

# UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

The U.S. Department of Education requires that each institution of higher education distribute its alcohol and other drug policy annually, in writing, to every student and employee.

The following is a summary of the University's alcohol and drug policy. The full text of University policies and sanctions, laws and penalties concerning substance use and abuse, health and behavioral risks of drug use, and resources for treatment and educational programming can be found in the Student Record or online at: <a href="http://www.virginia.edu/registrar/records/ugradrec//chapter5/chapter5-2.htm#alcohol">http://www.virginia.edu/registrar/records/ugradrec//chapter5/chapter5-2.htm#alcohol</a>.

# **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

The University of Virginia does not condone the illegal or otherwise irresponsible use of alcohol and other drugs. It is the responsibility of every member of the University community to know the risks associated with substance use and abuse. This responsibility obligates students and employees to know relevant University policies and federal, state and local laws and to conduct themselves in accordance with these laws and policies.

### Alcohol

Virginia State laws concerning the purchase, possession, consumption, sale and storage of alcoholic beverages include the following: (1) Any sale of an alcoholic beverage requires an ABC license; (2) Alcoholic beverages are not to be given or sold to persons under 21 years of age; (3) Alcoholic beverages are not to be given or sold to persons who are intoxicated; (4) State law prohibits: drinking in unlicensed public places; possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under 21 years of age; falsely representing one's age for the purpose of procuring alcohol; and purchasing an alcoholic beverage for a person who is under 21 years of age. The University of Virginia assumes no responsibility for any liability incurred at any event not sponsored by the University where alcohol is served and/or sold. Students and Contracted Student Organizations are always expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia and to assume full responsibility for their activities and events. Any student found to have violated these policies may be subject to the entire range of University sanctions described in the Statement of Students' Rights and Responsibilities, including suspension and expulsion.

#### Drugs

Unauthorized manufacture, distribution and possession of "controlled substances" (illegal drugs), including marijuana, cocaine and LSD, are prohibited by both state and federal law and are punishable by severe penalties. The University does not tolerate or condone such conduct. Students who violate state or federal drug law may be referred by University authorities for criminal prosecution and, if convicted, may be subject to the penalties described herein. Whether or not criminal charges are brought, all students are subject to University discipline for illegally manufacturing, distributing, possessing or using any controlled substance (i) on University-owned or leased property, (ii) at University-sponsored or supervised functions, or (iii) under other circumstances involving a direct and substantial connection to the University. Any student found to have engaged in such conduct is subject to the entire range of University sanctions described in the Statement of Students' Rights and Responsibilities, including suspension and expulsion.

### **Federal and State Penalties**

Under the federal Controlled Substances Act and the Virginia Drug Control Act, the law penalizes for unlawful manufacturing, distribution, use, and possession of controlled substances. The penalties vary based on the type of drug involved, possession and intent to distribute. Federal law sets penalties for first offenses ranging from one year to life imprisonment and/or \$100,000 to \$4 million fines. Convictions under state law may be misdemeanor or felony crimes with sanctions ranging from six months to life imprisonment and/or \$250 to \$100,000 fines.

## **Drug-Free Workplace Policy**

The use of alcohol by employees while on University of Virginia-owned or controlled property, including meal periods and breaks, is absolutely prohibited except when authorized by the University for approved University functions. No employee will report to work while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. Violations of these rules by an employee will be reason for evaluation/treatment for a substance use disorder or for disciplinary action up to and including removal. This policy applies to all employees (full-time, part-time, students, etc.).