

# Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention and Policy Statement

(Updated September 2025)

**Introduction / Standards of Conduct** - While Lee College recognizes that a substance abuse disorder is an illness requiring intervention and support, we strive to offer students and employees an optimum environment which promotes and secures educational success. To meet this objective, Lee College has adopted and implemented a program to prevent unlawful manufacture, possession, use, and distribution of illicit drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products by students and employees. Such conduct is not consistent with the behavior expected of members of the college community.

In addition, Lee College is committed to enforcing the provisions of the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989. It is the intent of Lee College for this policy to be applied to campus activities and all college sponsored events whether held on or off campus. Individuals who violate Lee College policy will be subject to disciplinary action. In compliance with this law, every employee and each student taking one or more course for any type of credit will be given a copy of the College's Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Prevention and Policy Statement.

**Tobacco and E-Cigarettes** - Lee College is a tobacco free campus. Tobacco (nicotine) products include cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, nicotine pouches, and electronic cigarettes (every version and type of such device whether manufactured or marketed as electronic cigarettes, e-cigarettes, electronic cigars, e-cigars, electronic pipes, e-pipes or under any other product name or description). Smoking, vaping, and the use of other tobacco products are effectively banned from any area of campus including personal and school-owned vehicles. In addition, Lee College prohibits the sales, sponsorships, advertising, or promotional activities of tobacco on campus property. Students, faculty, staff, contractors and visitors violating the policy are subject to disciplinary measures. Employees who violate the policy will be referred to their supervisor; students will be referred to the student conduct administrator and contract workers and/or visitors will be referred to campus security.

**College Disciplinary Actions** - Since Lee College policy prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products on the campus and at college sponsored events held off campus, any employee admitting to or convicted of such unlawful possession, use or distribution of these substances will be subject to disciplinary action (up to and including suspension without pay, and termination). Employees may be required to satisfactorily participate in a drug and alcohol assistance or rehabilitation program or may be referred for prosecution.

Students who violate this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action as outlined in Lee College Board Policy [FLBE \(Local\)](#). Such disciplinary action may include referral to alcohol, tobacco and drug counseling; tobacco cessation or rehabilitation programs or student assistance programs; expulsion; and referral to appropriate law enforcement officials for prosecution.

**Good Samaritan Policies** - SB 1331, passed by the Texas Senate in 2011, addresses underage drinking and its consequences, particularly in emergency situations. It grants limited immunity from alcohol-related charges to minors who seek medical help from themselves or another minor experiencing a possible alcohol overdose, provided they are the first to call and remain on the scene.

**Health Risks** - The abuse of drugs and alcohol can lead to a variety of serious consequences including poor academic and work performance, poor decision making, poor morale, work errors, wasted time and materials, damage to equipment, theft, tardiness, absenteeism, accidents which injure the drug user, accidents which put all employees and students at risk of injury, and may lead to disciplinary action, prosecution, illness and even death. Users of these substances experience depression, isolation, loss of memory, loss of coordination, impaired judgment, reduced morale, anxiety, paranoia and loss of self-respect.

Alcohol use is a significant factor in a substantial portion of campus sexual assaults. Research indicates about half of all sexual assaults on college campuses involve alcohol consumption by either the perpetrator, the victim, or both. Specifically, it is estimated that alcohol is linked to around 97,000 sexual assaults on college campuses nationally (<https://nida.nih.gov/sites/default/files/sexualassault.pdf>).

Tobacco use is the leading cause of death, disability, and a number of chronic diseases, including cancer, lung disease, and cardiovascular disease. Currently, 26.9% of cancer deaths in Texas are attributable to smoking. In addition, exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risks of health problems because it has the same dangerous chemical that smokers inhale. Finally e-cigarettes and other vaping devices have been linked to a plethora of health problems including severe lung damage and death.

**Other Risks / Consequences** - Other areas in which the use of alcohol or drugs can have a negative impact include but are not limited to employment and housing.

**Available Counseling and Treatment Programs** - Both the Lee College Human Resource Office and the Lee College Student Success and Belonging Division offer services to employees and students who are seeking support regarding alcohol, tobacco, and other drug issues. The Human Resource Office at Lee College will assist employees with information concerning insurance coverage. Both offices can provide a list of private and public hospitals, mutual self-help organizations, public treatment centers, and private drug treatment practitioners. Information regarding an individual's request for services will remain confidential. The Lee College Human Resource Office nor any other entity at the College will be notified or informed of an employee or student's choice to receive assistance for drug or alcohol issues, including those who use insurance or Employee Assistance Program funding.

**Legal Sanctions** - 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 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 July, 2025)

- **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 at <https://www.campusdrugprevention.gov/content/drug-scheduling-and-penalties>.

**Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug State Laws** - The following are sanctions based on Texas laws and civil codes and fall under the jurisdiction of local and state law enforcement for compliance.

