



DRUG FREE SCHOOLS AND CAMPUS ACT OF 1989

BIENNIAL CAMPUS ALCOHOL AND DRUG REPORT

MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY

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REPORTING AN INCIDENT

In the event of an emergency, contact 911. All student, faculty and staff are encouraged to report incidents of alcohol and drug abuse. If you are unsure if Mississippi State University is aware of a potential incident regarding a violation of laws of the State of Mississippi and/or Mississippi State University policy, please contact one of the following non-emergency numbers:

The Office of the Dean of Students

First Floor, YMCA Building | 662-325-3611

Chief Human Resources Officer

150 McArthur Hall | 662-325-3713

Mississippi State University Police Department

Butler Williams Building | 662-325-2121

When calling, please provide as much information as possible about the person being reported, location, time and date. You may also report an incident by completing the referral form located at <https://www.students.msstate.edu/about>.

Copies of this report are on-line by accessing the link at <https://www.msstate.edu/students/publications-policies/drugs>. If you have questions, or wish to obtain a paper copy of the report, please contact the Office of Compliance and Risk Management at clery@msstate.edu or (662) 325-5839, or visit its office located at 1221 Blackjack Road on the Starkville campus.



CONTACT INFORMATION

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

First Floor, YMCA Building.
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-3611

DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE – MERIDIAN CAMPUS

Second Floor, Deen Building 2215 5th Street
Meridian, MS 39301
601-696-2344

STUDENT COUNSELING SERVICES

115 C Hathorn Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-2091

UNIVERSITY POLICE

Butler-Williams Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-2121

UNIVERSITY POLICE – MERIDIAN

662-484-0199

LONGEST STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

360 Hardy Road
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-2431

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND RESIDENCE LIFE

Dogwood Hall, Ground Floor
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-3555

HUMAN RESOURCES

150 McArthur Hall
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-3713

BULLDOGS IN RECOVERY

205 Famous Maroon Band Street
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-7545

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)

1-800-433-7916
<https://www.hrm.msstate.edu/benefits/eap>

OFFICE FOR STUDENT WELL-BEING

205 Famous Maroon Band Street
Mississippi State, MS 39762
662-325-2090
<https://www.studentwellbeing.msstate.edu/>



2025 BIENNIAL CAMPUS ALCOHOL & DRUG REPORT

INFORMATION FOR THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY

Pursuant to the Drug Free Schools and Campuses Act of 1989 and the Campus Security Act of 1990, Mississippi State University publishes a biennial report containing information on campus alcohol and drug policies, programs, and standards related to its institution. The university is committed to providing a campus environment free from the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of drugs and/or alcohol.

High risk behaviors related to drug and alcohol abuse can lead to decreased productivity, serious health problems, strained social interactions, and impaired learning. To combat the effects of drug and alcohol abuse, Mississippi State University offers alcohol and drug abuse programs from a variety of departments including the Dean of Students' Office, Student Health Center, Student Counseling Center, Housing and Residence Life, Human Resources, Office for Student Well-Being, and Bulldogs in Recovery.

The materials in this document describe MSU's substance abuse prevention and education efforts for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years in compliance with federal requirements.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR STUDENTS

Mississippi State University is committed to a healthy, safe environment for learning, living, and working. Students, faculty, staff, and guests are expected to comply with all federal, state, and local laws as well as university rules and regulations concerning alcohol and other drugs.

Specifically, the university prohibits the unlawful sale, possession, consumption, use, or distribution of alcohol or drugs in or on university property or as part of any of its activities. This encompasses all controlled or unlawful substances under applicable federal and state laws, including but not limited to unauthorized prescription drugs, marijuana, cocaine, cocaine derivatives, heroin, amphetamines, barbiturates, LSD, PCP, tranquilizers, inhalants, and associated paraphernalia.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

MSU students are governed by the Code of Student Conduct, Operating Policy 91.100 (<https://www.policies.msstate.edu/policy/91100>). The Code is designed to develop self-reliance to form desirable and acceptable habits of conduct among students at MSU. Under the Code, students are recognized as adults who are expected to obey the law and the rules and regulations of the university. Students are also expected to take personal responsibility for their conduct, to respect the rights of others, and to have regard for the preservation of state and university property, as well as the private property of others.

Those found responsible for violating the law or the rules and regulations of the university may receive a range of sanctions, up to and including the maximum sanction of expulsion from MSU. The Code of Student Conduct applies to all students while present on campus or at a university facility. It also applies to all student conduct that occurs in connection with a university program or activity, regardless of the location.

Additionally, under the Code of Student Conduct, MSU reserves the right to take appropriate action, up to and including expulsion,

when, in the University's judgment, a student's conduct occurs off-campus and not connected to any university program or activity, but (1) indicates that the student may pose a danger to him or herself or to others; or (2) has a negative impact on the University community or the University's mission.

The process for adjudicating a violation of the Code of Student Conduct is separate and independent of any adjudication of a violation of federal, state, and local law. Conduct that may be subject to disciplinary action under the Code of Conduct includes but is not limited to:

- Unlawful sale, possession, consumption, use, or distribution of alcohol (including beer and wine);
- Assisting or cooperating with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct or other university rules and regulations by another or others;
- Failure to comply with directions of any university official (whether the request is by mail, email, telephone, or in person) when that official has identified him or herself and is acting within the course and scope of their duties. Cooperation includes, but is not limited to, responding to requests for conferences on matters pertaining to the student at the university and/or presentation of university identification;
- Disorderly Conduct or Disruptive Behavior that includes violent, noisy, or drunken behavior on university controlled property or while representing the university or attending a university function, or any action that interferes with or attempts to disrupt the learning environment (See also OP 91-109 and AOP 10.08); and
- Unlawful sale, possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs.

AUTHORITY

Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning charge the President of Mississippi State University with the responsibility of maintaining "appropriate standards of conduct of students" and further authorizes him or her "to expel, dismiss, suspend, and place limitations on continued attendance and to levy penalties for disciplinary violations." In accordance with this responsibility, disciplinary action is meant to redirect student behavior toward the achievement of academic and social goals.

The President has delegated this function to the Vice President for Student Affairs, who in turn has delegated it to the Dean of Students. It is the responsibility of the Dean of Students to initiate, implement, and supervise the disciplinary process for students. The Dean of Students' Office may be assisted in the disciplinary determinations by a series of councils and boards that hear cases assigned to them. The involvement of peer groups in such decisions is consistent with the university's educational goals and its practice of student participation in institutional governance.

In cases involving alleged sexual misconduct, investigation and disciplinary procedures are governed by the Sexual Misconduct Policy, OP 03.04. To the extent the Sexual Misconduct Policy contains

additional or different rules or requirements, those requirements will control in cases of alleged sexual misconduct.

DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Disciplinary procedures may be initiated on individual or organizational behavior upon receipt and analysis of an official incident report or valid complaint. The Dean of Students' Office will investigate to determine if there is sufficient cause to proceed with disciplinary action. Should sufficient cause be determined, the Dean of Students' Office may conduct an administrative hearing, assign the case to be mediated, or assign the case to a student conduct board. Some examples of the boards are:

- a. The Greek Conduct Board, original jurisdiction and appeal board for Greek organizations
- b. The Student Conduct Board, original jurisdiction and appeal board for students
- c. An Administrative Board, original jurisdiction, sexual misconduct, and appeal board
- d. Mediation - by students or administrators trained by the Dean of Students' Office

CONDUCT BOARD NOTIFICATION PROCESS

The student, student group, or student organization accused shall be notified in writing or email by the Dean of Students' Office of the specific charges, the board assigned to hear the charges, the time and place of the hearing, and the names of witnesses who are expected to present information. The notification will inform the accused student, student group, or student organization of the following:

- a. That he/she may bring any witness to the hearing to present information on his/her behalf.
- b. That he/she may be accompanied by an advisor of his/ her choosing during any time that he/she may appear before the board; however, if the advisor is an attorney, the Dean of Students' Office must be notified 48 hours prior to the hearing.
- c. That the student, not the advisor, is responsible for presenting his/her case; therefore, the advisor may not address members of the student conduct board or witnesses of speak during the proceedings.
- d. That he/she shall be permitted to question information presented at the hearing.
- e. That the hearing shall be conducted in accordance with policy set forth in "Conduct Board Hearing Procedures" below.
- f. That any record of the hearing and all documents related to the hearing will be made and kept with the Dean of Students' Office.

A letter of notification shall be emailed according to MSU policy (see OP 91.126: Electronic Communications Student Policy) no less than three (3) days prior to the time designated for the student's appearance before the board, unless a shorter period of notification is acceptable to the student.

CONDUCT BOARD HEARING PROCEDURES

Conduct Board hearings at Mississippi State University are hearings to arrive at decisions regarding student behavior. These decisions affect the student and his/her relationship with the university. The administration of discipline is an educational process and procedures will be determined by educators. Such procedures will give full cognizance to the tests of fairness and justice, and the requirements of due process. At disciplinary hearings, technical rules/evidence applicable to civil and criminal cases shall not apply. Rules and procedures for conducting disciplinary hearings are as follows:

- a. Conduct board hearings are of a private, confidential nature. They are closed to the public, unless opened by the Dean of Students' Office.
- b. The hearing is presided over by a chair of the hearing body.
- c. The format of a hearing will follow this sequence:
 1. The presiding officer will read the charges
 2. A call is made for the plea of the accused to the charges. The accused may plead responsible, not responsible, or no plea.
 3. Information will be presented by the University which may include testimony of witnesses and supporting information on the charges. The accused may ask questions of the witnesses present or rebut any information presented.
 4. The accused may present a response which may include testimony of witnesses and supporting information.
 5. All witnesses will be called separately and may not hear each other's testimony.
 6. Examination and questioning by members of the board may follow any witness statement for information presented.
 7. The board will go into closed session to decide whether the accused is responsible for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. This deliberations will be closed to all but the members of the board and representation from the Dean of Students' Office.
 8. The accused will be called back into the room and the decision of whether the accused is responsible for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct is announced to all present at the hearing. If the accused is found to be responsible, the accused may make a statement in his/her behalf regarding the sanction.
 9. The board will go back into closed session to consider the sanctions. These deliberations will be closed to all but members of the board and representation from the Dean of Students' Office.
 10. The board will present a written finding and the recommended sanction(s), if any, to the Dean of Students' Office who will in turn so inform the accused in writing as soon as possible. This recommendation will be used by the Dean of Students' Office in the final determination of

sanctions, but ultimately the Dean of Students' Office has sole discretion in the application of sanctions for students, student groups, or student organizations found responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR STUDENTS

The Dean of Students, by delegated authority, is assigned the responsibility of receiving and handling all disciplinary matters concerning the behavior of students, student groups, and/or student organizations. The Dean, who has sole discretion, assigns cases based on the type of behavior, status, and case load of various boards. The Dean of Students' Office also has sole discretion in the determination of sanctions for students, student groups, or student organizations found responsible for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

SANCTIONS

Violation of the Code of Student Conduct and university regulations will be enforced. If the behavior of a student is such that his or her continuance at the university would be hazardous to others or detrimental to the university, the Dean of Students may, at his or her discretion, temporarily suspend the student until the disciplinary process is complete. Student conduct sanctions are educational in nature. More than one sanction or any combination of sanctions may be imposed for any single violation. The following is a non-exhaustive list of possible sanctions that may be imposed.

- **Expulsion** - Separation of the student from the university whereby the student is never eligible for readmission to this university.
- **Suspension** - Separation of the student from the university for a defined period of time.
- **Conduct probation** - An official warning that the student's conduct is in violation of the Code of Student Conduct, but is not sufficiently serious to warrant expulsion or suspension. A student on conduct probation may face expulsion or suspension if found responsible for another violation. A student may also be ineligible to represent the university and additional restrictions or conditions may be imposed depending on the nature and seriousness of the misconduct as specified in the sanction.
- **Loss of campus housing** - Removal from university housing for disciplinary reasons.
- **Community service** - A student may have to complete a specified number of community service hours.
- **Restrictions** - The withdrawal of specified privileges for a defined period of time.
- **Restitution** - A payment for financial reimbursement in cases involving loss of or destruction of property or deception.
- **Warning** - Reprimand of a student for actions violating the Code of Student Conduct.
- **Educational Requirements** - A stipulation to complete a



specific educational requirement directly related to the violation of the Code of Student Conduct committed. The provision will be clearly defined. Educational requirements may include, but are not limited to, completion of an alcohol or drug education course, an integrity course, essays, reports, etc.

APPEALS

The student, group, or registered organization being disciplined may petition for an appeal of a decision reached by a conduct board or administrative hearing. A petition for an appeal must be made in writing by the student or student organization to the Dean of Students' Office within a period of five (5) days from the date of notification. A petition for appeal made to the Dean of Students' Office will be reviewed to determine its merit and must be based on one or more of the following reasons:

- a. An error in procedure, which prejudiced the process to the extent that the participant was denied a fundamentally fair hearing as a result of the error. Procedural flaws alone are not grounds for an appeal. Significant procedural errors that may have affected the verdict or sanction will be considered.
- b. The emergence of new evidence that could not have been previously discovered and that, had it been represented at the

initial hearing, would have substantially affected the original decision of the hearing body.

The student, group, or organization being disciplined must specify in detail why they believe they are entitled to an appeal. Based on its merit, the request for appeal will be reviewed by the Dean of Students or his or her designee. A request for appeal which does not clearly raise, in writing, one or more of the reasons listed above shall be dismissed without further consideration. The request for appeal shall be limited in its review to the reason or reasons raised in the written appeal. The decision of the Dean of Students or his or her designee, granting or denying the appeal will be in writing.

If an appeal is granted, the matter will be moved to the appropriate board which will have full discretion in the determination of responsibility and recommendation of sanctions. Following the notification by the student, group, or organization of the intent to petition for appeal and pending the appeal process, the disciplinary action taken by the university may be stayed unless the Dean of Student' Office has determined in a case involving removal from the university that the continued presence on campus of the charged student, group, or organization poses a continuing danger to person or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process. The decision to grant or deny the appeal and the outcome of any appeal hearing is final.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG SANCTIONS

Sanctions for alcohol violations are further defined in Operating Policy 91.119 (<https://www.policies.msstate.edu/policy/91119>), which is intended to provide appropriate developmental/educational experiences for students who violate MSU's policy regarding alcohol and to support the sections of the Student Code of Conduct which relate to alcohol. The policy restates that the unlawful possession, consumption or sale of alcohol on campus violates the Student Code of Conduct.

