

**University of Northern Colorado**  
**Drug Free Schools and Communities Act**  
**2025 Alcohol & Drug Policy Annual Notification**



**Health Promotion**

## Introduction

The University of Northern Colorado (UNC) strives to provide the campus community with tools and resources to promote the health and well-being of students, faculty and staff.

As a recipient of both state and federal funding, UNC is required to abide by both state and federal laws related to the use of alcohol, cannabis and other drugs. In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, this report, known as the Annual Notification, provides community members with the latest information related to:

- UNC Institutional policies regarding alcohol and drug use
- Federal and State laws and legal consequences of substance misuse
- Health impacts of substance use
- Resources for those who need support with alcohol or other drug use

## How to Get Help: Alcohol and Other Drug Support

UNC encourages anyone who is struggling with alcohol and/or substance use to reach out to the resources below. These resources are also available if you are concerned about the alcohol or substance use of a friend, student, co-worker, family member, or community member.

Students who are seeking to explore alcohol and other drug support services are encouraged to reach out to any of the resources listed below.

On-Campus Support	
Confidential Resources	
UNC Counseling Center	970-351-2496
University Health Clinic	970-351-2412
After Hours Crisis Support	970-351-2496
Non-Confidential Resources	
Office of Health Promotion	970-351-2065
UNC Police Department	970-351-2245
CARE Team	970-351-2001
Student Outreach & Case Management	970-351-2001
Community Standards & Conflict Resolution	970-351-2001
Off-Campus Support	
North Range Behavioral Health	970-347-2120
Colorado Mental Health Line	988 (text/call)
Colorado Crisis Services	1-844-493-TALK (8255)
Alcohol Drug Help Line	800-923-4357
NOCO Area Intergroup (AA)	<a href="#">Website</a>
Cocaine Anonymous Colorado	<a href="#">Website</a>
Narcotics Anonymous	<a href="#">Website</a>

UNC employees are encouraged to seek support related to substance use through the [Colorado State Employee Assistance Program](#). (CSEAP) or through the benefits of their health insurance plans. CSEAP offers professional assessment, referral, and short-term counseling services to address both personal and work-related concerns, including substance use. Counseling services with CSEAP are free and strictly confidential. Learn more about confidentiality exceptions and CSEAP services at this [FAQ page](#). The CSEAP offers a 24/7 crisis line for use by UNC and other state employees: Call 303-866-4314 or 800-821-8154.

This report is prepared annually by UNC's Office of Health Promotion.

If you have questions about this report, contact the Director of Health Promotion at [Shawn.Walcott@unco.edu](mailto:Shawn.Walcott@unco.edu).

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## UNC Alcohol and Drug Policies

### University Regulations

**University Regulations 3-11-101 The Drug and Alcohol Policy.** The University of Northern Colorado strives to create a healthy environment, one in which the high-risk use of alcohol and the use of illicit drugs do not interfere with learning, performance or development. Substance abuse disrupts this environment and places at risk the lives and well-being of the members of the university community, as well as the potential of students to contribute to society. It is important for all members of the university community to take responsibility for preventing the illegal or high-risk use of alcohol or other drugs from negatively affecting the community's learning environment and the academic, physical and emotional well-being of its students.

**University Regulations 3-11-102 University Policy Statement.** The University of Northern Colorado prohibits the unlawful possession, use or distribution of drugs, alcohol and other controlled substances by all members of the university community (students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests). Individuals who violate this policy shall be subject to discipline, termination, dismissal, debarment, arrest or citation as applicable. Additionally, employees or students who violate this policy may be required to participate satisfactorily in drug abuse education, counseling or rehabilitation programs approved by the university.

**University Regulations 3-11-103 Policy on Alcohol.** The University of Northern Colorado neither encourages nor discourages the use of alcoholic beverages (includes 3.2 and 6% beer, vinous or spirituous liquor), but does condemn the misuse/abuse and illegal use of alcoholic beverages. All members of the university community (students, faculty, staff, alumni and guests) are responsible for making decisions about their behavior within the context of Colorado and the City of Greeley laws and university regulations, and in the case of travel, within the requirements of the State of Colorado Fiscal Rule 5-1.02. In addition, individuals must always be aware of and respect the rights of others within the university and local community.

