



**Colorado  
Northwestern  
Community College**

## **Drug-Free Schools and Community Act**

### **Biennial Review**

**2016-2017**

**2017-2018**

**January 2021**



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## President's Review and Approval

The Colorado Northwestern Community College 2018 Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Biennial has been reviewed and approved for release and posting on the CNCC Website.



**President**

January 26, 2021

**Date**

### **Colorado Northwestern Community College Overview**

Colorado Northwestern Community College (CNCC) has a campus in Rangely and Craig Colorado. For the purposes of this report which covers the years from 2016 to 2018 CNCC had two service centers, one in Meeker and the other in Oak Creek Colorado. These two service centers were closed in 2019. CNCC serves approximately 1800 students with the student population that is diverse in age, race and ethnicity. The programs that are offered are as diverse as the student-body. CNCC offers several world-class Arts and Science Degree programs that feature guaranteed transfer to Colorado four-year institutions. CNCC also offers a variety of Career and Technical programs designed to provide training for students to enter the workforce immediately after course work is completed.

The Rangely campus has three co-ed residence halls that can house up to 225 students. The residence halls are staffed by two full-time employees and supported by 10-12 student residence hall assistants.

The residence hall staff are trained and instructed to provide assistance for students that reside in the halls on a variety of needs and issues. They also educate and if needed, enforce campus and housing policies related to drug and alcohol use within the college community. CNCC staff and community are dedicated to providing opportunities for students to succeed and creating a safe environment free from illegal drug and alcohol abuse.

Colorado Northwestern Community College is a state system college governed by the State Board for Community Colleges and Occupational Education Board Policy requires the College to comply with the [Drug Free Schools and Communities Amendments of 1989](#) (PL 101 226 in Federal law). A copy of this law is on file with the Human Resource Office.

### **Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA)**

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) of 1989 - also known as the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act - requires institutions of higher education to establish policies that address unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs for faculty, staff and students.

The DFSCA requires the establishment of a drug and alcohol prevention program, which includes the notification below. All members of the CNCC community are encouraged to review the notification and information on the linked pages.

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act requires that each institution distribute the following in writing to all students and employees annually:

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school property or as part of any school activities for employee drug free workplace policies [BP 3-24](#) & [SP 3-24](#) and students Drug Free Schools [BP 19-30](#) & [SP 19-30](#).
- A description of the applicable legal sanctions under federal, state, or local law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
- A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol;
- A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that are available to employees or students;
- A clear statement that the institution will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees (consistent with federal, state, or local law), and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of established standards of conduct.

### **Biennial Review**

The biennial review took place on January 20, 2021 and discussed the following:

- Determine the program's effectiveness and implement changes to the program if the changes are needed.
- Determine the number of drug and alcohol-related violations and fatalities that—
  - (i) occur on the institution's campus or as part of any of the institution's activities; and
  - (ii) are reported to campus officials
- Determine the number and type of sanctions that are imposed by the institution as a result of drug and alcohol-related violations and fatalities on the institution's campus or as part of any of the institution's activities.
- Ensure that the sanctions are consistently enforced.

The biennial review consisted of representatives from Student Services, Campus Safety, Student Housing, Human Resources and other student services. The review was represented by both the Rangely and Craig Campus.

Data was reviewed for the fiscal 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 school years. Although several of the members of the review board were not employed at CNCC during the two years being reviewed it was determined that significant efforts have been made to meet the needs of students and employees regarding illegal drug and alcohol activities. It was also determined that CNCC has increased their efforts in the mental health area and providing more educational opportunities for students dealing with mental health and Covid-19 issues.

The President of Colorado Northwestern Community College acknowledges the Biennial Report and Review by a signed statement. The Biennial Report and Review is kept on file at CNCC and can be produced in case of an audit by the Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Prevention, a designee of the Department of Education. Copies of the report are also maintained in the Human Resources Office, Safe Campus Office and Student Services.

Copies of the CNCC Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Biennial Review report may be obtained by submitting a written request to the Campus Safety Coordinator, 500 Kennedy Drive, Rangely, CO 81648.

The report can also be found on CNCC's website under Consumer Information

<https://www.cncc.edu/consumer-information>

### **CNCC Policies and Procedures**

Colorado Northwestern Community College (CNCC) works to provide an environment that is free of alcohol and drug abuse. It is a violation of college policy for any faculty, staff, or student body to jeopardize the operation or interests of CNCC through the use of alcohol and drugs. Employees found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline up to and including termination. Violation of the policy by students will also result in disciplinary sanctions up to and including expulsion. Violations may also be referred to the proper authority for prosecution. The college reserves the right to enter student rooms in order to assist local authorities to enforce civil and criminal statutes. Staff, faculty, and students are also subjected to appropriate enforcement regarding the inappropriate or illegal use of alcohol or drugs on campus and at other college sponsored activities and events.

Compliance with the alcohol and drug policies is a condition of employment for all employees. Each employee, including students under the federal and state work-study programs, are informed of the policy at hire and are required to sign and acknowledgment of compliance as a condition of employment.

