbriar Treatment Center	412.421.4311	greenbriar.net
Narcotics Anonymous	412.391.5247	na.org
United Way Help Line	412.261.6010	unitedway.org

Statement of Assurance

Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate in admission, employment or administration of its programs or activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, handicap or disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, ancestry, belief, veteran status or genetic information. Furthermore, Carnegie Mellon University does not discriminate and is required not to discriminate in violation of federal, state or local laws or executive orders.

Inquiries concerning the application of and compliance with this statement should be directed to the university ombudsman, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213, telephone 412.268.1018.

Obtain general information about Carnegie Mellon University by calling 412.268.2000.