1. No person under legal drinking age in Colorado may have in their possession or consume malt, vinous or spirituous liquor on the University of Northern Colorado campus and/or properties owned by the university or as part of any of its activities.
2. Persons of legal age who adhere to the following responsible drinking guidelines may consume alcoholic beverages on campus:
  - a. Individuals who possess or consume alcoholic (or non-alcoholic) beverages will not litter university grounds;
  - b. Individuals who possess, are consuming or are under the influence of alcoholic beverages will not engage in abusive language or behavior or infringe upon the rights of any person;
  - c. Individuals who possess, are consuming or are under the influence of alcoholic beverages will not abuse university or local property.

3. Individuals may not possess or consume alcohol in classrooms and academic or administrative buildings unless prior approval is obtained from the Vice President for Academic Affairs or their designee. Alcohol may not be purchased with State of Colorado or non-state university funds.
4. When a group schedules use of university property for an organized function, it will be required to designate if alcohol will be consumed. If alcohol is being consumed at an organized function, the group shall adhere to the UNC Alcohol Policy and the State of Colorado and City of Greeley laws and regulations. Campus areas are available for scheduling functions at which alcoholic beverages will be served or consumed. However, permission for scheduling university facilities for organized events will be determined through the Office of Conference, Catering and Event Scheduling Services. The sponsoring group shall be responsible for assuring no one under legal age is allowed to consume or possess alcoholic beverages.
5. As a matter of university policy, the sponsoring group is encouraged to make reasonable efforts to persuade persons attending its function to not drive a motor vehicle away from the function when that person is apparently impaired or intoxicated and provide alternative transportation.
6. Advertisement of Events. The University of Northern Colorado encourages the celebration of events. These celebrations are usually accompanied by food and drink, which may include alcoholic beverages. The advertisement of such events on campus by sponsors shall not promote the misuse/abuse of alcoholic beverages. Publicity shall focus on the event and not emphasize the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Mention of alternative beverages and food must be included if alcohol is mentioned in the advertisement. Advertisements must include the statement: "The University of Northern Colorado prohibits the irresponsible and illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages."
7. Admissions Charge for Functions Held by Non-Profit Organizations. Groups or organizations that are incorporated for non-profit reasons may charge admission to members and their guests attending a social function, and alcoholic beverages may be served by the drink, at no charge per drink. When such an event is scheduled on university facilities, a security plan approved by the University Police Department must be submitted to the Office of Conference, Catering and Event Scheduling Services before the event is scheduled. When a special permit is necessary to sell alcoholic beverages, it must be obtained from the city or state agency after the event is scheduled. In addition, when an event is scheduled on University facilities, a security plan approved by the University Police Department must be submitted to the Office of Conference, Catering, and Event Scheduling Services before the event is scheduled. As long as alcoholic beverages are served during an event, food and a variety of popular non-alcoholic beverages must be served. If alcohol is served by the drink, the price of the non-alcoholic beverage may not exceed the price charged for the alcoholic beverage. It is encouraged that non-alcoholic beverages be served free of charge and provided

to persons who are designated drivers or who desire to abstain from alcoholic beverages.

8. Open alcohol containers are prohibited on the UNC campus, except at designated areas or scheduled events at which alcohol is authorized to be sold, served or consumed. These events shall be scheduled through the University Conference and Scheduling office.
9. Glass containers may not be present in areas adjacent to the residence halls, parks, athletic fields or practice fields.
10. Individuals are required to be in compliance with additional alcohol policies in effect in other areas of the campus, which may be more restrictive than this policy. Other policies include, but may not be limited to, the residence halls, intramural and athletic programs, and the University Center.

Residence hall policies can be found [here](#).

Intramural and athletic program policies can be found [here](#).

**3-11-104 Policy on Drugs.** The university prohibits the unlawful or unauthorized manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, consumption, sale or use of controlled substances on or in university-owned or controlled property, or in the course of university business or at university activities. Individuals or entities including, but not limited to, students, employees, contractors, agents, volunteers, invitees, or student organizations who violate this policy may be required to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the university.

