



ALCOHOL & DRUGS

Tennessee Tech is committed to creating an academic, social, and work environment that prepares students for success in the global economy. The possession and use of illegal drugs, the abuse of legal substances, and the illegal and abusive use of alcohol dramatically and negatively affect this commitment.

Tennessee Tech Policy

Pursuant to Tennessee Tech Policy 172: [Tennessee Tech Policy 172, Alcohol and Drugs](#):

- The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of any drug on Tennessee Tech Property or at any Tennessee Tech-Sponsored Activity is prohibited.
- The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of alcohol at any Tennessee Tech sponsored activity is prohibited.
- The manufacture, distribution, possession, or use of alcohol on Tennessee Tech Property is prohibited unless specifically allowed by Tennessee Tech policy.

Standards of Conduct

The following standards govern the conduct of all students and employees:

- To the extent alcohol may be allowed pursuant to Tennessee Tech Policy 172, alcohol will not be abused by individuals of legal drinking age, nor used, possessed, or distributed to individuals who have not attained legal drinking age.
- Students and employees must comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws pertaining to the possession and use of drugs and alcohol. Students or employees who violate these laws may be referred for criminal prosecution.

Disciplinary Sanctions under Tennessee Tech Policy

- Any student who violates Tennessee Tech Policy 172 is subject to the disciplinary sanctions set forth in Tennessee Tech Policy No. 302, up to and including expulsion.
- Any employee who violates Tennessee Tech Policy 172 is subject to the disciplinary sanctions set forth in Tennessee Tech Policy No. 650, up to and including termination. Referral for criminal prosecution may be made in appropriate cases.

The distribution, possession, or use of alcohol is allowed under Tennessee Tech policy:

1. when authorized by the President or the President's designee at specific locations and events;
2. when permitted pursuant to Tennessee Tech Policy 320, Greek Life; and
3. when used for laboratory or classroom instruction or experiments.

Criminal Penalties

Alcohol

It is unlawful for any person under the age of twenty-one (21) to buy, possess, transport (unless in the course of his or her employment), or consume alcoholic beverages, wine or beer. Such offenses are classified as Class A misdemeanors punishable by imprisonment for not more than 11 months, 29 days or a fine of not more than \$2,500, or both. It is further an offense to provide alcoholic beverages to any person under the age of twenty-one (21), such offense being classified as a Class A Misdemeanor. The offense of public intoxication is a Class C misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment of not more than 30 days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both.

Public intoxication is a Class C Misdemeanor punishable by 11 hours of community service, possible revocation of driver's license, imprisonment of not more than thirty (30) days or a fine of not more than \$50, or both. Possession or casual exchange of a controlled substance is considered a Class A Misdemeanor. For the second or greater offense, punishment is one (1) to six (6) years of imprisonment and a fine of up to \$3,000.00.

Controlled Substances

Various federal and state statutes make it unlawful to manufacture, distribute, dispense, deliver, sell, or possess controlled substances. The penalty imposed depends upon many factors which include the type and amount of controlled substance involved, the number of prior offenses, whether death or serious bodily injury resulted from the use of such substance, and whether any other crimes were committed in connection with the use of the controlled substance.

Under state law, the offense of possession or casual exchange of a controlled substance is punishable as a Class A misdemeanor. If there is an exchange between a minor and an adult at least two years the minor's senior and the adult knew that the person was a minor, the offense is classified as a felony.

Federal Trafficking Penalties¹

Click the table below for the full PDF version or [click here](#) instead.

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.	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.
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	28-279 grams mixture		280 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40-399 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.	400 grams or more mixture	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.
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10-99 grams mixture		100 grams or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100-999 grams mixture	First Offense: Not less than 10 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 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment.	1 kg or more mixture	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.
LSD (Schedule I)	1-9 grams mixture		10 grams or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5-49 grams pure or 50-499 grams mixture	First Offense: Not less than 10 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 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment.	50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	2 or More Prior Offenses: Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.
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 injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual.		First Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. 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, \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gram			
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	First Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. 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, \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.		First Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 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 10 yrs. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual.		First Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual. Second Offense: Not more than 10 yrs. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual.
All Schedule V drugs	Any amount			

Federal Trafficking Penalties – Marijuana¹

Click the table below for the full PDF version or [click here](#) instead.