The following procedure is set forth for alcohol violations under the Student Code of Conduct:

1. A student who is currently found responsible for an alcohol policy infraction, and who is not on probation for previous alcohol or drug-related infractions, will attend a meeting in the Dean of Students' office in which the student will receive a verbal admonishment and a description of the consequences for future infractions. This meeting will be followed by a letter which contains the same information. In addition, the student may be issued one of the following sanctions:
 - a. The student may be assigned to an online education class covering the health, safety, academic, and legal consequences of alcohol or drug misuse. Furthermore the student will be required to pass a test on the information provided by the website. The student may also be placed on probation.
 - b. The student may be assigned to attend an alcohol or drug education course as determined by the Dean of Students' office and may be placed on probation.
2. A student who is already on probation for alcohol or drug infractions, and who is currently found responsible for any other policy infraction, may be suspended from the university.
3. If a student is already on probation for an offense not related to alcohol or drug, and is found responsible for an alcohol or drug infraction, it will be at the discretion of the Dean of Students' office to link the two offenses.
4. If a student is under the age of twenty-one and is found responsible for an alcohol or drug violation, a letter will be sent to the parent/guardian notifying them of the student's violation of Mississippi State University's alcohol or drug policy unless in certain extreme circumstance at the discretion of the Dean of Students Office.
5. If a student is found responsible for an alcohol or drug infraction, that student will pay a fee as decided by the university.

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION AND PRIVACY

Pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), MSU must maintain as confidential certain education records maintained by the university. However, FERPA provides universities with the option to notify parents/guardians about specific types of information from a student's conduct record. The Office of the Dean of Students provides a letter to parents/guardians advising them of any alcohol or drug violation for students less than 21 years of age.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR EMPLOYEES

University employees expect to work in a drug-free environment. The University expects its employees to be free from the effects of alcohol and drugs while on the job or in the workplace. A drug and alcohol policy, which prohibits the abuse of illegal drugs and alcohol by employees and applicants for certain employment, has been implemented and conducts a testing program pursuant to Sections 71-7-1, et seq., of the Mississippi Code of 1972, Ann., entitled "Drug and Alcohol Testing of Employees" (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"), and all employees are advised of the existence of said Act.

Under MSU policy 60.118-Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace (<https://www.policies.msstate.edu/policy/60118>) an employee who reports to work while under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs is in violation of this policy. This behavior should be reported to the appropriate HRM Generalist in the Department of Human Resources Management.

If an employee believes that he or she has a problem with alcohol or drugs or if substance abuse is causing problems in his or her life, that employee is encouraged to take advantage of the University's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This program provides counseling and access to external resources, many of which are at no cost to the employee. Additional information on this program is available at <http://hrm.msstate.edu/benefits/eap/>. Additional training materials on drug and alcohol abuse are available for employees and supervisors on the Human Resources web site at <http://hrm.msstate.edu/development/onlinecourses/>.

Applicants and employees who are required to possess a commercial driver's license are subject to additional federal regulations and procedures as listed in University policy 60.121-Controlled Substance and Alcohol Use Testing of Employees with a Commercial Driver's License. Employees working in sensitive positions in grants and contracts funded by the Department of Defense (DOD) or in positions requiring security clearance are subject to additional federal regulations and procedures as listed in University policy 60.119.

DISCIPLINARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR EMPLOYEES AND POSSIBLE SANCTIONS

For employees, the disciplinary process is handled through Human Resources Management. Employee sanctions may include, but are not limited to, oral and/or written reprimands, mandatory education programs, performance improvement plans, and termination of employment.

LEGAL PENALTIES

Numerous federal, state, and local laws provide for a variety of legal sanctions and penalties for the unlawful possession or distribution of drugs and alcohol. These sanctions include, but are not limited to, incarceration and monetary fines. A summary of Federal Trafficking Penalties provided by the DEA is attached to this report as Exhibit A. Additionally, the Mississippi statutes related to penalties for controlled substances are attached to this report as Exhibit B. In

addition to criminal charges, certain drug convictions may result in loss of federal and financial aid.

Disciplinary action by the University does not preclude the filing of criminal charges against a student, employee, or guest, nor does the filing of criminal charges prevent the University from taking disciplinary action.

For questions about federal, state, and local laws related to drugs and alcohol, students and employees may contact the Starkville Police Department (662-323-4134), the Meridian Police Department (601-484-6839), the Mississippi Highway Patrol (662-323-5314), the Oktibbeha County Sheriff's Office (662-323-2421), or the local law enforcement agency in their jurisdiction.

HEALTH RISKS

MSU recognizes and encourages its students, faculty, and staff to recognize that the use, misuse, and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, both legal and illegal, can have serious consequences to health and well-being. Health risks include such problems as behavior changes, impaired judgment and coordination, damage to the liver and brain, respiratory difficulties, insomnia, loss or increase of appetite, delusions and hallucinations, relaxed inhibitions, convulsions, coma, and possible death. Alcohol and other drugs can lead to psychological and/or physiological dependence and addiction. Information on some of the health risks associated with alcohol is summarized below. More information is available from the Office for Student Well-Being (<https://www.healthpromotion.msstate.edu/>).

Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant that can impair coordination, inhibitions, self-control, memory, judgment, and reflexes. Large quantities may produce staggering, slurred speech, mood changes, unconsciousness, and possibly death. Prolonged use can damage many organs of the body including the heart, liver, stomach, and pancreas.

Marijuana can increase heart rate, interfere with sexual development, may cause a reduction in male fertility and disrupt the female menstrual cycle. It can increase the risk of disease/damage to the respiratory system, impair hand-eye coordination and other essential functions needed to operate a motor vehicle safely. It can also impair the immune system. Cocaine can cause feelings of depression, inability, impatience and pessimism. It can also cause severe weight loss, anxiety, hallucinations, increased heart rate and blood pressure.

Cocaine has caused death by convulsion, failure of the respiratory system, and heart attack. "Club drugs" such as MDMA (Ecstasy), GHB, LSD, Rohypnol, Ketamine and Methamphetamine can cause serious health problems and possibly death. Many of these drugs are tasteless and odorless. The chemicals, drug sources and pharmacological agents used to manufacture these drugs often vary, making it difficult to determine all of the effects, symptoms and health risks associated with them. Confusion, depression, impaired motor function, amnesia, psychotic behavior, cardiac failure, and permanent neurological and organ damage are some known effects associated with the use of these drugs.

Over-the-counter and prescription drugs can also cause drug tolerance, dependence, and addiction. The potential for misuse and abuse is increased with these drugs as they are more easily obtainable and are safer in terms of ingredients and manufacturing. Misuse and abuse occurs when the user does not follow usage instructions, related to dosage and frequency, and when the drugs are used for self-medication without medical supervision. Interactions between various drugs, legal and illegal, also may have serious consequences. Various combinations of drugs may work at cross purposes within the body, and the combined effects of two or more drugs may be more potent than the effect of a single drug.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAMMING

Mississippi State University has a program of education designed to help all members of the university community avoid involvement with illegal drugs. Education programs:

1. Provide a system of accurate, current information exchange for students, faculty, and staff on the health risks and symptoms of drug use.
2. Promote and support institutional activity programming that discourages substance abuse.
3. Establish collaborative relationships between community groups, agencies, and the institution for education, treatment, and referral
4. Provide training programs for students, faculty, and staff to enable them to detect problems related to drug use and to refer persons with these problems to appropriate sources for assistance.
5. Include information about drugs for students and family members in the student orientation programs. The use of prescription and over-the-counter drugs will be addressed.
6. Support and encourage faculty in incorporating education about drugs into the curriculum, where appropriate.
7. Develop a coordinated effort across campus for drug related education, treatment, and referral.

