

CAIRO AMERICAN COLLEGE
DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE BY STUDENTS

The use of illegal drugs and the abuse of legal drugs by any individual and the consumption of alcohol by any individual under the age of 21 is illegal under Egyptian law. Based on this fact and in order to provide a comprehensive, quality education, Cairo American College is committed to providing a drug and alcohol-free environment and to promoting a healthy lifestyle for all its students. Therefore, CAC's drug and alcohol program shall be comprehensive and aimed at prevention through education, deterrence through testing, counseling, and disciplinary actions.

CAC prohibits the possession, sale or distribution of illegal drugs, legal drugs used in an abusive manner, drug-paraphernalia or alcohol on the CAC campus and on any CAC-related trip or activity. CAC also prohibits the use or being under the influence of illegal drugs, legal drugs used in an abusive manner, or alcohol on the CAC campus and on any CAC-related trip or activity. To ensure such an environment, CAC will vigorously discourage the use of illegal drugs, the abuse of legal drugs and the use of alcohol by its students.

Any sale or distribution of illegal drugs, legal drugs intended for inappropriate use or alcohol on the CAC campus and on any CAC-related trip or activity will result in automatic expulsion.

A first positive test, admission of use, and/or evidence of possession of legal drugs intended for inappropriate use, drug paraphernalia or alcohol on campus and/or on any CAC-related trip or activity will result in a non-punitive support based intervention. A second positive test, admission of use, and/or evidence of possession in the same academic year will result in expulsion. A second positive test, admission of use, and/or evidence of possession in a subsequent academic year will result in a three-day in-school suspension. Likewise, three positive tests, admission of use, and/or evidence of possession in the course of a school career will result in expulsion. The administration's decision in an individual case may be appealed to the Board.

CAC will incorporate appropriate drug and alcohol education in its curriculum. In addition, it will provide special programs and emphases on drug and alcohol education to students, faculty, administration and parents.

Upon establishing a violation of CAC's drug and alcohol policy, a student and his/her family must enter into an appropriate counseling program at their own expense in order for the student to continue to attend CAC. The student must complete counseling sessions and other steps directed by an Individual Action Plan.

At its discretion, CAC may search any item on its campus and property, including all lockers.

Regardless of the student's age or grade level, in circumstances where the administration has reason to believe that a student is in violation of CAC's drug and alcohol policy, CAC may conduct a personal search of the student, including a physical search, drug test, and/or breathalyzer test. If possible, all tests will be done in the presence of the student's parents or guardians. Grounds for testing include, but are not limited to:

1. A student displays commonly accepted symptoms of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
2. A student displays patterns of at-risk behavior such as failure to attend school regularly, frequent tardiness, unacceptable behavior, deterioration of academic performance, frequent sleeping in class, negative changes in attitude, etc.
3. The administration determines that credible information about the violation of CAC's Drug and Alcohol policy exists regarding an individual student, a group of students, or a specific CAC-sponsored trip or activity.

In addition to testing for suspicion in all grade levels, CAC will conduct random testing for all students in grades 8-12.

Every CAC student and his/her parents or guardians shall abide by this policy. As a prerequisite to a student's enrollment and annually thereafter, all parents or guardians of students in grades K-12, and every student in grades 6-12 will sign an agreement to abide by the terms of this policy and its procedures. Refusal to sign this agreement will result in dismissal from CAC.

The REACH committee will support CAC's commitment to helping students make healthy life choices. The committee membership shall be representative of the school community and interested parties such as School Board members, PTO board members, curriculum coordinator, counselors from all levels, faculty, health professionals and Student Council representatives. The committee shall meet not less than twice per semester.

This policy does not preclude the implementation of other consequences and/or sanctions for students involved in additional curricular and extracurricular activities whose specific rules prohibit drug and alcohol use, possession, distribution and/or sale.

