

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY (Approved by CON Faculty 4/22/05)

Students enrolled in the College of Nursing are subject to the regulations found in the USC Carolina Community Student Handbook and Policy Guide <http://www.sa.sc.edu/carolinacommunity> and the ethical standards of the Nursing profession as described in the ANA Code of Ethics <http://www.ana.org/ethics/chcode.htm>. A student in the College of Nursing is also bound to conduct him/herself according to the professional standards set forth by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation Board of Nursing in Laws Governing Nursing in South Carolina (Revised 1999) <http://www.scstatehouse.net/coderegs/c091.htm>. Conduct should be in conformity with the high moral and ethical standards of a professional as well as within the legal constraints of any law-abiding community.

Use of substances that interfere with judgment and/or motor coordination poses unacceptable risk for the student, clients, the University, faculty members, and health care agencies. The use of alcohol, illegal drugs, or the misuse of legal therapeutic drugs by nursing students while engaged in any portion of their educational experience is a violation of the ANA Code of Ethics, Laws Governing Nursing in SC, and College of Nursing and Carolina Community Policies and is strictly prohibited and may result in dismissal.

If a faculty member, staff, or student suspects a College of Nursing student to have actual or potential impairment, the Assistant Dean for Student Services should be notified immediately. This notification will result in a confidential, preliminary inquiry including a mandatory meeting of the potentially impaired student with the Assistant Dean and other appropriate persons. Based on the outcome of this meeting, no further action may be recommended, or the Director of Judicial Affairs in the Office of Student Judicial Programs may be notified requesting immediate referral for evaluation for potential drug and/or alcohol abuse and/or violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

If an evaluation by Student Judicial Programs results in identification of drug and/or alcohol abuse, the student will be required to withdraw from the College of Nursing. If after appropriate verification that the student has achieved a state of recovery that is appropriate for continuance in the University of South Carolina and the College of Nursing, the student may petition the College of Nursing for possible readmission to the nursing program.