

Pennsylvania College of Technology

Policy Statement

Title: Academic Drug & Alcohol
Screening Policy

Number: P 4.58

Approved by:
Presidential Action

Approved Date: 08/2015
Implementation Date: 08/2015
Last Review Date: 10/2025
Last Revision Date: 10/2025

Persons/Departments Affected:

Students, faculty and staff, Penn College Police, College Health Services,
academic school deans/assistant deans/program directors

Responsible Department:

Academic Affairs

Definitions:

Academic activities – Curriculum-driven activities taking place in instructional settings, including, but not limited to, classrooms, laboratories, testing center, tutoring center, and fieldwork/internship/clinical sites.

Alcohol – Ethyl alcohol (ethanol) as used in any intoxicating beverage or edible product.

Controlled substance – Any substance, the access to which is controlled by law (other than alcohol, but including prescription medicine), that has known mind or function-altering effects that may impair or affect the ability to safely and effectively engage in academic activities.

Drug – A controlled substance or an illegal drug.

Illegal drug – Any form of drug, narcotic, hallucinogen, depressant, stimulant, cannabis, or other substance whose use or possession is prohibited by law and is capable of creating or maintaining impairment or otherwise affecting one's physical, emotional, or mental state.

Dean – The dean of the academic school in which the academic activities are taking place or have taken place. Where "designee" is noted, this may include assistant/associate dean or program director.

Policy:

- I. Penn College complies with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act amendments of 1989. As such, as well as to ensure a safe academic environment, no student shall participate in academic activities while under the influence of alcohol or any drugs (except for prescription medication as addressed below) or while in possession of any illegal drugs. Exceptions as outlined in [P 4.44](#), Alcohol Policy (Student), apply.
- II. The use of prescription medication for which the student has a valid prescription, and which the College determines does not pose a risk to persons or property is not prohibited by this policy.
- III. A student for whom there is reasonable suspicion that they are engaging in any academic activity while under influence of drugs or alcohol will be subject to testing as provided in associated procedure, [PR 4.58](#).
- IV. A student involved in a vehicle or other accident or unsafe practice involving injury to persons or damage to property will be subject to testing as provided in associated procedure, [PR 4.58](#).
- V. A student who refuses to submit to a breath analysis or other drug or alcohol test may be suspended from the College.
- VI. Students found in violation of this policy are subject to sanctions as provided in the associated procedure, [PR 4.58](#).
- VII. A student who is suspended from the College due to a positive drug or alcohol test result or due to refusal to submit to testing at the time of the incident will be subject to the re-admission protocol as defined in the associated procedure, [PR 4.58](#).
- VIII. Students in Nursing & Health Sciences majors are also subject to the terms and conditions stated in [P 4.51](#), Alcohol/Drug Policy: School of Nursing & Health Sciences.

Revision History:

Date: 10/2025 Included cross reference to the Alcohol Policy (Student), P 4.44

Date: 04/2020 Update school name of Nursing & Health Sciences

Date: 08/2015 Implementation of policy.

Cross References:

Academic Drug and Alcohol Screening Procedure, [PR 4.58](#)

Student Conduct Policy and Procedure, [P 4.43](#) and [PR 4.43](#)

[Alcohol Policy \(Student\), P 4.44](#)

Alcohol/Drug Policy: School of Nursing & Health Sciences, [P 4.51](#)