Educational programs take a number of different formats and range from displays and presentations to lectures and interactive assessments. The following programs occurred or were available during the 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

Goal-Driven Alcohol/Drug Intervention Network (G.A.I.N.) G.A.I.N. is the Office for Student Well-Being's motivational interviewing program for substance abuse. G.A.I.N. uses a harm reduction approach to substance abuse. The goal of G.A.I.N. is to reduce levels of alcohol and drug consumption and the negative consequences associated with moderate to high-risk substance use. It is a program designed for any student who wants to learn more about their drinking and drug habits and how to avoid possible negative consequences. G.A.I.N. also looks to educate students on how to develop and utilize healthy alternatives related to their

ALCOHOL & DRUG PRESENTATIONS/PROGRAMS

NAME	DATE	TOPIC	AUDIENCE	PARTICIPANTS
Fall 2022				
Be Well Wednesday/ National Recovery Month	9/14/2022	Overview of recovery/ honoring those who have overcome addiction. Information on the Collegiate Recovery Community was provided.	MSU Students	200
Alcohol and Drugs 101 Presentation, Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week	10/17/2022	Overview of alcohol basics, effects, and campus resources to help address use in students. Included activity that simulates the behavior of individuals impaired by alcohol at different BAC levels.	Greek Life-Alpha Phi Alpha	30
Drunk Goggles Olympics, Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week	10/19/2022	Overview of alcohol basics, effects, and campus resources to help address use in students. Included activity that simulates the behavior of individuals impaired by alcohol at different BAC levels.	MSU Students	182
			Fall Total	412
Spring 2023				
Alcohol 101: Women and Alcohol Presentation	2/20/2023	Brief overview of alcohol basics, effects, and campus resources to help address use in female students.	MSU Students enrolled in Self-Defense Class	22
AOD Overview: Women and Drug Presentation	2/27/2023	Brief overview of substances and their effects, and campus resources to help address use in female students	MSU Students enrolled in Self-Defense Class	22
Alcohol and Drug Prevention Tabling	2/28/2023	Overview of alcohol prevention information and resources dedicated to reducing use	MSU Students- Deavenport Hall	120
Mocktail Monday	3/20/2023	Substance-free alternative activity; resources on alcohol, drinking and driving, and binge drinking	MSU Students	195
National Alcohol and Other Drug Fact Week	3/20/2023 3/24/2024	Alcohol awareness via social media (Facebook and Instagram)	MSU Students & Social Media Followers	500
Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) Seminar	3/21/2023	Alcohol awareness, campus resources dedicated to reducing use, harm reduction and abstinence	MSU Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) Students	7
National Prescription Take Back Day (partnered with MSU Police)	4/22/2023	Prescription drug reduction	MSU Students & Golden Triangle Community	N/A
DeStress Keep Calm Event	4/19/2023	Provided alcohol prevention information and resources via a tabling event (partnered with the student organization, C.O.R.A.)	MSU Campus Population	150
Be Well Wednesday, AOD Prevention	4/12/2023	Provided incentives and resource information on binge drinking, marijuana, and misuses of prescription drugs (tabling event)	MSU Students	190
Alcohol Awareness Social Media Campaign	4/3/2023 4/7/2024	Provided resource information on alcohol, drinking and driving, and alcohol's involvement with car accidents	MSU Students & Social Media Followers	1800
Be Well Wednesday Prescription Drug Take Back Day Awareness	4/12/2023	Provided incentives and resource information for students to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs to prevent misuse of prescription drugs	MSU Campus Population	105
			Spring Total	3,111

ALCOHOL & DRUG PRESENTATIONS/PROGRAMS

NAME	DATE	TOPIC	AUDIENCE	PARTICIPANTS
Fall 2023				
Thirsty Thursday (Healthy Campus Week)	8/31/2023	Substance-free alternative activity for drinking alcohol. Provided resource information on alcohol, drinking and driving, and binge drinking. "Rethink your Drink" campaign popsicles, water, and mocktails were provided to students	MSU Campus Population	258
Drunk Goggles Olympic Challenge	9/14/2023	Alcohol/other drug prevention/ alternative activity; overview of alcohol and its effects, risks associated with harmful use	MSU Students	145
National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (Social Media Campaign)	10/15/2023-10/21/2023	Recognize the importance of campus health promotion efforts addressing alcohol abuse and impaired driving prevention	MSU Students and Social Media Followers	463
Holiday Safety Tips/ Holiday Movie Edition	11/21/2023	Provide holiday safety tips regarding alcohol and drugs, mental health, sexual health, and nutrition while engaging with favorite holiday movie themes	MSU Students	180
			Fall Total	1,046
Spring 2024				
Think Before You Mix	2/8/2024	Rethink your drink while learning about the effects of alcohol, providing informational resources	MSU Students	91
Drug Awareness Seminar, "Life is too Precious to be Wasted"	2/12/2024	Panel presentation on alcohol basics, effects, and campus resources to help address use in minority students	MSU Students (Men of Excellence, I.D.E.A.L. Women, NAACP, Bulldogs in Recovery)	35
AOD Overview: Women and Drug Presentation	2/19/2024	Drunk Goggles experience, brief overview of alcohol, effects, and campus resources to help address use in female students	MSU Students enrolled in Self-Defense Class	22
Women's Empowerment Brunch	3/2/2024	Importance of self-care; a brief overview of alcohol basics, effects, and campus resources to help address use in MSU students	MSU Students	150
You Booze, You Cruise, You Lose	3/19/2024	Alcohol awareness: campus resources dedicated to reducing use, harm reduction, and abstinence; Drunk Goggles experience	MSU Students	121
Alcohol and Drug Presentation	4/11/2024	Alcohol awareness: campus resources dedicated to reducing use, harm reduction, and abstinence; Drunk Goggles experience	Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity	48
Be Well Wednesday	4/24/2024	Alcohol awareness: campus resources dedicated to reducing use, harm reduction, and abstinence; Drunk Goggles experience	Farmhouse Fraternity	55
A Cup of Prevention	4/30/2024	Partnered with Office of Survivor Support; alternative activity for drinking alcohol. Provided resource information on alcohol, drinking and driving, and binge drinking. "Rethink your Drink" campaign popsicles, water, and mocktails were provided to students	MSU Campus Population	54
			Spring Total	576

ALCOHOL & DRUG PRESENTATIONS/PROGRAMS

NAME	DATE	TOPIC	AUDIENCE	PARTICIPANTS
Continuous Fall/Spring Programming				
ScreenU	9/1/2022-5/3/2024	Free, confidential online assessment of alcohol, cannabis, and prescription drugs available to all Mississippi State students		1,560
G.A.I.N.	9/1/2022-5/3/2024	The Goal-Drive Alcohol/Drug Intervention Network (G.A.I.N.) is an evidence-based program that utilizes a harm reduction approach to substance use with students. The goal of G.A.I.N. is to reduce substance use and the negative consequences associated with it.		10
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS				6,715

personal substance use. Participating in G.A.I.N. typically requires 3-5 appointments, each lasting 30 minutes. Students may refer themselves to this program, be referred by a campus entity, or be required to complete the program as part of a court order.

