



# Legal Sanctions for Illegal Use of Alcohol and Other Drugs

In accordance with federal regulations the following information is provided for all students. In addition to sanctions imposed by the University for a violation of the Alcohol Use Policy and the Drug Abuse Policy, a student may be subject to regulations of civil authorities. Various local, state and federal regulations prohibit the illegal use, possession and distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. Penalties for violation of such statutes vary depending on the type of drug, the amount of the drug involved, the type of violation, and in the case of alcohol, the age of the persons involved. Detailed descriptions of legal penalties are available on the pages to follow and in the Office of Alcohol and Drug Education.

The University reserves the right to refer students to court authorities for any behavior that is in violation of the law regardless of any sanctions imposed by the University.

**Texas State Law**

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>CLASS/DEGREE</b>	<b>MINIMUM PUNISHMENT</b>	<b>MAXIMUM PUNISHMENT</b>	<b>FOR MINORS</b>
Manufacture or delivery of controlled substance (drugs)	State Jail Felony to First Degree Felony	Up to 2 years in jail and a fine of up to \$10,000	10 years to life in jail and a fine of up to \$250,000	Same
Possession of a controlled substance	State Jail Felony to First Degree Felony	Up to 2 years in jail and a fine of up to \$10,000	15 years to life in jail and a fine of up to \$250,000	Same
Possession or delivery of marijuana	Class B Misdemeanor to First Degree Felony	180 days in jail or a fine of up to \$2,000, or both	5 years to life in jail and a fine of up to \$250,000	Same
Driving while intoxicated (alcohol or other drugs or both)	Class B Misdemeanor to Third Degree Felony BAC—.08	72 hours to 180 days in jail or a fine of up to \$2,000 or both	2 to 10 years in jail and a fine of up to \$10,000	Any detectable amount
Public intoxication	Class C Misdemeanor	Fine of up to \$500	Fine of \$250 to \$2,000, jail time of up to 180 days, community service of 8 to 40 hours, driver's license suspension for 30 to 180 days and attend one alcohol awareness class	Begin with maximum punishment
Purchase, consumption or possession of alcohol by a minor	Class C Misdemeanor	Attend on alcohol awareness class, 20-40 hours of community service, fine up to \$500, 30-day driver's license suspension	180 day driver's license suspension, up to \$2,000 fine, 180 day jail term	N/A
Sale of alcohol to a minor	Class A Misdemeanor	Fine up to \$4,000, up to one year in jail, or both, 180-day driver's license suspension	Fine up to \$4,000, up to one year in jail, or both, 180-day driver's license suspension	N/A

**Federal Law**

<b>OFFENSE</b>	<b>MINIMUM PUNISHMENT</b>	<b>MAXIMUM PUNISHMENT</b>
Manufacturing, distribution or dispelling of illegal drugs	Imprisonment up to 3 years, and a fine of \$250,000, or both	Life imprisonment (no parole) and fine up to \$8 million (individual) or \$20 million (other)
Possession of illegal drugs	Imprisonment for up to 1 year and a fine of not less than \$1,000 or both	5 to 20 years imprisonment and fine of at least \$5,000 plus investigation/court costs
Distribution of drugs to a person under 21 years of age	Double the federal penalty for distribution of drugs	Triple the penalty for distribution of drugs