

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS POLICY

The use of illicit drugs and alcohol at Salem State University, on university property or at university activities impairs the safety and health of students, inhibits the personal and academic growth of students, and undermines the public's confidence in the university. Only in an environment free of substance abuse can Salem State University fulfill its mission of developing the professional, social, cultural, and intellectual potential of each member of this community.

The information which follows outlines the standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on university property or as a part of any university activities and describes the applicable legal sanctions, associated health risks and support programs and services available to students. All members of this community are urged to carefully and seriously reflect on their personal responsibility to remain drug free, and further, to demonstrate care and concern for others through timely intervention, support, and referral.

Salem State University's Alcohol and Drugs Policy will be in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at all times. Moreover, the University's standards of personal conduct substantially exceed the minimum expectations of civil law and custom. Students found in violation of Massachusetts law, University's Alcohol and Drugs Policy or engaging in misconduct related to the abuse of alcohol whether on- or off-campus will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the *Student Conduct Code*. Being under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be accepted as an excuse for conduct that violates the *Student Conduct Code*.

General Laws (Federal, State, and City of Salem Ordinance):

Salem State University enforces all federal and state laws and city ordinances regarding the possession, use, sale, and/or distribution of alcoholic beverages, including those prohibiting drinking by individuals under 21 years of age. In addition, Salem State University enforces all federal and state laws and city ordinances regarding the possession, use, sale, and/or distribution of illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia. Where federal and state laws and city ordinances may conflict, federal law is enforced.

On the following page, the penalties of violating federal law, state law, and city ordinances have been outlined for you. The following resources were used to compile this information:

Federal trafficking penalties: https://www.dea.gov/pr/multimedia-library/publications/drug_of_abuse.pdf

Massachusetts State law: <https://malegislature.gov>

City of Salem ordinance: <http://www.salem.com>