**3-11-105 Enforcement of Policy.** Any member of the University community who observes a violation of this policy or becomes aware of an individual with an alcohol/drug/substance abuse problem on campus is encouraged to seek assistance from the appropriate resources: Colorado State Employee Assistance Program, Dean of Students Office, Office of Health Promotion, Housing Officials, Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs, UNC Counseling Center, University Health Clinic, UNC Police Department.

Additional information about the University Regulations can be found [here](#).

### **Student Code of Conduct**

The University of Northern Colorado (UNC) Student Code of Conduct (Student Code) outlines students' rights and responsibilities as members of the UNC community and establishes expectations of student behavior to promote a safe and respectful living and learning environment.

The Student Code process is educational and intended to help students learn, make behavioral changes, and understand the impacts of their behaviors on others. The process balances the rights of individual students with the expectations and safety of

UNC and the community. The UNC Dean of Students Office offers a variety of resolution options to students in response to allegations of Misconduct.

Any of the following behaviors constitute misconduct related to alcohol and substance use under the Student Code.

### **Alcohol**

- A) **Possession/Consumption.** Attempted or actual possession, consumption, or use of an alcoholic beverage prohibited by law or University policy.
- B) **Driving Under the Influence.** Operating a vehicle under the influence of, or while impaired by, alcohol.
- C) **Providing to Minors.** Providing or selling an alcoholic beverage to any person under the legal age required by applicable law.
- D) **Forced Consumption.** Using coercion, intimidation, or other behavior to cause another person to ingest an alcoholic beverage without their consent.
- E) **Public Intoxication.** Being in a public place under the influence of, or impaired by, alcohol beverage.
- F) **Manufacture/Distribute/Sale.** Attempted or actual manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, or selling of alcoholic beverages as prohibited by applicable law.

### **Drugs**

- A) **Possession/Consumption/Use.** Attempted or actual possession, consumption, or use of drugs prohibited by law or University policy, including but not limited to cannabis, methamphetamine, cocaine, opiates, LSD, mushrooms, heroin, ecstasy, GHB, or other controlled substances.
- B) **Abusing Toxic Vapors.** Inhaling toxic vapors for the purpose of causing a condition of euphoria, excitement, exhilaration, stupefaction, or dulled senses of the nervous system.
- C) **Driving Under the Influence.** Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of, or while impaired by, drugs.
- D) **Misuse of Prescription Drugs.** Use or possession of prescription drugs other than by the person prescribed or for use other than the prescribed purpose and/or dosage. Providing, selling, or distributing prescription drugs as prohibited by applicable law.
- E) **Forced Consumption.** Using coercion, intimidation, or other behavior to cause another person to ingest drugs without their consent.
- F) **Public Intoxication.** Being in a public place under the influence of, or impaired by, drugs.
- G) **Manufacture/Distribute/Sale.** Attempted or actual manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, or selling of controlled substances as prohibited by applicable law.

## Smoking, Vaping and Tobacco Violations

The use of tobacco (or other substances) by smoking, e-cigarettes, vape pens, or any other device used to consume tobacco products or other solid or liquid substances where use of tobacco is prohibited and/or, in the case of tobacco, or tobacco products, use by chewing or dipping.

Additional information about the Student Code of Conduct can be found [here](#).

## UNC Policy Violations

All UNC students are required to comply with the Student Code of Conduct ("Student Code"), which sets behavioral expectations for students, including expectations regarding drug and alcohol use. If a student is found to have violated the Alcohol and Drug policy(ies) as outlined in the Student Code, the student may be subject to discipline under the University of Northern Colorado's Student Code, in addition to criminal prosecution under federal and Colorado laws. Outcomes include (but are not limited to):

- Warning, probation, suspension or expulsion
- Loss of privileges
- Education
- Reflection
- Housing modifications (e.g. residence hall suspension or expulsion)
- Parental notifications

University Regulations 3-11-106 Sanctions for Violation of Alcohol Policy. When the University Police Department is called, any one of the following actions or combinations thereof may be taken:

- Warn and release
- Issue a summons
- Physically book into jail (when other crime is involved)
- Take to detoxification center
- Refer for administrative action
- Administratively, any one or a combination of the following sanctions may be invoked for violation of this policy:
  - Referral for alcohol/drug education
  - Referral for professional alcohol/drug evaluation
  - Referral for counseling/treatment
  - University Disciplinary Action
    - Departmental or organizational
    - University disciplinary sanctions for misconduct as written in the Student Rights and Responsibilities
  - Restricting responsible individual or group privileges
  - Loss of university recognition of sponsoring group or organization



- Penalties as otherwise prescribed by law

## Colorado Legal Sanctions

### Alcohol Legal Sanctions

Alcohol sanctions up to petty and misdemeanor charges include having a driver's license revoked, community service or probation and fines up to \$1,500. Below is a summary of Colorado's alcohol-related offenses and corresponding penalties.

