

UC Riverside, School of Medicine Policies and Procedures**Policy Title:** Drugs, Alcohol, and Student Impairment**Policy Number:** 950-07-008

Responsible Officer:	Executive Associate Dean, Student Affairs
Responsible Office:	Office of Student Affairs
Origination Date:	05/16/2019
Date of Revision:	08/01/2021; 11/22/2023
Scope:	School of Medicine Students

I. Policy Summary

UCR SOM expects all students to comply with federal, state, and local laws and campus regulations related to alcohol and other drugs. UCR is committed to achieving and maintaining a campus community that fosters personal and institutional excellence and strives to provide conditions under which the work of the university can go forward freely, with the highest standards of quality and institutional integrity. In keeping with this commitment, each student should help to create a campus community that is free from the problems of substance abuse and dependency. The following information is intended to inform and assist you in this effort. The [UCR Student Conduct Policy](#), issued by the Office of the President on October 12, 2005, prohibits the illegal use of drugs and alcohol by students.

II. Definitions

Other Drugs: Includes all illegal drugs as well as the misuse of legal drugs, such as prescription medications.

Illicit Drug Activity: For the purpose of this policy, illicit drug activity shall be defined as the use, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, sale or possession of illegal drugs or the illicit use, manufacture, distribution, dispensation or sale of legal drugs.

Paraphernalia: Includes, but is not limited to, all items used for the purpose of preparing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise using other drugs. As the term relates to alcohol, only paraphernalia that facilitates the rapid consumption of alcohol is prohibited.

III. Policy Text

- A. Periodic Drug Screening.** As part of the clinical requirements, students will be subjected to mandatory drug screenings throughout the duration of their enrollment. The UCR SOM and its clinical affiliates have the right to request a drug screening at any time. While students will not be randomly selected for arbitrary screens, students will be subjected to as-needed screened when 1) affiliation agreements specify that students placed at specific sites undergo a drug screen within a delimited time preceding their clinical duties, or 2) there is probable cause to suspect that a student may be impaired due to drugs or alcohol. For routine drug screening, the UCR SOM will attempt to provide advanced notice in good faith of upcoming drug screens where possible.
- B. Positive Drug Screen Results.** Drug screen results are strictly confidential and are NOT part of a student's academic record. In the instance that a student does not pass a drug screen and a prohibited substance is detected in their sample, the student will be notified by the vendor who performed the screening. The Medical Review Officer (MRO) will contact the student and gather any necessary information from the student to adjudicate the finding. Once the review process is complete, the MRO will issue a final decision as to whether the drug screen is cleared or not.
- C.** If the screen is cleared, the student will proceed with clinical placements and duties as before. The screen will be recorded as pass and will be equivalent to all passing screens. If the screen is not

cleared, the student will be withdrawn from clerkship duties immediately and referred to student affairs for a consultation and counseling to address the issue(s).

1. Medical students shall not drink, be under the influence, or be in personal possession of alcohol during any educational activities at any campus or affiliate site. Medical students may not use any substances or drugs, prescription or non-prescription, that impair the ability to function safely in the educational or clinical setting.
 2. Unlawful consumption, possession, and/or dissemination of alcohol, drugs or drug paraphernalia on campus premises or affiliated sites will result in disciplinary action. This includes controlled substances for which there may be a valid prescription.
 3. Special events/receptions may include the service of alcohol. These events must be approved by the school of medicine dean and/or campus designee, and alcohol will only be served to those of legal drinking age.
- D. Federal, State, and Local Laws.** UCR SOM expects all students to comply with federal, state, and local laws and campus regulations related to alcohol and other drugs.

Approvals:

MEDICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE (05/16/2019)

COMPLIANCE COMMITTEE (10/04/2021)

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