

<b>Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs</b>	
1.0	Purpose: This policy provides a clear understanding of appropriate and inappropriate use of alcohol and other drugs on campus, including smoking.
2.0	Revision History: The Alcohol and Drug policy was updated in 1998. This current policy was approved at the Board of Trustees meeting on 4/10/19.
3.0	Persons Affected: Students, faculty, staff and visitors on all QCC campuses.
4.0	<p>Policy: <b>Alcohol and Other Drugs</b></p> <p><b>Title XII Drug-Free Schools Act:</b></p> <p>In 1989, Congress amended Title XII of the Higher Education Act of 1965. This amendment, the “Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989,” requires that every educational institution, as a condition of receiving funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program, certify its adoption and implement programs designed to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. QCC, in accordance with legal mandates and its commitment to establishing and maintaining a supportive learning and working environment, has established the following policies for students and employees.</p> <p>As required by the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act and the Clery Act, this information is provided to all enrolled students and current employees of Quinsigamond Community College.</p> <p>Quinsigamond Community College prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and or alcohol on its property or as part of any campus activity. Students under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or having them in their possession, will be sanctioned under the College Code of Conduct.</p> <p>Federal, state and local sanctions for unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs range from probation and forfeiture of property to fines and imprisonment. For example, the sanctions against an individual for distribution of, or possession with intent to distribute, controlled substances include imprisonment for several years up to a maximum of life imprisonment, with fines up to \$4 million. Sanctions can increase for repeat offenders or for offenses resulting in death or serious bodily harm, and can be doubled for each of the following occurrences: distribution to persons under</p>

18 years of age, distribution within 1,000 feet of a school, including the College Campus School, or employing someone under 18 in the distribution. Attempt or conspiracy to commit a crime can be treated as severely as the intended offense. Many of the state and federal statutes that prohibit the illegal distribution of controlled substances provide for minimum mandatory prison sentences. Conviction for violation of any state or federal drug law can lead to ineligibility for any federal benefit, including grants and loans. Thus a student can make themselves ineligible for student loans through drug conviction.

Massachusetts makes it illegal to be in a place where heroin is kept and to be "in the company" of a person known to possess heroin. Any person in the presence of heroin, risks conviction of a serious drug offense. Sale and possession of "drug paraphernalia" is illegal in Massachusetts

### **Alcohol Consumption**

Alcohol's effect on you -- Alcohol goes directly into the bloodstream, physically affecting the whole body. Some illnesses and health problems caused by alcohol include:

- Hangovers. Headaches, nausea, vomiting, aches and pains all result from drinking too much. Drinking to the point of drunkenness makes you sick.
- Weight gain. Alcohol is not water. A beer has about 150 "empty" calories that provide few if any nutrients.
- High blood pressure. Along with being overweight, high blood pressure is associated with many serious health problems.
- Depressed immune system. Impaired immunity makes you more likely to contract viral illnesses such as flu and infections.
- Cancer. 2-4% of all cancer cases are related to alcohol. Upper digestive tract cancers are the most common, hitting the esophagus, mouth, larynx, and pharynx. Women who drink prior to menopause are more likely to develop breast cancer. Your risk of skin cancer doubles if you drink slightly more than "moderate levels." Some studies implicate alcohol in colon, stomach, and pancreas and lung cancer. And let's not forget the liver...
- Liver disease. Heavy drinking can cause fatty liver, hepatitis, cirrhosis and cancer of the liver. The liver breaks down alcohol at the rate of only one drink per hour.
- Alcohol poisoning. Drinking large amounts can result in alcohol poisoning, which causes unconsciousness and even death. Breathing slows, and the skin becomes cold and may look blue. Don't let a person in this condition "sleep it off." Call 911.

- Heart or respiratory failure. Excessive drinking can have serious results. Heart or respiratory failure often means death.

### **Possession, Use, Manufacture, or Distribution of Drugs**

(Consistent with the Code of Conduct) Quinsigamond Community College complies with all state and federal laws with regard to the possession, use, manufacture, and/or distribution of unlawful substances. All such activities are strictly prohibited on all College property, in College vehicles, and at all off-campus College-sponsored events.