Offense	Type of Offense	Jail Term/ Penalties	Fine
Alcohol consumption/ possession: illegal under 21	Unclassified petty offense	24-36 hours community service; substance abuse education program  Driver's license revoked	\$100 - \$250
Juvenile DUI: Under 21 blood alcohol level (BAC) between .02 and .05	Class A traffic infraction	<b>1st offense:</b> 24 hours community service  <b>2nd offense or more:</b> 10 - 90 days jail, additional community service  Driver's license revoked	<b>1st offense:</b> \$15 - \$100  <b>2nd offense:</b> \$150 - \$300
Driving while impaired (DWAI) BAC .05 to .08	Traffic misdemeanor	<b>1st offense:</b> 2 -180 days jail; 24 - 48 hours community service  <b>2nd offense:</b> 10-365 days; 48 - 120 hours community service; 2 years' probation  <b>3rd offense or more:</b> 60 - 365 days; 48 -120 hours community service; 2 years' probation; alcohol education program  Driver's license revoked if under 21	<b>1st offense:</b> \$200 - \$500  <b>2nd offense:</b> \$600 - \$1,500  <b>3rd offense:</b> \$600 - \$1,500
Driving under the influence of ethyl alcohol BAC above 0.08	Traffic misdemeanor	<b>1st offense:</b> 5 - 365 days (if BAC > 0.2, then 10 - 365 days); 48 - 96 hours community service  <b>2nd offense:</b> 10 - 365 days; 48 - 120 hours community service  <b>3rd offense or more:</b> 60 - 365 days; 48 - 120 hours	<b>1st offense:</b> \$600 - \$1,000  <b>2nd offense:</b> \$600 - \$1,500  <b>3rd offense:</b> \$600 - \$1,500

		community service; alcohol education program; 2 years' probation Driver's license revoked	
Open alcohol container	Class A traffic infraction	None	\$50

### Cannabis Legal Sanctions

Sanctions for cannabis public consumption, possession and distribution, including felony and misdemeanor charges, can result in community service, parole or jail sentences ranging from 6 months to 32 years depending on offense. Fines from \$50 to \$1 million are possible depending on the offense and aggravating factors. The table below summarized Colorado legal sanctions related to cannabis.

Amount of Cannabis	Type of Offense	Jail Term/ Penalties	Fine
<b>Providing Cannabis to a Minor</b>			
>2.5lbs (>1lb concentrate)	Level 1 drug felony	8-32 years, 3 years parole	\$5,000 - \$1M
>6oz – 2.5lbs (3oz-1lb concentrate)	Level 2 drug felony	4-8 years, 2 years parole	\$3,000 - \$750,000
>1oz-6oz (.5oz-3oz concentrate)	Level 3 drug felony	2-4 years, 1 year parole	\$2,000 - \$500,000
<1oz (<.5oz concentrate)	Level 4 drug felony	6 months – 1 year, 1 year parole	\$1,000 - \$100,000
<b>Manufacture or process without a license</b>			
Any amount of Cannabis or concentrate	Level 3 drug felony	2-4 years, 1 year parole	\$2,000 - \$500,000
<b>Dispense, sell, distribute or possess with intent to manufacture, dispense, sell or distribute</b>			
50lbs (>25lbs concentrate)	Level 1 drug felony	8-32 years, 3 years parole	\$5,000 - \$1M
>5lbs – 50lbs (>2.5lbs - 25lbs concentrate)	Level 2 drug felony	4-8 years, 2 years parole	\$3,000 - \$750,000
>12oz – 5lbs (>6oz-2.5lbs concentrate)	Level 3 drug felony	2-4 years, 1 year parole	\$2,000 - \$500,000
>4oz-12oz (>2oz-6oz concentrate)	Level 4 drug felony	6 months – 1 year, 1 year parole	\$1,000 - \$100,000
<4oz (<2oz concentrate)	Level 1 drug misdemeanor	6-18 months	\$500 - \$5,000
<b>Possession of Plants</b>			
>30 plants	Level 3 drug felony	2-4 years, 1 year parole	\$2,000 - \$500,000
>6-30 plants	Level 4 drug felony	6 months – 1 year, 1 year parole	\$1,000 - \$100,000
< 6 plants	Level 1 drug misdemeanor	6-18 months	\$500 - \$5,000

