Drug Prevention Policy

It is Chester Career College’s objective to establish and maintain a work and educational environment free from the adverse effects of alcohol and other drugs. The effects of alcohol and other drugs in the workplace and school could undermine the productivity of students and employees. The adverse effects of alcohol and other drugs create a serious threat to the welfare of fellow students and employees. Chester Career College, therefore, adopts the following policy and procedures to address alcohol and other drug problems in the public work force.

1. **Resources**

   Although some of the risk factors that increase a person’s chances of using drugs are similar to other behavioral problems, many risk factors are unique to drug use (such as access to drugs and/or favorable attitudes toward drug use). These resources available at [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov) provide information on evidence-based drug prevention strategies:

   - Directory of Federally Funded Prevention Programs
   - National Registry of Evidence-Based Programs and Practices
   - Center for Program Evaluation and Performance Measurement
   - Drug-Violence Prevention
   - Law Enforcement Prevention Resources

2. **Standards of Conduct**

   The following conduct is strictly prohibited. Any student or employee found in violation of these standards of conduct will be subjected to disciplinary actions up to and including termination from employment/school. Any illegal activity including but not limited to drug and alcohol offenses will be reported to law enforcement authorities:

   - Reporting to work or school under the influence of illegal drugs or alcohol.
   - Consumption of alcoholic beverages during the work/school day or evening.
   - Possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs.
   - A guilty conviction for a drug or alcohol offense.

3. **Penalties for Possession and Use**

   - Under state and federal law, penalties for possession and/or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol range from 15 days through 25 years in prison.
   - Fines range from $15.00 to thousands of dollars and total confiscation of involved assets.
   - CCC will abide by the underage drinking laws of Virginia.
4. **Hazards**

Substance abuse presents many health and life risks. Some common hazards are:

- **Cocaine** – severe dependency and anxiety, nasal and lung damage, death by overdose.
- **Crack Cocaine** – intense dependency, hallucinations, psychosis, convulsions, coma and death.
- **Marijuana** – impaired memory, impaired function, dependency, possible damage to: lungs, heart, reproduction and immune systems.
- **Many other problems may result from substance abuse.** For more information, please request an informational flyer. Additional information is also posted on the school’s bulletin board.

5. **Community Resources**

Help with substance abuse problems is available at treatment centers throughout the tri-cities area. Information on local chapters of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) and other substance abuse centers are available in the school library and on the internet.