

Medical Amnesty

Summary/Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to define and describe “medical amnesty” for potential alcohol and/or drug policy violations. Amnesty will be granted, through the conduct process, for anyone who seeks medical attention for another person or who may need medical attention.

A medical amnesty policy benefits the campus by encouraging community members to make safe and responsible decisions in seeking medical attention or treatment to any situation that may involve alcohol or drug use. The policy seeks to encourage individuals and student organizations to seek the necessary medical attention for community members who have over consumed alcohol or drugs. The purpose of medical amnesty is to diminish fear of disciplinary and conduct sanctions in such situations. This policy allows for University officials to practice discretion on a case-by-case basis to determine whether to grant amnesty from charges and sanctions of the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct.

Under medical amnesty, a student or student organization who seeks emergency assistance on behalf of him- or herself, another community member, or a friend experiencing an alcohol or drug related emergency will not be subject to disciplinary action under the University Code of Conduct. If a party with authorization over a particular dwelling proactively requests a “sweep” of their premises by the canine unit then that organization will not face conduct charges.

Although students who qualify for medical amnesty are exempt from the charges and sanctions from the Office of Conflict Resolution and Student Conduct, they may still be responsible for completing educational measures in relation to their alcohol or drug consumption. Educational measures may include, but are not limited to: parental notification if under the age of 21, alcohol and drug education, or a written project. Students who qualify for medical amnesty will still be required to meet with a University official.

However, when the call for medical assistance is made by a University employee acting within the scope of their responsibilities, medical amnesty will not be applied. In addition, law enforcement agencies may act within their own jurisdictions in enforcing local, state, and federal laws.