

Category: Operations

Policy Title: Amnesty Policy

**Policy Statement:** The purpose of this policy is to promote good health and safety of every student at Garden City Community College. In general, the Amnesty & Good Samaritan Policy only applies for an initial Alcohol or Drug Policy violation, as it is the expectation of GCCC that students learn from previous behaviors involving alcohol or other drugs and avoid such situations in the future. Therefore, if a student was previously responsible for an Alcohol or Drug Policy violation or previously was covered by the Amnesty & Good Samaritan Policy, the applicability of the Amnesty & Good Samaritan Policy for subsequent incidents is at the discretion of the Vice President for Student Services (or designee).

**Procedures:** Garden City Community College students seeking immediate medical assistance on behalf of persons experiencing alcohol- or drug-related emergencies, to the GCCC Student Health Nurse, hospital, Campus Police or the Garden City Police Department will not be sanctioned for violations of GCCC Student Code of Conduct and/or Student Housing drug- or alcohol-related policies. Repeat incidents of a student requiring medical assistance under this amnesty policy may be subject to disciplinary action under College Code of Conduct and/or Student Housing policies.

Furthermore, the College recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time that violence, including but not limited to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault occurs may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. The College strongly encourages students to report domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to College officials. A bystander acting in good faith or a reporting individual (complainant) acting in good faith that discloses any incident of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to Garden City Community College officials, Campus Police, or the Garden City Police Department or St. Catherine Hospital will not be subject to GCCC Student Code of Conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

Note that student clubs, teams, and organizations, through their officers and members, are also expected to take responsible action in emergency situations. A group's adherence to the aforementioned steps will be considered a mitigating factor when determining the outcome or sanction of an incident that merits disciplinary action. Conversely, the College will consider the failure to seek assistance by members of the student group as a factor when determining the appropriateness of any such disciplinary action.

The Amnesty protocol applies to straightforward cases of alcohol or other drug-related emergencies. The Amnesty protocol does not excuse co-occurring student code of conduct infractions or other incidents related or unrelated to the medical emergency.

Consistent with putting the student's health first, the College will approach repeated incidents as a serious health risk. While Amnesty from the conduct may be applied, a meeting with the Vice President of Student Services and possible notification to parents or guardians may also result. Repeated violations could result in possible sanctions that range from written warning, suspension and/or expulsion/termination from Garden City Community College.

Contacts: Vice President for Administrative Services

Approved Date: 10/14/2019

Policy History:

Keywords: policy, manual, procedure

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