“Alcohol: What You Need to Know” Presentation

This 30-minute presentation is designed to educate undergraduate students about responsible versus irresponsible alcohol consumption, consequences of irresponsible alcohol consumption, what is happening in the body during a “hangover,” the definition of a standard alcoholic drink, intoxication rate factors, signs of alcohol poisoning, and additional resources for further exploration of personal alcohol use and habits. The “Alcohol: What You Need to Know” Presentation has been delivered to a widespread number of student groups, and it has been adapted, added to, and tailored to fit the requested needs of each group. This presentation has been given to classes, Greek groups, residents, and Resident Advisors.

Marijuana 101 Presentation

This 30-minute presentation provides an introduction to cannabis including the legality of marijuana, the habitual nature of marijuana use, marijuana’s effects on sleep, driving, and academics, and the components of marijuana (THC versus CBD). Lastly, the presentation provides social norming statistics of MSU students to help clarify perceptions MSU students have regarding cannabis use. In addition to the Marijuana 101 presentations that were provided in all Resident Zones and in multiple classrooms, HPW created Marijuana Fact vs. Myth posters and handbills to share with students.

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week

National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week is an annual event focused on the science of drug use and addiction that educates and empowers youth to make informed decisions about substance use and their health. This event is sponsored by the National Institute on Drug

Abuse. A social media campaign was held to provide students with information on alcohol and drugs.

Screen U Alcohol, Marijuana, and Prescription Drugs

Screen U is a web-based screening tool that is brief and personalized to the resources available on the MSU campus. It is used throughout campus to help raise awareness among students of their individual alcohol, marijuana, and/ or prescription drug use and connect them with relevant resources on MSU’s campus based on the responses they provide on the screening.

Alcohol eCHECKUP TO GO

This is an online, science-based course designed to teach participants about the effects of alcohol on the body and mind, and to assist participants in making safer and healthier decisions in the future. Marijuana 101 This is an online marijuana education course designed to teach participants about the effects of drugs on the body and mind, and to assist participants in making safer and healthier decisions in the future.

Under the Influence

This is an online alcohol education course designed to teach participants about the effects of alcohol on the body and mind, and to assist participants in making safer and healthier decisions in the future.

Prescription Drug Take Back

The Office for Student Well-Being joined forces with MSU’s Police Department to encourage the MSU community to dispose of unused or expired medications. Unfortunately, no prescription drugs were turned in at the Spring 2023 event. Due to the decline of prescriptions taken in recent years, we plan to move towards an educational approach in the future.

One Pill Can Kill Initiative

The One Pill Can Kill initiative is a public awareness campaign to educate, support and empower Mississippians with information on the dangers of fentanyl, how to identify it, and what to do if a student or friend is overdosing. As part of the initiative, the Attorney General's Office distributed 1,000 Fentanyl Harm Prevention Kits—which include two fentanyl test strips, a pair of gloves for safety, a safe drug disposal bag, and a pill identification card that identifies whether the drug is legitimate—to Mississippi State University.

Naloxone Distribution and Training

The Office of Student Wellbeing (OSW) continues to provide training to campus partners in relation to naloxone distribution. Upon request, OSW representatives will both provide training to professionals and students and distribute naloxone. Trainings were provided to several different departments and student groups on campus, these include University Recreation, Student Association, Event Services, Student Leadership and Community Engagement, Housing and Residence Life, Holmes Center, Center for Student Activities, Sorority and Fraternity Life, and more.

Bulldogs in Recovery

The Mission of Bulldogs in Recovery is to empower students in their recovery journey by providing compassionate support, resources, and a safe community. The program is dedicated to fostering resilience, promoting holistic well-being and encouraging personal growth to those in recovery. Students that choose to become members of this program gain support and resources from staff and student leaders. This program also offers scholarships to students who are willing to do eight hours of service a semester, have proficiency in attendance to the program's functions, and maintain their personal sobriety.

Overall, this program supports and pushes MSU students in recovery towards holistic growth. Bulldogs in Recovery programming is very diverse. Programming includes MSU Recovery Night, where someone shares their recovery journey with those who wish to attend. Sober tailgates are another programming initiative that gives MSU students an opportunity to engage in all the things gameday tailgates have to offer in a substance free, safe, and inviting environment. Our weekly All- Recovery meetings are another resource to MSU students. These meetings are open to all who struggle with addiction and/or support the recovery lifestyle. They follow a similar format to Alcoholics Anonymous meetings but aim to be a bit more inclusive in the language. Other programming includes educational tabling, classroom presentations, and group trips.

International Overdose Awareness Day

August 31 marks International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD), a global campaign to end overdose. OSW has contributed to this global campaign in a variety of ways over the years. In the past, we have distributed flyers that highlight themes of IOAD, messages like "Overdose can and must be prevented" have been highlighted in

our efforts towards information dissemination. We have also hosted events on campus and created social media content that aims to push some of the goals highlighted in relation to this campaign. Our programming efforts have contributed to these IOAD goals:

- Provide an opportunity for people to publicly mourn loved ones.
- Tell people who use drugs and people in recovery that they are valued.
- Inform people around the world about the risk of drug overdose.
- Provide basic information on the range of support services that are available.
- Prevent and reduce drug-related harms by supporting evidence-based practice.

Red Ribbon Week Campus Video PSA Contest

As part of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Red Ribbon Week campaign, DEA and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration cosponsor a Campus Video PSA Contest for colleges and universities to promote the importance of preventing alcohol and other drug misuse among college students. OSW has taken part in this contest several times and posted the content created to our personal social media accounts as well.

COUNSELING AND TREATMENT

Mississippi State University provides information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation services available to members of the university community. Persons who voluntarily avail themselves of university services shall be assured that applicable professional standards of confidentiality will be observed. Counseling and rehabilitation services include:

1. Training for professional staff and student staff on substance abuse information, intervention, and referral.
2. Education programs for students who have demonstrated substance misuse.
3. Substance abuse assessments.
4. Individual and group counseling for students through Student Counseling Services.
5. Referral and follow-up for employees in collaboration with the appropriate HRM Generalist in the Department of Human Resources Management.
6. Campus self-help groups.
7. Counseling services available for non-student employees and their family members are available through the University's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Additional information on this program is available at <https://www.hrm.msstate.edu/benefits/eap>.

University Health Services approaches healthcare from a team-based holistic viewpoint. By integrating counseling, medical therapeutics, and healthy lifestyles, we encourage our students and patients to

forestall those behaviors which lead to many of the chronic medical problems of society. By promptly addressing substance misuse and abuse, inactivity, poor dietary habits, poor social choices, as well as treating those acute problems that young adults face, we feel we are modeling a form of medical care that will become the standard of the future. More information can be found at <https://www.health.msstate.edu/>.

