I. PURPOSE

Illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco in American society present a threat to the health and safety of members of the School community and endanger the attainment of the School’s goals. This program seeks to address the use of illegal drugs and the illegal use of legal drugs, alcohol and tobacco by eliciting the cooperative efforts of all members of the School community. Illegal drugs and the illegal use of legal drugs, alcohol and tobacco have no place in this community and will not be tolerated.

In addition, all areas on campus are smoke-free. Students may not possess tobacco products on or off campus while under the jurisdiction of the School.

The intervention plan takes effect either as a result of disciplinary sanctions or in a situation in which School rules are not currently being broken, no disciplinary investigation is underway, and a student requests assistance in resolving a substance abuse problem. A student who voluntarily seeks counseling will be assured that applicable professional standards of confidentiality will be observed.

II. EDUCATION, COUNSELING, & REHABILITATION

A. Education Methods

The Chancellor, or designee, will be assigned the responsibility for primary education methods designed specifically to prevent substance abuse problems including some or all of the following methods:

1) statements in the NCSSM Handbook, which is provided electronically to all community members;
2) drug, alcohol and tobacco information sessions during junior orientation;
3) distribution of literature by the Student Health Service and Counseling Office;
4) related course topics presented in Student Life courses;
5) annual training for Student Life Instructors and Residential Life Assistants;
6) referral to addiction counseling services in the Durham community;
7) annual communication to all students about the incompatibility of the use or sale of illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco with the goals of the School and the health and legal risks associated with such use.

B. Program Coordination

The Vice Chancellor for Student Life, or designee, is responsible for coordinating the various elements of the Substance Abuse Prevention Program for students, including all educational activities and record keeping.
C. Joining the Program
Through the referral mechanisms noted, a student with a possible substance abuse problem is encouraged to seek diagnosis and treatment. The student and parents/guardians must be willing to follow through with the intervention procedure.

II. INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

A. Alcohol Intervention Procedure
This program is designed to offer support to avoid potentially harmful adolescent behavior, through a program of intervention. A student may refer him/herself to any NCSSM staff person, or a student may be referred by another student. No discipline procedure will be initiated provided that the referral is made when there is no episode of alcohol violation currently underway. The following are the intervention steps:

1) The referred student will be assigned to a staff intervention support person to coordinate the procedure and involve the parents/guardians.
2) An additional evaluation will determine the student’s needs and shape the intervention program, which may include therapy sessions in the addiction program.
3) The student and parents/guardians sign an agreement to follow through with the intervention therapy for the student to remain at NCSSM.
4) The student is made aware that any future alcohol violation will be addressed through the NCSSM disciplinary system.

B. Tobacco Cessation Program
This program is specifically designed to address the needs of students attending a residential high school and is modeled after the American Lung Association’s N-O-T Program and the Duke Addictions Program. The Tobacco Cessation Program is a comprehensive program employing multiple strategies. It addresses healthy lifestyle behaviors such as physical activity, nutrition, coping, and stress management. The Tobacco Cessation Program empowers students to stop behaviors that can impair their academic success at NCSSM. Parental involvement is an essential part of the success of this program.

The program consists of the following two components:

1) Prevention: The goal of this component is for students to develop an awareness of the hazards of using tobacco products and either not begin or commit themselves to stop.
2) Intervention: This component focuses on intervention rather than punishment. Intervention can be voluntary or required. Participation in the component will result from student tobacco user self-identification to avoid consequences, or will be required as a result of violating the tobacco policy. Student tobacco users are identified as either social or addicted users. Addicted users must enroll in the Duke Addictions Program. Components of this program will also address drug/alcohol use.

IV. ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES

A. Complying with the Law
Students are responsible, as citizens, for knowing about and complying with the provisions of North Carolina law that make it a crime to possess, sell, deliver, or manufacture those drugs designated collectively as
“controlled substances” in Article 5 of Chapter 90 of the North Carolina General Statutes. It is against North Carolina law for anyone under age 21 to purchase, possess, and consume alcohol and, if under 18, to purchase, give, or receive tobacco products.