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 less 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 less 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) marijuana plants; 1 to 49 marijuana plants.	Not less than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million if other than an individual	Not less 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.

Health Risks Associated with Substance Abuse

- **Alcohol** — Alcohol consumption causes a number of changes in behavior and physiology. Even low doses significantly impair judgment, coordination and abstract mental functioning. Statistics show that alcohol use is involved in a majority of violent behaviors on college campuses, including acquaintance rape, vandalism, fights, and incidents of drinking and driving. Continued abuse may lead to dependency which often causes permanent damage to vital organs and deterioration of a healthy lifestyle.
- **Amphetamines** — Amphetamines can cause a rapid or irregular heartbeat, tremors, loss of coordination, collapse, and death. Heavy users are prone to irrational acts.
- **Cannabis (Marijuana, Hashish)** — The use of marijuana may impair or reduce short-term memory and comprehension, alter sense of time, and reduce coordination and energy level. Frequent users often have a lowered immune system and an increased risk of lung cancer. The active ingredient in marijuana, THC, is stored in the fatty tissues of the brain and reproductive system for a minimum of 28 to 30 days.
- **Cocaine/Crack** — The immediate effects of cocaine use include dilated pupils and elevated blood pressure, heart rate, respiratory rate, and body temperature, followed by depression. Crack, or freebase rock cocaine, is extremely addictive and can cause delirium, hallucinations, blurred vision, severe chest pain, muscle spasms, convulsions, and even death.
- **Hallucinogens** — Lysergic acid (LSD), mescaline, and psilocybin cause illusions and hallucinations. The user may experience panic, confusion, suspicion, anxiety, and loss of control. Delayed effects, or flashbacks, can occur even when use has ceased. Phencyclidine (PCP) affects the section of the brain that controls the intellect and keeps instincts in check. Because the drug blocks pain receptors, violent PCP episodes may result in self-inflicted injuries.

Additional information concerning the health risks associated with commonly abused drugs can be found at www.drugabuse.gov/sites/default/files/cadchart.pdf.

Substance Abuse Prevention

Tennessee Tech's Alcohol and Drug Program (Program) is designed to help students and employees make healthy decisions regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs. Through Tennessee Tech's Counseling Center, the Program:

- Provides accurate, helpful information about alcohol and other drugs;
- Promotes responsible use;
- Helps raise awareness of alcohol abuse and other drug issues;
- Offers compassionate and confidential consultation and referral for students with concerns about alcohol and other drug use; and
- Supports recovery from substance abuse disorders.

Substance Abuse Counseling, Treatment, and Rehabilitation

Tennessee Tech does not currently provide drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation programs for students. Referral to community treatment facilities may be made in appropriate cases.

The State of Tennessee's Employee Assistance Program, or EAP, is a counseling service for employees and their eligible dependents who may be experiencing personal or work place problems including issues with substance abuse. For specific details regarding EAP, refer to the state website at <http://www.here4tn.com> or call 1-855-437-3486.

Additional counseling services and treatment centers are available throughout Tennessee related to substance abuse. Although most counseling and treatment centers charge for their services, some programs are free of charge.

The following is a list of some of the treatment and counseling centers located in Tennessee. This list is not an endorsement of these facilities by Tennessee Tech.

Al-Anon
www.al-anon.org

Plateau Mental Health Center
New Leaf Recovery
www.vbhcs.org
931-432-4123

Bradford Health Services
www.bradfordhealth.com
888-762-3740

Cumberland Plateau Recovery
931-403-3577

The Ranch
www.recoveryranch.com
888-663-8250

Cumberland Heights
www.cumberlandheights.org
866-930-2485

Mirror Lake Recovery Center
www.mirrorlakerecovery.com
866-212-4471

Narcotics Anonymous
www.na.org

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
<https://www.niaaa.nih.gov>

National Institute on Drug Abuse
www.drugabuse.gov

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration
www.samhsa.gov/prevention

¹Drugs of Abuse — A DEA Resource Guide — 2020 Edition. PDF. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Department of Justice.