University Health Services is comprised of the following: The Longest Student Health Center (662-325-2431 or www.healthcenter.msstate.edu) – The health center has physicians on-staff and also includes a pharmacy, x-ray and laboratory facilities, physical therapy, an allergy clinic, and a nutritionist.

Office for Student Well-Being (662-325-2090 or www.studentwellbeing.msstate.edu) – The Office for Student Well-Being engages students through initiatives to promote complete mental, physical, and social well-being. The Department offers programs focusing on intervention and recovery; alcohol and drug abuse; tobacco use cessation; general mental health and well-being; exercise and nutritional information; and sexual health. The Department also houses Bulldogs in Recovery (<https://www.recovery.msstate.edu>), which provides comprehensive support services for recovering students.

Student Counseling Services (662-325-2091 or <https://www.counseling.msstate.edu>) – The Student Counseling Service provides individual and group counseling opportunities for students addressing wide ranging concerns.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL HOTLINE NUMBERS

LOCAL:

Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meetings in Mississippi

<https://aa-mississippi.org>

AA General Service Office Number: (212) 870-3400

Starkville Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) Meetings

<http://www.starkvilleaa.org>

MS Region of Narcotics Anonymous (NA)

www.mrscna.net

Helpline: (601) 202-9393

NATIONAL:

Alcohol and Drug Abuse

1-800-729-6686

American Council on Alcoholism

1-800-527-5344

Referral and Drug Information

1-800-662-4435

Suicide & Crisis Lifeline

Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org for support.

The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24/7 across the United States and its territories. This national network of over 200 local crisis centers combines local care and resources with national best practices.

SAMHSA's National Helpline

1-800-662-HELP (4357) | TTY: 1-800-487-4889

Also known as the Treatment Referral Routing Service, this is a confidential, free, 24/7, 365-day-a-year information service (available in English and Spanish) for individuals and family members facing mental and/or substance use disorders. It provides referrals to local treatment facilities, support groups, and community-based organizations.

SMOKE FREE CAMPUS

Mississippi State University is a tobacco-free campus. MSU restricts smoking and the use of tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, pipes, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, snuff, and chewing tobacco) on University property.

For more information, refer to Operating Policy 91.301 (<https://www.policies.msstate.edu/policy/91301>). The policy also provides information about smoking cessation and support programs available to members of the MSU community who wish to quit smoking. For information on currently available programs, view the policy or visit <https://www.smokefree.msstate.edu>.

CRIME AWARENESS AND CAMPUS SECURITY

Crime statistics are provided as part of Mississippi State University's commitment to safety and security on campus and complies with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act.

This information can be found at <https://www.msstate.edu/students/publications-policies/annual-security-fire-report> by selecting the current year's Annual Security Report and Annual Fire Safety Report.

FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500–4999 grams mixture	First Offense: Not less than 5 yrs, and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.	5 kgs or more mixture	First Offense: Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual. 2 or More Prior Offenses: Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	28–279 grams mixture		280 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40–399 grams mixture		400 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10–99 grams mixture		100 grams or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100–999 grams mixture		1 kg or more mixture	
LSD (Schedule I)	1–9 grams mixture		10 grams or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5–49 grams pure or 50–499 grams mixture		50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10–99 grams pure or 100–999 grams mixture	100 gm or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture		

PENALTIES				
Other Schedule I & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 yrs, or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gram			
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 10 years. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2.5 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious injury, not more than 30 yrs. Fine not more than \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual.		
All other Schedule IV drugs	Any amount			
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	Other than 1 gram or more	First Offense: Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than an individual.		
All Schedule V drugs	Any amount			

FEDERAL TRAFFICKING PENALTIES—MARIJUANA

DRUG	QUANTITY	1st OFFENSE	2nd OFFENSE *
Marijuana (Schedule I)	1,000 kg or more marijuana mixture; or 1,000 or more marijuana plants	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs., or more than life. Fine not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	100 kg to 999 kg marijuana mixture; or 100 to 999 marijuana plants	Not less than 5 yrs. or more than 40 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	More than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg marijuana mixture More than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 marijuana plants	Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	Less than 50 kilograms marijuana (but does not include 50 or more marijuana plants regardless of weight) 1 to 49 marijuana plants;	Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 10 yrs. Fine \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than individual.
Hashish (Schedule I)	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil (Schedule I)	1 kg or less		

*The minimum sentence for a violation after two or more prior convictions for a felony drug offense have become final is a mandatory term of life imprisonment without release and a fine up to \$20 million if an individual and \$75 million if other than an individual.

Source: https://www.dea.gov/sites/default/files/pr/multimedia-library/publications/drug_of_abuse.pdf

 KeyCite Yellow Flag - Negative Treatment
Proposed Legislation

West's Annotated Mississippi Code
Title 41. Public Health (Refs & Annos)
Chapter 29. Poisons, Drugs and Other Controlled Substances
Article 3. Uniform Controlled Substances Law (Refs & Annos)

Miss. Code Ann. § 41-29-139

§ 41-29-139. Prohibited acts and penalties; indictments for trafficking; Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act non-applicability

Currentness

(a) **Transfer and possession with intent to transfer.** Except as authorized by this article, it is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally:

- (1) To sell, barter, transfer, manufacture, distribute, dispense or possess with intent to sell, barter, transfer, manufacture, distribute or dispense, a controlled substance; or
- (2) To create, sell, barter, transfer, distribute, dispense or possess with intent to create, sell, barter, transfer, distribute or dispense, a counterfeit substance.

(b) **Punishment for transfer and possession with intent to transfer.** Except as otherwise provided in [Section 41-29-142](#), any person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be, if convicted, sentenced as follows:

- (1) For controlled substances classified in Schedule I or II, as set out in [Sections 41-29-113](#) and [41-29-115](#), other than marijuana or synthetic cannabinoids:
 - (A) If less than two (2) grams or ten (10) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than eight (8) years or a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both.
 - (B) If two (2) or more grams or ten (10) or more dosage units, but less than ten (10) grams or twenty (20) dosage units, by imprisonment for not less than three (3) years nor more than twenty (20) years or a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), or both.
 - (C) If ten (10) or more grams or twenty (20) or more dosage units, but less than thirty (30) grams or forty (40) dosage units, by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than thirty (30) years or a fine of not more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or both.

1. If thirty (30) grams or less, by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years or a fine of not more than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), or both;

2. If more than thirty (30) grams but less than two hundred fifty (250) grams, by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years or a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both;

3. If two hundred fifty (250) or more grams but less than five hundred (500) grams, by imprisonment for not less than three (3) years nor more than ten (10) years or a fine of not more than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00), or both;

4. If five hundred (500) or more grams but less than one (1) kilogram, by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than twenty (20) years or a fine of not more than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), or both.

(B) For synthetic cannabinoids:

1. If ten (10) grams or less, by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years or a fine of not more than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), or both;

2. If more than ten (10) grams but less than twenty (20) grams, by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years or a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both;

3. If twenty (20) or more grams but less than forty (40) grams, by imprisonment for not less than three (3) years nor more than ten (10) years or a fine of not more than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00), or both;

4. If forty (40) or more grams but less than two hundred (200) grams, by imprisonment for not less than five (5) years nor more than twenty (20) years or a fine of not more than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), or both.