### **Marijuana Policy**

Although Massachusetts law permits the use of medical marijuana and the possession, use, distribution and cultivation of marijuana in limited amounts, federal law, including the Federal Controlled Substances Act of 1970, the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, prohibits the possession, use, distribution and/or cultivation of marijuana at educational institutions. Further, as marijuana remains classified as an illegal narcotic under federal law, institutions of higher education that receive federal funding are required to maintain policies prohibiting the possession and use of marijuana on their campuses. Accordingly, the possession, use, distribution or cultivation of marijuana, even for medical purposes, is prohibited on all Community College property or at College sponsored events and activities. Also prohibited is the operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of marijuana on Community College property or at College sponsored events or activities. Further, this policy prohibits the possession, use, or distribution of all marijuana accessories and marijuana products. Marijuana accessories shall include, but are not limited to, any device or equipment used for ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marijuana into the human body. Marijuana products shall include, but are not limited to, products that are comprised of marijuana and other ingredients and are intended for use or consumption, such as, but not limited to, edible products.

Violations of this policy by any student or employee shall result in disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion or termination in accordance with applicable College policies or collective bargaining agreements.

### **Smoking**

Quinsigamond Community College recognizes the medical evidence that indicates that smoking is a serious health hazard, and that this health hazard extends to non-smokers subject to second-hand smoke. The College

recognizes its responsibility in providing a healthful working and learning environment. **As a result, QCC's Board of Trustees voted to institute a SMOKEFREE campus policy as September 3, 2013.** This student-driven initiative was established to create a campus culture of wellness and promote a tobacco-free future.

### **Smoking Policy**

This policy pertains to all staff, students, and visitors on QCC campuses, in QCC facilities and in vehicles owned, operated and controlled by QCC.

Definitions: "Smoking" or "smoke". Possessing a lighted tobacco product or the lighting of a cigar, pipe or other tobacco product. **The usage of E-cigarettes and vaporizers is also included under this definition.**

- Smoking is prohibited within the confines of college grounds, any college building, or college vehicles (smoking is only to be permitted in private vehicles on campus). **This includes usage of E-cigarettes and vaporizers.**
- The sale of tobacco products on campus is prohibited.

### **Tools to Quit**

To help make the transition as easy as possible, the college will offer tools and resources for students, faculty and staff affected by the policy. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, 70 percent of adult smokers want to quit and 40 percent try to quit every year. QCC is committed to helping you achieve this goal.

### **Tools to help you quit successfully may include:**

- Smoking cessation classes
- Nicotine cessation products
- Counseling

### **Resources**

- [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)
- [www.lung.org](http://www.lung.org)

5.0	<p>Definitions:</p> <p><b>Smoking or Smoke:</b> possessing a lighted tobacco product or the lighting of a cigar, pipe or other tobacco product. <u>The usage of E-cigarettes and Vaporizers is also included under this definition.</u></p> <p><b>Marijuana:</b> a drug that is mostly smoked — in a joint, a bowl, a bong, or other devices including vaping. It can also be cooked into food items.</p> <p><b>Student:</b> includes all persons enrolled in courses at the College, both full and part-time, credit and non-credit. Persons who are not officially enrolled for a particular term but who have a continuing academic relationship with the College are considered “students.”</p>
6.0	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <p>The Code of Conduct Administrator (CCA) – is responsible for the administration of the College’s Code of Conduct, such as violations of the Alcohol and Other Drugs policy. Confronting and reporting violations of the policy will be done through faculty, staff and students who observe concerning behaviors.</p>
7.0	<p>Procedures: Use the Student Code of Conduct procedures to adjudicate violations of this policy.</p>
8.0	<p>Sanctions: A student found in violation of the College’s Code of Conduct shall be subject to sanctions, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Verbal or Written Reprimand</li> <li>Restrictions/Loss of Privileges</li> <li>Community Service</li> <li>Educational Sanction</li> <li>Restitution</li> <li>Probation</li> <li>Suspension</li> <li>Expulsion</li> </ul> <p>A student who violates the Code of Conduct while serving any of the above sanctions shall be subject to further discipline, up to and including expulsion. The intent of the College is to impose sanctions in a progressive manner, beginning with the least punitive sanction. However, depending on factors, such as the nature and severity of a student’s violation and/or prior disciplinary history, the College reserves the right to impose any of the above-referenced sanctions at any time.</p> <p>The Supervisor of a faculty or staff member found in violation of the policy will be responsible for corrective action.</p>