

Controlled Substances Policy

1. Standards of Conduct Regarding Drug and Alcohol Use

The possession, sale or furnishing of alcohol on Beth Medrash Govoha's campus is governed by US law, Title 21, Chapter 13; NJ state law, under NJ 2c:33; and the City of Lakewood Municipal Code, Chapter 9.22. Beth Medrash Govoha prohibits the unlawful use, possession or distribution of illicit drugs on its property or by its students as prohibited by federal, state and local laws.

Any student misusing drugs off-campus is subject to the same disciplines as applies to on-campus (see #5 below).

It is unlawful to sell, furnish or provide alcohol to a person under the age of 21. Responsible use of alcohol on campus by students over 21, is allowed under the following circumstances:

- a. As part of services and celebrations
- b. As long as the student makes no attempt to use a motor vehicle.

2. Legal Sanctions: local, state and federal

Please remember that local, state and federal laws are constantly changing. The trend in legislation, law enforcement and the courts for illegal use of drugs is toward harsher penalties, larger fines and longer periods of incarceration. By law if someone is using illegal drugs all those with him could be arrested, even those not participating. A conviction causes you to have a permanent criminal record.

a. Federal Penalties

There are severe penalties for illegal drug use and trafficking with minimum sentences for many categories. Illegal possession of a controlled substance carries a penalty of up to one year of imprisonment and a fine of at least \$1000. Students may lose their Title IV eligibility. Repeat offenses carry even greater penalties.

b. State Penalties

State of NJ Statutes provide penalties for a person found to have acted as an organizer, supervisor, manager or financier of a scheme distributing illegal drugs, and provide that such conduct is a first degree crime punishable by imprisonment and fines.

c. Local Ordinances

Local ordinances may range from fines for driving with an open container of an alcoholic beverage in the car, regardless of whether the driver has consumed any alcohol, to more severe penalties.

3. Health Risks

Studies show that illegal (and many prescription) drugs are, to some extent, physically and/or psychologically addictive.

Even drugs that may seem harmless have been shown to affect memory and intelligence, most seriously among young people; they may also encourage use of far more dangerous drugs. Many drugs that were of weak potency are now far more potent and dangerous. Many drugs are potentially addictive after only one dose. Many drugs can kill with just the smallest amount of overdose.

4. Available counseling and treatment

We are committed to helping students deal with problems, in a mature, sensible manner and help is available for those who may need it. Help is available through specialists and through faculty members

who have been trained to assist as appropriate. If you need assistance, please approach Rabbi Y. Meyer, Director Dormitory and Students, who will refer you for counseling. If you do not come forward but we discover that you have a problem you will be required to seek professional counseling before you can return to school

For counseling and treatment, we refer students to the CHEMED Behavioral Health department, to the LCSC or to CounterForce, the counseling and drug abuse prevention and treatment division of Torah Umesorah National Association of Hebrew Day Schools.

Comprehensive prevention programs are also available at the

5. *RWJBarnabas Health Institute for Prevention and Recovery.*Disciplinary Sanctions that the Institution Will Impose on Students and Employees

As an institution that is firmly opposed to the illegal use of drugs, we will apply disciplinary action to students who use illegal drugs. Please read the following carefully.

a. Knowledge that another student/employee is involved with drugs or alcohol

Students/employees who become aware that a fellow student/employee is misusing drugs or alcohol are expected to bring the problem to the attention of the Dean of Students immediately. Students/employees who fail to do so will be held responsible and will be censured.

Any problem can be resolved more easily the earlier it is caught. Neglect of a problem can be a severe danger to the person involved, as well as those around him/her.

b. First Offense - Students

A student who is reported to have misused drugs/alcohol will be called to the Dean of Student's office to explain himself. The Dean will interview any witnesses and make a determination of the student's culpability.

If found at fault, the student will receive a reprimand and the offense will be noted in the student's permanent record.

At the discretion of the Dean, the student will be suspended, pending discussion with the student's parents and meeting with a health professional to assess the degree of the problem.

If the Dean is fully satisfied that this was a unique occurrence, and that the student is sincerely regretful, and can be trusted to refrain from any future involvement with drugs, the student will be allowed back into school.

He/she will be clearly warned that any repeat of the offense will result in immediate suspension pending investigation, and ultimately in expulsion.

c. Second Offense - Students

Any student who is guilty of a second offense, as determined by investigation by a faculty board of inquiry, will be asked to leave. Reinstatement may be considered only after a prolonged period of professional counseling and compliance testing, and at the discretion of the Dean. There is no due process involved, and no appeal will be accepted.

Attendance at our institution is a privilege, not a right, and may be withdrawn without notice if the student is deemed a threat to the moral and/or physical integrity of the student body.

d. Employees

In general, no applicant who has been convicted of a drug-related offense will be hired as an employee of this institution, although we may consider extenuating circumstances. Any employee who has concealed a past drug-related conviction will be terminated without notice if such offense comes to our attention. Any employee who is observed to be misusing drugs/engaging in the unlawful possession or sale of drugs may be terminated and /or referred to appropriate law enforcement officials as deemed appropriate.

e. Addiction to Prescription Drugs/Alcohol

As legal substances, prescription drugs and alcohol are, unfortunately susceptible to misuse and addiction under the proper circumstances.

The institution is sympathetic to any individual who is inadvertently entrapped in such a situation, and urges that individual to obtain immediate professional and/or self-help or group assistance in curing the addiction.

The administration will make every effort to allow the employee to arrange his/her schedule to facilitate seeking professional assistance, and will make every possible effort to allow an employee to return to work after seeking treatment for their addiction at a residential clinic.

f. Responsible Use of Alcohol

Under no circumstances is a student who has consumed **any** alcohol beverage, in **any** quantity, to drive **any** motor vehicle. A student's friends are expected to exercise good judgment and seek the assistance of an adult if they are unable to dissuade a student from driving.

Preferably, a student who is drinking should turn his car keys over to a friend. We wholeheartedly support the idea of a designated driver. This is an arrangement where one person, who will not drink at all, is selected in advance to drive home.

Any student who drinks will be held responsible, and censured severely, for any infraction of this rule, up to and including a meeting with the student's parents, and/or suspension.