

# TODAY'S DECISIONS AFFECT TOMORROW

It's not just your job that can be impacted. An increasing number of professional colleges (Colleges of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dentistry, Nursing, etc.) across the country now have admissions standards that take a hard look at individuals with prior alcohol or other drug convictions. The timing, severity and number of offenses are considered in admissions decisions. Many professional colleges also conduct "background checks" on newly admitted students or students entering clinical rotations. Prior alcohol or drug related arrests and convictions can be grounds for discontinuing students in the program or placing restrictions on their progress. Not reporting a prior arrest or conviction can be grounds for review or disciplinary action.

## RESOURCES

**Student Legal Services**  
[www.uiowa.edu/~legal](http://www.uiowa.edu/~legal)

**Some information adapted from**  
[www.missouri.edu/~mopip](http://www.missouri.edu/~mopip)

**healthIOWA**  
Promoting student wellness

**Think if you  
DRINK**

 **UISG**  
University of Iowa  
Student Government

**[uisg.uiowa.edu](http://uisg.uiowa.edu)**

# WHAT IS YOUR DEGREE WORTH?

How an alcohol or drug conviction  
can derail your career plans



# WHAT CAN YOU LOSE?

The following occupations require a license, application, or successful completion of examinations for entry into the profession. Most licenses/certifications also need to be renewed every few years. These are the results if one is convicted of misdemeanor or felony.

**Accountant** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend certificate.

**Architect** Qualifications include "good moral character and reputation"; The board may refuse to issue, renew, or reinstate certificate.

**Counselor** The committee may refuse to issue, revoke, or suspend license.

**Dentist** Qualifications include "good moral character and reputation"; The board may refuse to issue, renew, revoke, or suspend license.

**Lawyer** The board may deny admission into the bar based on character and fitness, such as the ability to conduct oneself in accordance with and respect for the law.

**Nurse** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license.

**Optometrist** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license.

**Pharmacist** The board may suspend, revoke or place on probationary license if one violates a statute or law of this state, another state, or the United States.

**Psychologist** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license.

**Physical Therapist** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may restrict, suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue a license to a person found guilty in this or any other state.

**Physician** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license.

**Professional Engineer** Qualifications include "good moral character."

**Social Worker** Qualifications include "good moral character"; The board may deny, revoke, or suspend a license.

**Teacher** State Board of Educational Examiners may discipline, refuse to issue or may suspend/revoke the license of an individual who has pled guilty to a felony or crime involving moral turpitude.

**Veterinarian** Qualifications include "good moral character"; the board may refuse to issue or renew certificate.

## PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

### UI College of Medicine

It is possible to be admitted with a record; however, the admissions committee does review all violations on a case-by-case basis.

#### Factors considered when reviewing an alcohol violation

- Timing/Recency of the violation
- The number and severity of the violation(s)

### UI College of Law

The college considers all alcohol violations during its admission process and consideration for applicant. Considers these violations as a potential sign of problems with consumption and abuse as well as a disregard for laws pertaining to alcohol possession and consumption. Brings into question a law school applicant's ability to rise to the standards of an effective attorney. Applicants reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

#### Some factors considered when reviewing an alcohol violation

- Age at the time of the conduct
- Recency of the conduct
- Seriousness of the conduct
- Evidence of rehabilitation



## DRUG AND ALCOHOL CONVICTIONS INCLUDE:

- Carrying or manufacturing a false ID
- Misrepresenting your age to purchase alcohol
- Driving under the influence of intoxicants or controlled substances
- Disorderly conduct
- Purchasing and/or providing alcohol for minors
- Possession and/or use of controlled substances (i.e. drugs) or drug paraphernalia
- Public intoxication

## BACKGROUND CHECKS

Today, many employers do a complete background check before making a final job offer. This means that if you have an alcohol or drug related misdemeanor or felony, you may be denied a job despite your educational accomplishments.

Your degree may not be worth as much if you have been convicted of an alcohol or drug related crime.

