



Skagit Valley College Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program STUDENT NOTICE

Skagit Valley College is committed to providing effective, quality education for our community. Therefore, the College intends to provide a drug free, healthful, safe, and secure environment. Abuse of controlled substances negatively impacts the educational environment, student performance, and employee, student, and visitor safety. It is the objective of the College to ensure students can learn and participate in campus activities safely alongside fellow students, staff, faculty, visitors, and themselves. The presence of controlled substances in the classroom, and the influence of these substances in the learning or working environment are inconsistent with SVC objectives.

In accordance with the requirements of the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, WAC 132D-150-050 Prohibited SVC Student Conduct, and Skagit Valley College OPPM 3010, all employees, students, and visitors of Skagit Valley College are notified that the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of controlled substances on Skagit Valley College property, or as any part of a College activity is prohibited. This includes the recreational use of marijuana, which is prohibited on college campuses or in connection with college activities by federal law, despite permissible state law. Any employee or student violating SVC policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with applicable collective bargaining stipulations, tenure provisions, Code of Student Conduct, local ordinances, state regulations, and federal laws. Sanctions may include, but are not limited to, referral to a substance abuse treatment program, disciplinary probation or suspension, termination of employment, expulsion from the College, and/or referral to law enforcement authorities for prosecution.

State and federal law prohibits the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs. There are strict penalties for drug offenses, including denial of federal benefits, property forfeiture, monetary fines, and prison sentences.

RCW 69.50 Uniform Controlled Substances Act; [RCW 9A.20.021](#) Maximum

Sentences; [WAC 132D-150-050](#) SVC Prohibited Student Conduct

Title 21 U.S.C. Food and Drugs – Chapter 13 Drug Abuse Prevention and Control, [Subchapter I – Control and Enforcement, Part D](#) – Offenses and Penalties

Skagit Valley College recognizes drug dependency to be an illness and a major health problem. Likewise, the College also distinguishes drug abuse as a potential workplace safety and security concern. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, health risks that have been identified to occur with the use and abuse of illicit drugs and alcohol include HIV, hepatitis and infectious diseases, cardiovascular problems, respiratory problems, gastrointestinal problems, musculoskeletal problems, kidney damage, liver damage, neurological problems, mental health problems, hormonal problems, cancer, prenatal problems, and mortality.

Furthermore, the use of illicit drugs and alcohol may contribute to psychological and emotional problems, including the loss of happiness, self-esteem, and personal relationships. Individuals under the influence of drugs and alcohol can experience problems with memory, attention, and decision-making, which in the college or workplace may contribute to reduced productivity, increased errors, greater risk of accidents, and frequent tardiness and absenteeism.

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It is imperative that Skagit Valley College assume a leadership role in the prevention of substance abuse in the educational environment by providing students with the following education and resources about prevention, counseling, and rehabilitation. Additionally, Skagit Valley College recognizes that substance abuse is a treatable illness and encourages individuals who may be dealing with a substance abuse problem to seek treatment.

National Institute on Drug Abuse

Learn about alcohol and drugs of abuse, health effects, addiction, prevention and treatment
<https://www.drugabuse.gov/>

Drug Watch

Learn about prescription drug addiction, treatment and prevention <https://www.drugwatch.com/drug-addiction/>

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

SAMHSA is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA's mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America's communities. <https://www.samhsa.gov/>

Skagit County Human Services – Behavioral Health

Locate local treatment providers, crisis services, and community health and wellness resources
<http://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/HumanServices/mh.htm>

Island County Human Services – Behavioral Health

Locate local treatment providers, crisis services, and community health and wellness resources
<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/176/Behavioral-Health>

San Juan County Human Services – Behavioral Health

Locate local treatment providers, crisis services, and community health and wellness resources
<http://www.sanjuanco.com/861/Behavioral-Health-Programs>

SVC Counseling Office- (For intervention and referral)

Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm (360)
416-7654 (MV) | (360) 679-5319 (OH)
counselingandadvising@skagit.edu

In addition to the above resources, students may also choose to seek services through their health insurance plan.

Program Procedure

Upon beginning enrollment and on an annual basis, Skagit Valley College will notify all students through distribution of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program Student Notice that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of controlled substances is prohibited on college campuses or in connection with college activities. Upon initial enrollment, students will review the [WAC 132D-150-050 #10](#) referencing alcohol, drug, and tobacco violations that are part of prohibited SVC student conduct.

Every two years, Skagit Valley College will review the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program to determine its effectiveness; assure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced and implement any program changes needed. Records of the program's biennial review are maintained in the Vice President of Student Services office.

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