Public Possession			
>12oz (3oz concentrate)	Level 4 drug felony	6 months – 1 year, 1 year parole	\$1,000 - \$100,000
>6oz-12oz	Level 1 drug misdemeanor	6-18 months	\$500 - \$5,000
>2oz-6oz	Level 2 drug misdemeanor	0-12 months	\$50 - \$750
<2oz	Drug petty offense	Up to 24 hours community service	\$100

## Controlled Substances Legal Sanctions

In the United States, drug schedules are a classification system established by the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) of 1970. Drugs, chemicals, and substances are placed into one of five categories, or schedules, based on their potential for misuse, accepted medical use, and potential for dependence. The higher the schedule number (from I to V), the lower the risk of abuse. These drugs are also known as controlled substances.

**Schedule I.** These substances have a high potential for misuse and no currently accepted medical use in the United States. They are not available by prescription and are subject to the strictest controls

**Schedule II.** Schedule II substances have a high potential for misuse and accepted medical uses but can lead to severe psychological or physical dependence. Prescriptions are highly regulated and cannot be refilled.

**Schedule III.** Substances in Schedule III have a lower potential for misuse than Schedule I or II. Misuse may lead to moderate physical dependence or high psychological dependence, but they have accepted medical uses

**Schedule IV.** Schedule IV drugs have a low potential for misuse relative to Schedule III and a low risk of dependence. They have accepted medical uses

**Schedule V.** Schedule V drugs have a lower potential for abuse than Schedule IV and generally contain limited quantities of narcotics for specific medical purposes

Drug classification examples:

Schedule I	Heroin, LSD, ecstasy (MDMA) PCP, psilocybin, mescaline, and peyote, cannabis
Schedule II	Opium, oxycodone, hydrocodone, morphine, fentanyl and methadone, cocaine, methamphetamines
Schedule III	Barbiturates, ketamine, anabolic steroids, codeine (<90mg per dose)
Schedule IV	Xanax, Valium, Ativan, Ambien, Tramadol
Schedule V	Over-the counter cough syrups and cold medications containing small amounts of codeine

Sanctioning for scheduled drugs such as cocaine, heroin, morphine and other narcotics include felony and misdemeanor charges, which equate to 6-month to 32- year jail terms or parole sentences and fines from \$1,000 to \$1 million depending on aggravating factors. Below are Colorado's legal sanctions related to controlled substances.

Possession	Type of Offense	Jail Term / Penalties	Fine
<4gm of Schedule I and II	<b>Offense 1-3:</b> Level 1 drug misdemeanor	<b>Offenses 1-3:</b> 6 months – 18 months (1 year parole period)	<b>Offenses 1-3:</b> \$500 - \$5,000
Any amount of Schedule III, IV, and V	<b>Offense 4+:</b> Level 4 drug felony	<b>Offenses 4+:</b> 6 months – 1 year (1 year parole period)	<b>Offenses 4+:</b> \$1,000 - \$100,000
>4gm of Schedule I and II,  Any amount of flunitrazepam, ketamine, and gamma hydroxybutyrate	Level 4 drug felony	6 months – 1 year (1 year parole period)	\$1,000 - \$100,000
Any material containing fentanyl <1gm	<b>Offense 1-3:</b> Level 1 drug misdemeanor  <b>Offense 4+:</b> Level 4 drug felony	<b>Offenses 1-3:</b> 6 months – 18 months (1 year parole period)  <b>Offenses 4+:</b> 6 months – 1 year (1 year parole period)	<b>Offenses 1 - 3:</b> \$500 - \$5,000  <b>Offenses 4+:</b> \$1,000 - \$100,00
Any material containing fentanyl >1gm	Level 4 drug felony	6 months – 1 year (1 year parole period)	\$1,000 - \$100,00
Any material that contains more than 60% fentanyl	Level 2 drug felony	4 – 8 years	\$3,000 - \$750,000
<b>Use of Controlled Substances</b>			
All controlled substances except cannabis products	Level 2 drug misdemeanor	Less than 364 days	\$50 - \$750

