

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS (AOD) IN SCHOOLS

Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) strives to implement a Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) approach to providing a supportive school environment for students involved with substance use or abuse. As such, the School Board supports substance abuse prevention and early intervention programs that vary according to individual needs. In addition to negatively impacting student health and learning, illegal drug use and abuse are prohibited by the ACPS Student Code of Conduct in compliance with all applicable federal, state or local laws and ordinances. Staff members report to the relevant principal or designee any student suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and other drugs (AOD) or in violation of the ACPS Student Code of Conduct related to substance abuse.

Regulation JFCF-R/JFCI-R outlines ACPS' promotion of substance abuse prevention programs to educate students and staff about the harmful effects of alcohol, illegal drugs and/or the misuse of legal drugs, and supports intervention programs for those who need help overcoming substance abuse. However, the primary responsibility for helping students who are involved with substance abuse lies with the students and their parents/guardians.

Prohibited Activity

1. No *person* may manufacture, sell or distribute or possess with intent to sell, give or distribute alcohol, any controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or marijuana while:
 - On the property, including building or grounds, of any ACPS school;
 - On public property or any property open to public use within 1,000 feet of the property, including building or grounds, of any ACPS school;
 - On any school bus; or
 - At any designated school bus stop or any public property or any property open to public use within 1,000 feet of such school bus stop during the time when students are waiting to be picked up and transported to or are being dropped off from school or a school sponsored activity.

2. No student may:
 - possess, procure, purchase, distribute or *attempt* to possess, procure, distribute or purchase;
 - be under the influence of (legal intoxication not required); or
 - use or consume, or *attempt* to use or consume any “**drug or controlled substance**” (or what is represented by/to the student to be any drug or controlled substance, or what the student *believes* is any drug or controlled substance) **as defined in Regulation JFCF-R/JFCI-R** on school property, on school buses, or during school activities (on or off school property).

Consequences Regarding AOD on School Property

46 A. Expulsion

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48 A student who is determined to have brought alcohol, a controlled substance, imitation
49 controlled substance, or marijuana onto school property or to a school-sponsored activity
50 may be expelled in accordance with Policy JGD/JGE: *Student Suspension/ Expulsion*. The
51 Superintendent may determine, based on the facts of the particular case, that special
52 circumstances exist and no disciplinary action or another form of discipline is appropriate.
53 In addition, the School Board authorizes the Superintendent or designee to conduct a
54 preliminary review of such cases to determine whether a disciplinary action other than
55 expulsion is appropriate. Any such disciplinary action will be taken in accordance with
56 Title 22.1, Chapter 14, Article 3 of the Code of Virginia. Recommendations for expulsion
57 will be communicated to the School Board.
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59 B. Prevention and Intervention

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61 Any student who violates this policy must participate in the prevention and intervention
62 activities identified in Regulation JFCF/JFCI-R - Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Abuse
63 Regulation.
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65 ACPS may require any student who has been found to have been in possession of, or under
66 the influence of, drugs or alcohol on a school bus, on school property, or at a school-
67 sponsored activity in violation of ACPS policies, to undergo evaluation for drug or alcohol
68 abuse, or both, and, if recommended by the evaluator and with the consent of the student's
69 parent, to participate in a treatment program.
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71 C. Required Reporting to Parents/Guardians and Local Law Enforcement

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73 The Principal or designee reports violations of this policy to parents/ guardians and local
74 law enforcement as required by Policy CLA: *Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance*
75 *Abuse*.
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77 **Students with Disabilities**

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79 A Students with disabilities are subject to the provisions of this policy and may be disciplined
80 to the same extent as a nondisabled student provided the manifestation review committee
81 determines that the violation was not a manifestation of the student's disability. The
82 provisions of Policy JGDA: *Disciplining Students with Disabilities*, will be followed in
83 addition to the regular disciplinary procedures.
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85 B Additional authority to remove a student with a disability from school for a drug
86 violation.

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88 1. When **special circumstances** exist, ACPS has additional legal authority,
89 beyond that granted in subsection A. Expulsion. above, to remove a student
90 with a disability without parent/guardian consent to be assigned to an interim
91 alternative education program by school personnel for not more than forty-five

92 (45) school days. This option is available regardless of whether a manifestation
93 exists.
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95 “Special circumstances” are defined in the Student Code of Conduct as
96 “knowingly possessing or using illegal drugs, or selling or soliciting the sale of
97 a controlled substance while at school, on school premises, or at a school
98 function under the jurisdiction of a state or local educational agency,”
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100 **Removals under this subsection may not be in excess of any removal**
101 **imposed on a student without a disability for the same offense.**
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103 2. For purposes of this forty-five (45) school-day removal, “illegal drugs” and
104 “controlled substance” are defined as follows:
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106 a. **Controlled substance** means a drug or other substance identified under
107 schedules I, II, III, IV, or V in § 202(c) of the Controlled Substances Act
108 at 21 U.S.C. § 812(c).
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110 b. **Illegal drug** means a controlled substance, but does not include a controlled
111 substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a
112 licensed health-care professional or that is legally possessed or used under
113 any other authority under the Controlled Substances Act or under any other
114 provision of federal law.
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- 116 Adopted: June 18, 1998
- 117 Amended: July 6, 2000
- 118 Amended: June 21, 2001
- 119 Amended: June 15, 2004
- 120 Amended: July 1, 2011
- 121 Amended: December 18, 2014
- 122 Amended: December 20, 2018
- 123 Amended: December 16, 2021
- 124 Amended: October 19, 2023

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126 Legal Refs: 20 U.S.C. §1415.
127 21 U.S.C. § 812.

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129 Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 18.2-247, 18.2-250,
130 18.2-255.2, 22.1-277.08.
131 8 VAC 20-81-10.
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133 Cross Refs.:	CLA	Reporting Acts of Violence and Substance Abuse
134	GAE	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting
135	IGAG	Teaching About Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco
136	JFC	Student Conduct
137	JFCF-R/JFCI-R	Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Abuse: Regulations

138	JGD/JGE	Student Suspension/Expulsion
139	JGD-R/JGE-R	Student Suspension/Expulsion Regulations
140	JGDA	Disciplining Students with Disabilities
141	JHCD	Administering Medications to Students
142	JHCD-R	Regulations for the Administration of Medications to
143		Students
144	JHG	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting
145	JO	Student Records