



## Medical Amnesty Policy

Spring Hill College is committed to the well-being and safety of our students, while creating a community grounded in personal and social responsibility that is free of substance misuse and/or abuse.

This medical amnesty policy is designed for situations when a student needs medical assistance because of alcohol or substance use. It is intended to encourage students to come forward, without fear of disciplinary action being taken against the intoxicated student or those friends/bystanders who seek to help them, to pursue medical intervention. The College's medical amnesty policy is based upon the premise that failure to call for medical assistance in an alcohol or drug related emergency is a violation of our mission and community standards. In an effort to advance individual health and wellness and to provide a positive living and learning environment, the following medical amnesty policy is in effect:

- a. The intoxicated individual and those friends/bystanders who seek help by alerting College staff (e.g., contacting the Spring Hill College Police Department, Public Safety, Resident Advisors, Area Coordinators, etc.) will not be subject to alleged Spring Hill College violations for the sole infraction of using or possessing alcohol or drugs.
- b. The amnesty policy applies to alcohol and/or drug use only. The amnesty does not apply to infractions such as property damage, hazing, harassment, or physical or sexual assault that may be by-products of being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.
- c. When assisting a student the college has the following expectations:
  - i. Students who call for help will remain with the impaired student until College staff arrive.
  - ii. Students will follow the medical, health, and safety recommendations of the assisting staff.

The College reserves the right to contact any student for an educational meeting to discuss an incident whether or not this Medical Amnesty Policy is in effect. Helping a student make meaning from this incident in order to prevent recurrence is very important to the College. We may ask the involved student to complete substance education programs, substance abuse screenings, or other interventions depending on the level of concern for their health and safety as prescribed by the Vice President of Student Affairs and/or their designee.

In cases in which a student is transported to the hospital or a detoxification center for a medical emergency and is unconscious or otherwise in serious physical jeopardy, emergency contact and/or parental notification by College officials will occur, not for the purpose of disciplinary action but as a health and safety measure.

The amnesty policy may not be applicable to students experiencing an alcohol or drug-related medical emergency who are discovered by a College employee, as these cases will be reviewed on a case by case basis.

Please be aware the Medical Amnesty Policy is limited to Spring Hill College's judicial process only. It cannot provide protection from incidents that occur off-campus that may involve federal, state or local officials.

**Organizations:** A representative of an organization hosting an event is expected to promptly call for medical assistance in an alcohol or drug-related emergency. This act of responsibility will mitigate the judicial consequences against the organization resulting from any policy violations that may have occurred at the time of the incident. Likewise, failure to call for medical assistance in an alcohol or drug-related emergency will be considered an "aggravating circumstance" and may affect the judicial resolution against the organization if policy violations may have occurred. Remember, our primary focus is the health and safety of every member of our community. Your commitment to be an active bystander is a critical component.

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