### Natural Medicine Regulation And Legalization Act (SB23-290)

In 2023, Colorado passed SB23-290, the Natural Medicine Regulation And Legalization Act. This law decriminalizes certain natural medicines. Use and possession of these drugs cannot be grounds for criminal charges without evidence of other unlawful acts. The drugs include: Psilocybin, Psilocin, Dimethyltryptamine (DMT), and Ibogaine. The Colorado legislature created this law in concert with the state's Native American and Indigenous people to increase recognition of the use of natural medicine. While these drugs are decriminalized at the state level, these drugs are still illegal at the federal level. As such, UNC policy prohibits the use of these drugs on campus.

## Federal Sanctions

A drug crime becomes a federal offense when it involves federal property, crosses state or international borders, or is investigated by federal law enforcement agencies. Cases that rise to the federal level typically involve large-scale operations or organized criminal activity, and they carry much harsher penalties than state-level drug charges. The tables below summarize the federal penalties and sanctions for controlled substances.

### Controlled Substances Federal Sanctions

Drug/Schedule	Quantity	Penalties	Quantity	Penalties
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500-4999 grams mixture	<b>First offense:</b> Not less than 5 years, and not more than 40 years. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years or more than life. Fine of not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual.	5 kgs or more mixture	<b>First offense:</b> Not less than 10 years, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years or more than life. Fine of not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.  <b>Second offense:</b> Not less than 20 years, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual. Two or more prior offenses: Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	28-279 grams mixture		280 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule I)	40-399 grams mixture		400 grams mixture or more	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10-99 grams mixture		100 grams or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100-999 grams mixture	<b>Second offense:</b> Not less than 10 years, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.	1 kg or more mixture	
LSD (Schedule II)	1-9 grams mixture		10 grams or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5-49 grams pure or 50-449 grams mixture		50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10-99 grams pure or 100-999 grams mixture		100 grams or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture	

				million if not an individual.
Drug/Schedule	Quantities	Penalties		
Other schedule I & II drugs (and any drug product containing Gamma Hydroxybutyric Acid)	Any amount	<b>First offense:</b> No more than 20 years. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 years, or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gram	<b>Second offense:</b> not more than 30 years. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual.		
Other Schedule III drugs	Any amount	<b>First offense:</b> No more than 10 years. If death or serious injury, not more than 15 years. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2.5 million if not an individual.		
All other schedule IV drugs		<b>Second offense:</b> Not more than 20 years. If death or serious bodily injury, not more than 30 years. Fine not more than \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual.		
Flunitrazepam (Schedule IV)	1 gram or more	<b>First offense:</b> Not more than 5 years. Fine not more than \$250,000 if an individual, \$1 million if not an individual.		
All Schedule V drugs	Any amount	<b>Second offense:</b> Not more than 10 years. Fine not more than \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual.		

### Cannabis Federal Sanctions

There is an ongoing effort to reclassify cannabis as a schedule III substance to recognize its medical use. However, as of 2025, cannabis continues to be a schedule I controlled substance under federal law. The table below summarizes the federal sanctions related to cannabis.

Drug	Quantity	Penalties
Cannabis (schedule I)	1,000 kg or more cannabis mixture; or 1,000 or more cannabis plants	<p><b>First offense:</b> Not less than 10 years or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 years, or more than life. Fine not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.</p> <p><b>Second offense:</b> Not less than 20 years or more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.</p>

Cannabis (schedule II)	100-999 kg cannabis mixture; or 100-999 cannabis plants	<b>First offense:</b> Not less than 5 years or more than 40 years. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 years or more than life. Fine not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual. <b>Second offense:</b> Not less than 10 years or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.
Cannabis (schedule I)	More than 10 kg hashish; 50-99 kg cannabis mixture	<b>First offense:</b> Not less than 20 years or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 years, or more than life. Fine not more than \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if not an individual. <b>Second offense:</b> Not less than 30 years. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if not an individual.
Cannabis (schedule I)  Hashish (schedule I) Hashish Oil (schedule I)	Less than 50 kilograms cannabis*  1-49 cannabis plants  10 kg or less	<b>First offense:</b> Not less than 5 years. Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million if not an individual. <b>Second offense:</b> Not less than 10 years. Fine \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if not an individual.