Category	Summary (Texas Code Annotated)
Possession of Marijuana	<p>Knowingly or intentionally possessing marijuana is illegal in Texas. Tex. Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. § 481.121(a). A Class B misdemeanor occurs if the amount of marijuana possessed is 2 ounces or less. Tex. Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. § 481.121(b). A Class A misdemeanor occurs if the amount of marijuana possessed is between 2 ounces and 4 ounces. <i>Id.</i> An individual 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. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 12.22. 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. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 12.21. As the amount of marijuana increases, the crime classification becomes more severe and related penalties increase. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 481.121(b).</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 &amp; 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. <i>See</i> Texas Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. §§ 481.101 – 481.141.</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 &amp; Safety Code Ann. §§ 481.104, 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. Tex. Health and Safety Code Ann. §§ 481.102, 481.1022, 481.115(b). 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 &amp; 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. <i>E.g.</i>, Tex. Health &amp; Safety Code Ann. § 481.117(f).</p>

Category	Summary (Texas Code Annotated)
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. Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code §§ 106.04, 106.071. The court may also impose penalties like community service, driver's license suspension, and education or treatment. See 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. 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. 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. Tex. Alcoholic Beverage Code Ann. § 106.06(b)(1).</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. 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. Tex. Penal Code Ann. §§ 49.01(2), 49.04(a). This is a Class B misdemeanor, with a minimum term of confinement of 72 hours. Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 49.04(b). An offender can also be subject to fines, revocation/suspension of license, a vehicle interlock system, and educational programs. See Tex. Penal Code Ann. § 49 <i>et seq.</i> and Tex. Transp. Code Ann. § 524.022.</p>
Tobacco and Minors	<p>A minor is guilty for the possession, purchase, consumption or receipt of cigarettes, E-cigarettes, or tobacco products. This is a Class C misdemeanor subject to a fine up to \$100. Minors can be ordered to attend tobacco awareness programs and or community service (Texas Health and Safety Code Section 161.252). An offense may also be committed for the sale of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or tobacco products to those younger than 21 years of age. This is a Class C misdemeanor with up to a \$500 fine with enhancements for subsequent convictions for up to \$1000 fine and permit suspensions are possible.</p>

# Resources for Support

Poison Control Center, for immediate help with possible overdoses  
1.800.222.1222

Additional Resources: [www.lee.edu/about/maintaining-a-drug-free-campus](http://www.lee.edu/about/maintaining-a-drug-free-campus)  
Tobacco Cessation: [www.lee.edu/go/tobacco-free](http://www.lee.edu/go/tobacco-free)

## **CAMPUS RESOURCES**

Lee College Student Success & Belonging  
Dr. Rosemary Coffman  
Executive Director, Student Success & Wellbeing  
281.425.6387 / [rcoffman@lee.edu](mailto:rcoffman@lee.edu)

Lee College Human Resource Office  
Amanda Summers, Executive Director  
281.425.6875 / [asummers@lee.edu](mailto:asummers@lee.edu)

Lee College Mental Health Services  
Linda Torrez-Mann, LPC-S, LCDC,  
Mental Health Therapist  
For currently enrolled students, 18+  
Referral Link:  
[www.lee.edu/go/mental-health-referral](http://www.lee.edu/go/mental-health-referral)

TimelyCare Virtual Services  
For current credit students and part time  
employees (Includes services for self-care,  
medical and mental health to include substance  
use disorder)  
[www.timelycare.com/lee](http://www.timelycare.com/lee)

UT Employee Assistance Program  
(for Lee College employees)  
713.500.3327 / [www.utep.org](http://www.utep.org)

Lee College Security  
281.425.6888

Addiction Counseling Program  
Reanna DeGeorge  
281.425.6235 / [redgeorge@lee.edu](mailto:redgeorge@lee.edu)

## **COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

Bay Area Council on Drugs and Alcohol  
Resources and Referral  
1.800.510.3111 / [www.bacoda.com](http://www.bacoda.com)

## **12- STEP MEETING INFORMATION**

West Baytown AA  
1020 Bowie St, Baytown  
281.427.2500

Houston AA intergroup  
Find AA meetings in the Houston area  
[www.aahouston.org](http://www.aahouston.org)

Houston Al-Anon  
Support for friends and families of alcoholics  
[www.houstonalanon.org](http://www.houstonalanon.org)

Houston Narcotics Anonymous  
713.661.4200  
[www.hascona.com](http://www.hascona.com)

## **TOBACCO / E-CIGARETTE (VAPING) CESSATION RESOURCES**

Freedom from Smoking Online Program  
<https://www.freedomfromsmoking.org/>  
An evidence-based program consisting of eight  
self-paced modules to help quit tobacco.

Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
[https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/qu  
it-smoking](https://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/campaign/tips/quit-smoking)  
Offers a variety of programs and resources  
800.QUIT.NOW.

Chambers Health  
Provides one-on-one counselor consult and  
ongoing coaching  
Bayside Clinic (409.267.4126) and  
West Chambers Medical (281.576.0670).

Truth Initiative Vaping Text Line  
For youth and young adults:  
Text "DITCHJUUL" to 88709  
Information for parents / other adults:  
Text "QUIT" to 202.899.7550