

SUBSTANCE USE POLICY

EDUCATION AND PREVENTION FIRST

The health and wellness of our students are of great importance to us. Adolescent brains are still in development and are impacted by the use of unhealthy substances. The substances covered by this policy are illegal for consumption either by persons under the age of 21 or by anyone at any time, i.e., illegal substances. Because of this, we take possession, use, sale, purchase or sharing of drugs, tobacco, vaping materials or devices, and alcohol on campus and off campus seriously. DePaul Prep students represent our school at all times whether on campus or off and appropriate behavior and compliance with applicable laws, especially in this area are expected and will be enforced.

DePaul College Prep works collaboratively with families to provide an environment for students that encourages responsible and healthy lifestyle decisions. As part of our responsibility to prepare students for college and life beyond, we take the code of student behavior very seriously. We ask parents to join us in this important work.

- Talk to your child about your views on the use of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, vaping, and tobacco. It is important that they know your values. They will learn from what you say and what you do. Also, help them understand that other values matter: a set of values held by their school which translates into a code of behavior and a set of values held by their society, which results in laws.
- Make sure that your child is aware that one important consequence of conduct warranting discipline is that many college applications ask if the applicant has ever been suspended or put on probation.
- School privileges such as participation in athletics, clubs, retreats, and social events may be jeopardized.
- The Illinois High School Association, the Chicago Catholic League, and the Girls Catholic Athletic Conference have very strict regulations barring the presence of alcohol at athletic events. Please note that schools that violate this policy will not be allowed to host IHSA events. Guests may not consume alcohol during athletic or social events on our campus where students are present.
- In accordance with state laws and local ordinances, vaping, alcohol, or marijuana cannot be purchased for/nor served to any person under the age of 21. Persons who serve alcohol to underage drinkers or permit alcohol to be consumed by teenagers in their homes not only endanger the health and well-being of those persons and open themselves to fines and serious legal consequences, but may also be engaging in conduct that leads to their child or other students being disciplined, suspended, or expelled.

Our first strategy at preventing the use of any of these substances is educating students, faculty and parents/guardians about the repercussions and health dangers of the use of these substances by minors. Each year, students are educated through

health and wellness presentations in the first semester of the school year. In their sophomore year, students take a Health course that includes a curriculum on the mechanics and dangers of addiction and vaping specifically. We invite parents to partner with us to prevent any use of alcohol, tobacco, vaping materials or devices, or drugs by continuously educating all stakeholders in our community and discouraging this behavior by our students in your home.

TREATMENT AND CONSEQUENCES

When presented with evidence that reasonably infers probable cause, the Deans will conduct searches of students, their bags/backpacks, lockers and gym/athletic bags, cars, and other personal effects on school property. Per Illinois Compiled Statutes, Sec 10-22.6 (e) students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these areas.

CHEMICAL ABUSE REFERRAL EDUCATION (C.A.R.E.) PROGRAM

To educate students and their families about the health issues associated with drug, alcohol, tobacco, and vaping, we have created the C.A.R.E. Program. With professional assistance from the Rosecrance Health Network, the Program will involve students, their parents or guardians, and select members of our staff in a joint effort to deal constructively with behaviors leading to substance use, abuse, sale or sharing. A student may participate in the Program voluntarily or will be directed to participate as a result of a disciplinary action taken by the Deans' Office.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION

Voluntary participation results when a student or an advocate of the student brings the circumstances to the attention of the student's counselor or the Dean of Students.

Voluntary participation includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Individual support from a school counselor
2. Parent support and assistance
3. Teacher consultation/referrals
4. Enrollment in the Rosecrance program

Self or advocate-originated identification is always treated with confidentiality. The procedure for self or advocate-originated identification is as follows:

- Student or advocate meets with a teacher, counselor, coach, or other DePaul College Prep staff member.
- The student's counselor will host a meeting with the parent(s)/guardians and student to plan a course of action and treatment.

RESPONSE TO SUSPICION OR INCIDENT

Evidence that a student uses, purchases, or is under the influence of alcohol/drugs/vaping materials, or is in possession of tobacco, alcohol, vaping materials and devices, illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia on school property, at a school-related function, or off campus will result in an investigation, parent notification and discipline as set forth below.

Evidence includes but is not limited to photos, videos, text messages, SnapChat, Tik Tok, vape detector notification, or any other mode of communication that corroborates a students' involvement in the use, possession, or sale of these materials.

FIRST OFFENSE:

1. Parent Conference
2. 2-Day/On-campus Suspension: The student attends school but is removed from the classroom to an alternate setting on campus for the duration of the suspension. The student is expected to work independently to complete assignments, homework, assessments, and closely monitor Schoology, the DePaul Learning Management System and maintain communication with teachers. During suspension, students are not permitted to participate in co-curricular activities, school events, athletic practices or competitions.
3. Behavior Modification Agreement signed by parent, student and Dean outlining behavioral expectations for the student for the duration of the school year.
4. C. A.R.E. Program in partnership with the Rosecrance Health Network

Rosecrance Steps:

1. Initial call to Rosecrance from parents/student to schedule assessment along with initial email or call from DePaul noting the referral;
2. Client and parents sign forms: [Authorization to Release Information](#) and [Assessment Registration](#) prior to assessment (can be done online via patient portal, or via printed/signed/scanned form);
3. Email to DePaul confirming assessment has been scheduled;
4. Assessment conducted with parent contribution and drug test given or scheduled (if phone/zoom assessment).
5. Email to DePaul confirming completion of assessment and indicating recommendations.
6. Enter prevention services or other treatment if recommended.
7. Notification to DePaul of completion: certificates emailed.
Rosecrance Health Network Contact: Scott Gielow, Outreach Counselor SGielow@rosecrance.org at 815-391-1000.

SECOND OFFENSE:

- 3-Day/Off-campus Suspension: The student does not attend school for the duration of the suspension. The student works with their counselor to manage school work and is expected to closely monitor Schoology. During suspension, students are not permitted to participate in co-curricular activities, school events, athletic practices or competitions.
- Parent/Student/Dean/Administrator Conference which includes consultation with Rosecrance.
- Development of a new Behavior Modification Agreement or treatment plan that may include more severe penalties including expulsion if the Behavior Modification Agreement is violated again.

THIRD OFFENSE:

A third offense results in immediate expulsion.