(3) For controlled substances classified in Schedules III and IV, as set out in [Sections 41-29-117](#) and [41-29-119](#):

(A) If less than two (2) grams or ten (10) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years or a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both;

(B) If two (2) or more grams or ten (10) or more dosage units, but less than ten (10) grams or twenty (20) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than eight (8) years or a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both;

(C) If ten (10) or more grams or twenty (20) or more dosage units, but less than thirty (30) grams or forty (40) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than fifteen (15) years or a fine of not more than One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or both;

(D) If thirty (30) or more grams or forty (40) or more dosage units, but less than five hundred (500) grams or two thousand five hundred (2,500) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than twenty (20) years or a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), or both.

(4) For controlled substances classified in Schedule V, as set out in [Section 41-29-121](#):

(A) If less than two (2) grams or ten (10) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year or a fine of not more than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both;

(B) If two (2) or more grams or ten (10) or more dosage units, but less than ten (10) grams or twenty (20) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than five (5) years or a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), or both;

(C) If ten (10) or more grams or twenty (20) or more dosage units, but less than thirty (30) grams or forty (40) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than ten (10) years or a fine of not more than Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00), or both;

(D) For thirty (30) or more grams or forty (40) or more dosage units, but less than five hundred (500) grams or two thousand five hundred (2,500) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than fifteen (15) years or a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both.

(c) **Simple possession.** Except as otherwise provided under subsection (i) of this section for actions that are lawful under the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act and in compliance with rules and regulations adopted thereunder, it is unlawful for any person knowingly or intentionally to possess any controlled substance unless the substance was obtained directly from, or pursuant to, a valid prescription or order of a practitioner while acting in the course of his professional practice, or except as otherwise authorized by this article. The penalties for any violation of this subsection (c) with respect to a controlled substance classified in Schedules I, II, III, IV or V, as set out in [Section 41-29-113](#), [41-29-115](#), [41-29-117](#), [41-29-119](#) or [41-29-121](#), including marijuana or synthetic cannabinoids, shall be based on dosage unit as defined herein or the weight of the controlled substance as set forth herein as appropriate:

“Dosage unit (d.u.)” means a tablet or capsule, or in the case of a liquid solution, one (1) milliliter. In the case of lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) the term, “dosage unit” means a stamp, square, dot, microdot, tablet or capsule of a controlled substance.

For any controlled substance that does not fall within the definition of the term “dosage unit,” the penalties shall be based upon the weight of the controlled substance.

The weight set forth refers to the entire weight of any mixture or substance containing a detectable amount of the controlled substance.

If a mixture or substance contains more than one (1) controlled substance, the weight of the mixture or substance is assigned to the controlled substance that results in the greater punishment.

A person shall be charged and sentenced as follows for a violation of this subsection with respect to:

(A) If less than one-tenth (0.1) gram or two (2) dosage units, the violation is a misdemeanor and punishable by imprisonment for not more than one (1) year or a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or both.

(B) If one-tenth (0.1) gram or more or two (2) or more dosage units, but less than two (2) grams or ten (10) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than three (3) years or a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both.

(C) If two (2) or more grams or ten (10) or more dosage units, but less than ten (10) grams or twenty (20) dosage units, by imprisonment for not more than eight (8) years or a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), or both.

(D) If ten (10) or more grams or twenty (20) or more dosage units, but less than thirty (30) grams or forty (40) dosage units, by imprisonment for not less than three (3) years nor more than twenty (20) years or a fine of not more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or both.

(2)(A) Marijuana and synthetic cannabinoids:

1. If thirty (30) grams or less of marijuana or ten (10) grams or less of synthetic cannabinoids, by a fine of not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). The provisions of this paragraph (2)(A) may be enforceable by summons if the offender provides proof of identity satisfactory to the arresting officer and gives written promise to appear in court satisfactory to the arresting officer, as directed by the summons. A second conviction under this section within two (2) years is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00), not more than sixty (60) days in the county jail, and mandatory participation in a drug education program approved by the Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse of the State Department of Mental Health, unless the court enters a written finding that a drug education program is inappropriate. A third or subsequent conviction under this paragraph (2)(A) within two (2) years is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and confinement for not more than six (6) months in the county jail.

Upon a first or second conviction under this paragraph (2)(A), the courts shall forward a report of the conviction to the Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics which shall make and maintain a private, nonpublic record for a period not to exceed two (2) years from the date of conviction. The private, nonpublic record shall be solely for the use of the courts in determining the penalties which attach upon conviction under this paragraph (2)(A) and shall not constitute a criminal record for the purpose of private or administrative inquiry and the record of each conviction shall be expunged at the end of the period of two (2) years following the date of such conviction;

2. Additionally, a person who is the operator of a motor vehicle, who possesses on his person or knowingly keeps or allows to be kept in a motor vehicle within the area of the vehicle normally occupied by the driver or passengers, more than one (1) gram, but not more than thirty (30) grams of marijuana or not more than ten (10) grams of synthetic cannabinoids is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) or confined for not more than ninety (90) days in the county jail, or both. For the purposes of this subsection, such area of the vehicle shall not include the trunk of the motor vehicle or the areas not normally occupied by the driver or passengers if the vehicle is not equipped with a trunk. A utility or glove compartment shall be deemed to be within the area occupied by the driver and passengers.

(B) Marijuana:

1. If more than thirty (30) grams but less than two hundred fifty (250) grams, by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or confinement in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or both; or by a fine of not more than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), or imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for not more than three (3) years, or both;
2. If two hundred fifty (250) or more grams but less than five hundred (500) grams, by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than eight (8) years or by a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both;
3. If five hundred (500) or more grams but less than one (1) kilogram, by imprisonment for not less than four (4) years nor more than sixteen (16) years or a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), or both;
4. If one (1) kilogram or more but less than five (5) kilograms, by imprisonment for not less than six (6) years nor more than twenty-four (24) years or a fine of not more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or both;
5. If five (5) kilograms or more, by imprisonment for not less than ten (10) years nor more than thirty (30) years or a fine of not more than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00), or both.

(C) Synthetic cannabinoids:

1. If more than ten (10) grams but less than twenty (20) grams, by a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or confinement in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or both; or by a fine of not more than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), or imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for not more than three (3) years, or both;
2. If twenty (20) or more grams but less than forty (40) grams, by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than eight (8) years or by a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both;
3. If forty (40) or more grams but less than two hundred (200) grams, by imprisonment for not less than four (4) years nor more than sixteen (16) years or a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), or both;
4. If two hundred (200) or more grams, by imprisonment for not less than six (6) years nor more than twenty-four (24) years or a fine of not more than Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or both.

(3) A controlled substance classified in Schedule III, IV or V as set out in [Sections 41-29-117](#) through [41-29-121](#), upon conviction, may be punished as follows:

- (A) If less than fifty (50) grams or less than one hundred (100) dosage units, the offense is a misdemeanor and punishable by not more than one (1) year or a fine of not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or both.

(B) If fifty (50) or more grams or one hundred (100) or more dosage units, but less than one hundred fifty (150) grams or five hundred (500) dosage units, by imprisonment for not less than one (1) year nor more than four (4) years or a fine of not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00), or both.

(C) If one hundred fifty (150) or more grams or five hundred (500) or more dosage units, but less than three hundred (300) grams or one thousand (1,000) dosage units, by imprisonment for not less than two (2) years nor more than eight (8) years or a fine of not more than Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), or both.