B. Prosecution, Punishment and Penalties
Anyone who violates State law is subject both to prosecution and punishment by the civil authorities and to disciplinary proceedings by the School. It is not “double jeopardy” for both the civil authorities and the School to proceed against and punish a person for the same specified conduct. The School will initiate its own disciplinary proceeding, and penalties will be imposed in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

C. Violation of Drug Policy
The School shall take all actions necessary, consistent with state and federal law and applicable School policy, to eliminate illegal drugs from the School community. This Policy shall be publicized in catalogues and other materials prepared for all enrolled and prospective students. Penalties will be imposed by the School in accordance with procedural safeguards of the Student Code of Conduct. The following minimum penalties shall be imposed for the particular offenses described.

1. Trafficking in Illegal Drugs
   a) A student shall be dismissed for a first offense involving the illegal manufacture, sale or delivery, or possession with intent to manufacture, sell or deliver, of any controlled substance identified in Schedule I, N.C.G.S. § 90-89, Schedule II, N.C.G.S. § 90-90 (including, but not limited to, heroin, mescaline, lysergic acid diethylamide, opium, cocaine, amphetamine, methaqualone), or Schedules III through VI, N.C.G.S. §§ 90-91 through 90-94 (including, but not limited to, marijuana, pentobarbital, codeine).

2. Illegal Possession of Drugs
   a) For a first offense involving the illegal possession of any controlled substance identified in Schedule I, N.C.G.S. § 90-89, or Schedule II, N.C.G.S. § 90-90, the minimum penalty shall be dismissal.
   b) For a first offense involving the illegal possession of any controlled substance identified in Schedules III through VI, N.C.G.S. §§ 90-91 through 90-94, the minimum penalty shall be probation, for a period to be determined on a case-by-case basis. A student on probation must agree to participate in a drug education and counseling program, consent to regular drug testing, and accept such other conditions and restrictions, including a program of community service, as the Chancellor or the Chancellor's designee deems appropriate. Refusal or failure to abide by the terms of probation shall result in dismissal.

D. Violation of Alcohol Policy
The disciplinary response to a student charged with a first alcohol violation includes intervention, provided no aggravating circumstances are involved. Aggravating factors include, but are not limited to, premeditation, potential for physical harm to persons, extent of damage or loss, recruitment or others' participation, whether a repeated serious offense is involved, and prior disciplinary record.

1. Distribution of Alcohol
   For a first offense involving the possession with the intent to sell or distribute alcohol on or off
2. Illegal Possession or Use of Alcohol

For a first offense involving the illegal possession or use of alcohol on or off campus, the minimum penalty shall be probation, for a period to be determined on a case-by-case basis. A student on probation must agree to participate in an alcohol education and counseling program, consent to regular alcohol testing, and accept such other conditions and restrictions, including a program of community service, as the Vice Chancellor of Administration deems appropriate. Refusal or failure to abide by the terms of probation shall result in an Administrative Hearing that may result in dismissal.

For a second or other subsequent offense involving the illegal possession or use of alcohol, the minimum penalty shall be dismissal.

E. Violation of Tobacco Policy

For a first offense involving a violation of the tobacco policy, the minimum penalty shall be a Level II and intervention. The goal is to not make this a punitive process but to provide students with support through intervention as outlined in the Tobacco Cessation Program. A second or other subsequent violation may result in an Administrative Hearing.

V. ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING

A. Chancellor Report

Annually, the Chancellor will submit to the Board of Trustees a report on campus activities related to substance abuse for the preceding year, including:

1)  a list of the major education activities conducted during the year;
2)  a report on any illegal drug- or alcohol-related incidents and sanctions;
3)  an assessment of the effectiveness of the campus program; and
4)  any proposed changes in the substance abuse prevention plan.

The Chancellor shall file each annual report with the President and confer with President on the effectiveness of the program as requested by the President.

B. Review of Reports

The Chancellor, or designee, will conduct a biennial review of the reports to evaluate the program’s effectiveness, implement needed changes, and ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

Adopted by the NCSSM Board of Trustees

Revised May 26, 1989
Revised June 1, 1990
Revised December 7, 1990