

Alcohol and Drugs Policy

The following statement describes the Mount Sinai Health System's policy regarding substance abuse for all employees, which include faculty, administration, house staff, students, graduate students, fellows, bargaining, and non-bargaining unit employees. The Icahn School of Medicine has a significant interest in ensuring that the work environment is free from the hazards to patients, employees, and visitors that are created due to the unauthorized use of alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances.

The illegal sale, manufacture, distribution, or unauthorized use of drugs or controlled substances off-duty whether on or off the School of Medicine's premises, or reporting to classes, clerkships, or laboratory research under the influence of unauthorized drugs or controlled substances may constitute grounds for immediate dismissal.

The unauthorized use or possession of alcoholic beverages on the Icahn School of Medicine's premises or reporting to the School under the influence of alcohol also may constitute grounds for immediate dismissal.

The School of Medicine may in its discretion take appropriate disciplinary action up to and including termination or expulsion against anyone who has violated the above rules. In some cases, the individual in question may be referred to the institutional Inappropriate Use of Psychoactive Substances (IUPS) Committee to make recommendations for counseling, treatment and/or monitoring through Student/Trainee Mental Health or another agency. The School is under no obligation to refer an employee or student who has violated the above rules to Student/Trainee Mental Health or to a rehabilitation program. Additional information about the IUPS and processes for students who have been found to abuse substances can be found in this institutional policy: <http://policies.mountsinai.org/web/human-resources/policies/-/policy-management/viewPolicy/83488>

Any employee or student who is suspected of being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug while on duty and who refuses to be medically evaluated or to release the results of such evaluation to the School of Medicine (as employer) or appropriate administrative officer of the School will be relieved from duty and will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 requires Mount Sinai, as a Federal grant recipient and contractor, to certify that it will provide a drug-free workplace. This is accomplished by 1) providing to each employee or student engaged in a federal grant or contracts a copy of The Health System's Drug-Free Workplace policy and statement, and 2) requiring that as a condition of employment under such a grant or contract the employee will:

- Abide by the terms of this Statement; and
- Notify the Director of Human Resources and Labor Relations or his/her designee of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.

A Drug-Free Awareness Program has been established to inform all employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, The Health System's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, the availability of drug counseling, rehabilitation and Student/Trainee Mental Health services, and the potential penalties for drug abuse violations.