(D) If three hundred (300) or more grams or one thousand (1,000) or more dosage units, but less than five hundred (500) grams or two thousand five hundred (2,500) dosage units, by imprisonment for not less than four (4) years nor more than sixteen (16) years or a fine of not more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00), or both.

(d) **Paraphernalia.** (1) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (i) of this section for actions that are lawful under the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act and in compliance with rules and regulations adopted thereunder, it is unlawful for a person who is not authorized by the State Board of Medical Licensure, State Board of Pharmacy, or other lawful authority to use, or to possess with intent to use, paraphernalia to plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture, compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, test, analyze, pack, repack, store, contain, conceal, inject, ingest, inhale or otherwise introduce into the human body a controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law. Any person who violates this subsection (d)(1) is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be confined in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, or fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both; however, no person shall be charged with a violation of this subsection when such person is also charged with the possession of thirty (30) grams or less of marijuana under subsection (c)(2)(A) of this section.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to deliver, sell, possess with intent to deliver or sell, or manufacture with intent to deliver or sell, paraphernalia, knowing, or under circumstances where one reasonably should know, that it will be used to plant, propagate, cultivate, grow, harvest, manufacture, compound, convert, produce, process, prepare, test, analyze, pack, repack, store, contain, conceal, inject, ingest, inhale, or otherwise introduce into the human body a controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law. Except as provided in subsection (d)(3), a person who violates this subsection (d)(2) is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be confined in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, or fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both.

(3) Any person eighteen (18) years of age or over who violates subsection (d)(2) of this section by delivering or selling paraphernalia to a person under eighteen (18) years of age who is at least three (3) years his junior is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be confined in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or both.

(4) It is unlawful for any person to place in any newspaper, magazine, handbill, or other publication any advertisement, knowing, or under circumstances where one reasonably should know, that the purpose of the advertisement, in whole or in part, is to promote the sale of objects designed or intended for use as paraphernalia. Any person who violates this subsection is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be confined in the county jail for not more than six (6) months, or fined not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or both.

(e) It shall be unlawful for any physician practicing medicine in this state to prescribe, dispense or administer any amphetamine or amphetamine-like anorectics and/or central nervous system stimulants classified in Schedule II, pursuant to [Section 41-29-115](#), for the exclusive treatment of obesity, weight control or weight loss. Any person who violates this subsection, upon conviction, is guilty of a misdemeanor and may be confined for a period not to exceed six (6) months, or fined not more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00), or both.

(f) **Trafficking.** (1) Any person trafficking in controlled substances shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, shall be imprisoned for a term of not less than ten (10) years nor more than forty (40) years and shall be fined not less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) nor more than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). The ten-year mandatory sentence shall not be reduced or suspended. The person shall not be eligible for probation or parole, the provisions of [Sections 41-29-149](#), [47-5-139](#), [47-7-3](#) and [47-7-33](#), to the contrary notwithstanding.

(2) “Trafficking in controlled substances” as used herein means:

(A) A violation of subsection (a) of this section involving thirty (30) or more grams or forty (40) or more dosage units of a Schedule I or II controlled substance except marijuana and synthetic cannabinoids;

(B) A violation of subsection (a) of this section involving five hundred (500) or more grams or two thousand five hundred (2,500) or more dosage units of a Schedule III, IV or V controlled substance;

(C) A violation of subsection (c) of this section involving thirty (30) or more grams or forty (40) or more dosage units of a Schedule I or II controlled substance except marijuana and synthetic cannabinoids;

(D) A violation of subsection (c) of this section involving five hundred (500) or more grams or two thousand five hundred (2,500) or more dosage units of a Schedule III, IV or V controlled substance; or

(E) A violation of subsection (a) of this section involving one (1) kilogram or more of marijuana or two hundred (200) grams or more of synthetic cannabinoids.

(g) **Aggravated trafficking.** Any person trafficking in Schedule I or II controlled substances, except marijuana and synthetic cannabinoids, of two hundred (200) grams or more shall be guilty of aggravated trafficking and, upon conviction, shall be sentenced to a term of not less than twenty-five (25) years nor more than life in prison and shall be fined not less than Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) nor more than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00). The twenty-five-year sentence shall be a mandatory sentence and shall not be reduced or suspended. The person shall not be eligible for probation or parole, the provisions of [Sections 41-29-149](#), [47-5-139](#), [47-7-3](#) and [47-7-33](#), to the contrary notwithstanding.

(h) **Sentence mitigation.** (1) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, a person who has been convicted of an offense under this section that requires the judge to impose a prison sentence which cannot be suspended or reduced and is ineligible for probation or parole may, at the discretion of the court, receive a sentence of imprisonment that is no less than twenty-five percent (25%) of the sentence prescribed by the applicable statute. In considering whether to apply the departure from the sentence prescribed, the court shall conclude that:

- (A) The offender was not a leader of the criminal enterprise;
- (B) The offender did not use violence or a weapon during the crime;
- (C) The offense did not result in a death or serious bodily injury of a person not a party to the criminal enterprise; and
- (D) The interests of justice are not served by the imposition of the prescribed mandatory sentence.

The court may also consider whether information and assistance were furnished to a law enforcement agency, or its designee, which, in the opinion of the trial judge, objectively should or would have aided in the arrest or prosecution of others who violate this subsection. The accused shall have adequate opportunity to develop and make a record of all information and assistance so furnished.

(2) If the court reduces the prescribed sentence pursuant to this subsection, it must specify on the record the circumstances warranting the departure.

(i) This section does not apply to any of the actions that are lawful under the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act and in compliance with rules and regulations adopted thereunder.

Credits

Laws 1971, Ch. 521, § 20; Laws 1972, Ch. 520, § 7; Laws 1977, Ch. 482, § 1; Laws 1981, Ch. 502, § 5; Laws 1982, Ch. 323, § 2; Laws 1982, Ch. 501, § 1; Laws 1986, Ch. 417, § 1; Laws 1989, Ch. 569, § 2; [Laws 1995, Ch. 368, § 1](#); [Laws 1998, Ch. 506, § 1, eff. July 1, 1998](#); [Laws 1999, Ch. 341, § 1, eff. from and after passage \(approved March 12, 1999\)](#); [Laws 2004, Ch. 437, § 1, eff. from and after passage \(approved April 28, 2004\)](#); [Laws 2005, Ch. 463, § 2, eff. July 1, 2005](#). Amended by [Laws 2011, Ch. 363, § 2, eff. from and after passage \(approved March 11, 2011\)](#); [Laws 2014, Ch. 457 \(H.B. No. 585\), § 37, eff. July 1, 2014](#); [Laws 2016, Ch. 482 \(S.B. No. 2169\), § 1, eff. July 1, 2016](#); [Laws 2022, Ch. 303 \(S.B. No. 2095\), § 59, eff. from and after passage \(approved February 2, 2022\)](#).

[Notes of Decisions \(2162\)](#)

Miss. Code Ann. § 41-29-139, MS ST § 41-29-139

The Statutes and Constitution are current with laws from the 2025 Regular Session effective through March 28, 2025. Some statute sections may be more current, see credits for details. The statutes are subject to changes provided by the Joint Legislative Committee on Compilation, Revision and Publication of Legislation.



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