\*Does not include 50 or more cannabis plants regardless of weight of cannabis plants

The minimum sentence for a violation after two or more prior convictions for a felony drug offense is a mandatory life imprisonment without release and a fine up to \$20 million if an individual and \$75 million if not an individual.

## Health Effects of Substance Use

The Office of Health Promotion works to educate students about the health impacts of substance use. To learn more about our work or to request a substance use workshop visit [unco.edu/health-promotion](http://unco.edu/health-promotion). The tables below summarize the most common health impacts associated with the use of different substances.

Drug	Common and Commercial Names	Health Impacts
Stimulants		
Methamphetamine	Crystal, Meth, Desoxyn®	Anxiety, confusion, insomnia, mood problems, paranoia, hallucinations, severe dental problems, pregnancy complications

Cocaine	Coke, Crack	Nasal and throat damage, infection and death of bowel tissue, poor nutrition and weight loss, lung damage, pregnancy issues, risk of HIV
Fentanyl	Actiq®, Duragesic®, Sublimaze®	Pain relief, drowsiness, nausea, euphoria, slowed breathing, increased risk of overdose or addiction, risk of miscarriage, and risk of HIV
Codeine	Various Brand names	
Hydrocodone	Vicodin®, Norco®, Zohydro®, and others	
Hydromorphone	Dilaudid®	
Meperidine	Demerol®	
Methadone	Dolophine®, Methadose®	
Morphine	Duramorph®, MS Contin®	
Oxycodone	OxyContin®, Percodan®, Percocet®, and others	
Oxymorphone	Opana®	
Amphetamine and Methylphenidate	Adderall®, Concerta®, Ritalin®	Increased alertness, attention, energy; increased blood pressure and heart rate; narrowed blood vessels; increased blood sugar; opened-up breathing passages.



		High doses: dangerously high body temperature, irregular heartbeat, heart disease, seizures
Heroin		Euphoria, collapsed veins, abscesses (swollen tissue with pus), infection of the lining and valves in the heart, constipation and stomach cramps, liver or kidney disease, pneumonia
Hallucinogens		
Psilocybin	Magic mushrooms, shrooms	Hallucinations, altered perception of time, inability to tell fantasy from reality, panic, nausea, vomiting, risk of flashbacks, memory problems
MDMA	Ecstasy, Molly	Lowered inhibition, enhanced sensory perception, sharp rise in body temperature leading to kidney failure or death, long- lasting confusion, depression, problems with attention and memory, increased anxiety
Depressants		
Barbiturates	Pentobarbital (Nembutal®)	Drowsiness, slurred speech, poor concentration, confusion, memory problems, lowered blood pressure, slowed breathing, risk of HIV
Benzodiazepines	A alprazolam (Xanax®), chlordiazepoxide (Librium®), diazepam (Valium®), lorazepam (Ativan®), triazolam (Halcion®)	
Sleep medications	eszopiclone (Lunesta®), zaleplon (Sonata®), zolpidem (Ambien®)	
Gamma-hydroxybutyrate	GHB	
Inhalants		
Various household products	Paint thinners, gasoline, lighter fluids, permanent markers, glue, hair spray, aerosol products, etc.	Confusion, euphoria, hallucination, death from asphyxiation, suffocation, seizures, coma, choking, liver and kidney damage

Other		
Tobacco/Nicotine Cigarettes	Cigarettes, vaping, e-hookah, snuff, chew, Juul	Greatly increased risk of cancer, especially lung cancer when smoked and oral cancers when chewed; chronic bronchitis; emphysema; heart disease; leukemia; cataracts; pneumonia
Cannabis	Cannabis, pot, weed lash	Enhanced sensory perception and euphoria, relaxation, increased heart rate and appetite, problems with learning and memory, anxiety, mental health problems, chronic cough