CNCC is committed to providing information to students, faculty and staff regarding the dangers of alcohol and drug abuse and providing appropriate information and resources to deter such abuse.

CNCC policies and procedures can be accessed on the website at [www.cncc.edu](http://www.cncc.edu). Faculty and staff are instructed by HR and administration on how to navigate the website to access information pertinent to a Drug-Free Workplace. Students can locate the necessary information by searching either drugs or alcohol policies or through the Student Handbook.

Employees: At the time of hire, all new employees are provided a copy of the System President's Procedures and the State Board Policy related to Drug-Free Workplace. Each employee receives a copy of the policy (<https://internal.cccs.edu/system-presidents-procedures/sp-3-24-drug-free-workplace/>) and signs an Employee Acknowledgement Form verifying receipt and compliance with the policy as a condition of employment.

Students: CNCC drug and alcohol policy along with the Student Code of Conduct can be found in the Student Handbook on the official website managed by the college under "Student Right-to-Know" section. Previous handbooks can also be found and viewed at <https://cncc.edu/handbook>.

### **Alcohol Policy**

Colorado Northwestern Community College is a dry campus. Use, possession, presence of alcohol or alcohol paraphernalia is prohibited. While in the Colorado Northwestern Community College residence halls, residence hall students and their guests will not:

Sell, use, possess (including possession by consumption) or provide beverages containing alcohol to any residence hall student;

Possess empty or full kegs of beer, or other common source containers of alcohol (e.g., beer bottles, pony kegs, boxed wine, etc.).

Use or possess open beverages containing alcohol in public areas.

Possess paraphernalia used for drinking excessive amounts of alcohol, such as keg taps or “beer bongs” are prohibited in the residence halls and will be confiscated.

### **Drug Policy**

While in the Colorado Northwestern Community College residence halls, residence hall students and their guests will not: Sell, use or possess illegal drugs (including possession by consumption) In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, it is the policy of Colorado Northwestern Community College to provide an educational environment that is free of alcohol and drug abuse. The unlawful manufacture, possession, distribution and/or use of controlled substances, drugs, intoxicants, or stimulants is prohibited in/on College owned or controlled property. Violations of this policy will result in disciplinary sanctions up to an including expulsion. Violations may also be referred to the proper authority for prosecution. The College reserves the right to enter student rooms in order to assist local authorities to enforce civil and criminal statutes. Detection of drug paraphernalia, marijuana odor, or a reasonable suspicion of drug use will subject a student to disciplinary action.

### **Health Issues Associated with Drug Use**

Stimulants: These include amphetamines and cocaine that stimulate the central and peripheral nervous system and the cardio-vascular system, resulting in decreased fatigue, interference with sleep patterns and decreased appetite. Health risks include drug-induced psychiatric disturbances, strokes, and destruction of nasal tissue, bronchitis, skin ulcers, increased heart rate, and increased heart rate to cardiac fibrillation, heart attack and death.

Depressants: These include barbiturates, tranquilizers and methaqualone (“soapers”). Possible effects include disorientation and loss of coordination. An overdose can cause coma or death. Depressants taken in combination with alcohol are especially dangerous.

Hallucinogens: These include lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD, aka “acid”). Health risks include drug-induced hallucinations and other psychiatric disturbances. Birth defects in user’s children could also result. Overdose can result in psychosis episodes and even death.

Cannabis: These include marijuana and hashish. Chronic use can result in respiratory difficulties, bronchitis, impairment of heart contraction, impairment of fertility, increased rate of chromosomes breakage and acute memory impairment. Episodic use can result in panic reactions. As with alcohol, impaired perceptions and motor functions, and inability to carry out multi-step tasks, contribute to motor vehicle crashes and other trauma.

Narcotics: These include heroin, morphine, codeine and opium. Risks include infection, malnutrition, hepatitis and respiratory depression. Overdose can result in coma and possible death. Inhalants These include aerosol products, lighter fluid and paint thinner. Associated health risks include paralysis; damage to lungs, brain, liver and bone marrow; hallucinations; convulsions; coma; and death.

## **Federal Sanctions for Drugs**

Under Federal law, the manufacture, sale, or distribution of all Schedule I and II illicit drugs (e.g., cocaine, meth-amphetamines, heroin, PCP, LSD, Fentanyl, and all mixtures containing such substances) is a felony.

For first offenses, maximum penalties range from five years to life (20 years to life if death or serious injury is involved) and fines up to \$4 million for offenses by individuals (\$20 million for other than individuals).

Penalties vary depending upon the quantity of drugs involved.

Federal law also prohibits trafficking of marijuana, hashish and mixtures containing such substances.

For illegal trafficking medically useful drugs (e.g., prescription and over-the-counter drugs), maximum prison sentences for first offenses range up to five years, and up to 10 years for second offenses.

Federal law also prohibits illegal possession of controlled substances, with prison sentences up to one year and fines up to \$100,000 for first offenses, imprisonment up to two years and fines up to \$250,000 for second offenses.

Special sentencing provisions apply for possession of crack cocaine, including imprisonment of five to 20 years and fines up to \$250,000 for first offenses, depending upon the quantity of crack possessed.

Medicinal Marijuana: Colorado Northwestern Community College policy does not allow students to use, possess, transport, or sell marijuana or paraphernalia in or on its facilities or property. Medical and recreational Marijuana use is not permitted under Federal Law or recognized by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), and its use in any form is not permitted on College property or during sponsored activities as a condition of compliance with Federal Law.

## **18-18-405 CRS – Colorado Sale of a Controlled Substance**

Unlawful distribution, manufacturing, dispensing, or sale of drugs in Colorado: It is a crime in Colorado to sell, manufacture or dispense a controlled substance, or to possess a controlled substance with the intent to sell it, unless you are authorized by law to do so.

Sale and possession with intent to sell are usually Colorado felonies, depending on the substance and the amount sold and/or possessed.

Consequences of selling a controlled substance in Colorado: Selling controlled substances or possessing them with intent to sell them is a more serious crime than simple possession of controlled substances in Colorado for personal use.

The penalty for unlawfully selling drugs in Colorado can range from as little as misdemeanor probation to up to 32 years in prison and a fine of up to \$1,000,000 for large-scale manufacturing and/or distribution. The exact penalty for unlawful drug sales and/or possession depends on factor such as:

- The type of drug,
- The quantity involved, and
- Whether you have a prior felony record.

## **Colorado State Sentencing and Penalty Sanctions for Substance/Drug Related Charges**

- Schedule I or II, 1<sup>st</sup> offense Class 3 Felony 4-12 years in prison and fines from \$3000-\$750,000
- Schedule III, 1<sup>st</sup> offense Class 4 felony 2-6 years in prison and fines of \$2000-\$500,000
- Schedule IV, 1<sup>st</sup> offense Class 5 felony 1-3 years in prison and fines of \$1000-\$100,000
- Schedule V, 1<sup>st</sup> offense Class 1 misdemeanor 6-18 months in jail and fines of \$500-\$5000

## **Colorado Northwestern Community College Prevention and Education Programs**

CNCC uses both Resident Assistant Training and New Student Orientation to teach students about the dangers of drug and alcohol use on campus. In those settings campus policy is emphasized as well as providing information and tools to help students make healthy decisions.

## **CARE and Mental Health**

Faculty and staff can bring students of concern who might struggle with alcohol and drugs to the attention of the CARE (Campus Assessment, Resource, and Evaluation) team and/or the mental health provider. Students are screened which helps to determine if an outside referral for substance abuse treatment can be recommended. Rangely has a Certified Addictions Counselor III at Mind Springs Health who can provide further care. Craig has Providence Recovery, Alternative to Addiction, and Mind Springs Health who can also see students for substance abuse treatment.

CNCC's mental health team offers workshops each semester to assist students with mental health issues. Although the workshops are not drug and alcohol specific they indirectly help students cope with mental health issues that could lead them to avoid inappropriate or illegal use of drugs and alcohol.

## **Resident Assistant Training**

Resident assistants are trained regarding personal conduct and the importance of being the example to the students they supervise in the housing areas. They are educated regarding the Student Handbook and the implications it can have on students. The RA's plan and implement programs aimed at educating students regarding student conduct and the inappropriate use of alcohol and drugs. They also participate in the planning and implementing sessions on "Making Healthy Choices" which are designed to provide the following objectives:

- Provide a component for students to experience making health life choices.
- Set the stage for a positive, healthy culture at CNCC.
- Set clear expectations of students functioning as responsible adults and within the student code of conduct.
- Highlight the consequences of making both positive and negative choices, as students functioning as responsible adults and within the student code of conduct.
- Discuss healthy choices in the context of stress, sleep, alcohol and other drugs, relationships, nutrition and/or topics relevant to success in college.

## **Alcohol and Drug Policy Violations**

CNCC has a Safe Campus Office and coordinator that is housed in the Rangely Campus and coordinates services on both the Craig and Rangely Campus. All violations are investigated and handled in a consistent and judicial manner. Relationships with law enforcement is a high priority and the Safe

Campus Coordinator works directly with each agency to ensure the both campuses are safe and the appropriate action is taken on each violation particularly those that are violations of law.

Information of drug and alcohol incidents can be found in the CNCC Annual Security Report which is available at <https://www.cncc.edu/campus-safety/>.

**Statistics**

The information provided below reflects the statistics for drug and alcohol violations reported to and investigated by the Safe Campus Office, Student Housing, and Student Services as pertaining to the Student Code of Conduct at CNCC. These statistics are for the 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic school years.

2016-2017 Academic Year			2017-2018 Academic Year	
Offense	On Campus	Public Area	On Campus	Public Area
Liquor Law	10	4	0	4
Drug Law	3	3	4	3
Fatalities	0	0	0	0