
Chemical Health for Student Athletes

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4 The Madison Board of Education (the “Board”) participates in the Connecticut
5 Interscholastic Athletic Conference (“CIAC”). In accordance with CIAC participation
6 rules and the Board’s obligation under state and federal law, the Board prohibits the
7 unauthorized use, sale, distribution or possession of controlled drugs, controlled
8 substances, drug paraphernalia, performance enhancing substances or alcohol during any
9 school-sponsored athletic activity, whether occurring on or off school property. It shall
10 be the policy of the Board to take positive action through education, counseling,
11 discipline, parental involvement, medical referral, and law enforcement referral, as
12 appropriate, in the handling of incidents by student athletes involving the possession,
13 distribution, sale or use of substances that affect behavior, including performance-
14 enhancing substances. This policy applies to all student athletes participating in school-
15 sponsored athletics, whether or not such athletes are participating in CIAC controlled
16 activities.

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18 Definitions

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20 (1) Controlled Drugs: means those drugs which contain any quantity of a substance
21 which has been designated as subject to the federal Controlled Substances Act, 21
22 U.S.C. § 801 *et seq.*, or which has been designated as a depressant or stimulant drug
23 pursuant to federal food and drug laws, or which has been designated by the
24 Commissioner of Consumer Protection pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes
25 Section 21a-243, as having a stimulant, depressant or hallucinogenic effect upon the
26 higher functions of the central nervous system and as having a tendency to promote
27 abuse or psychological or physiological dependence, or both. Such controlled drugs
28 are classifiable as amphetamine-type, barbiturate-type, cannabis-type, cocaine-type,
29 hallucinogenic, morphine-type and other stimulant and depressant drugs. Connecticut
30 General Statutes Section 21a-240(8).

- 32 (2) Controlled Substances: means a drug, substance or immediate precursor in schedules
33 I to V, inclusive, of the Connecticut controlled substance scheduling regulations
34 adopted pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 21a-243 and 21a-240(9).
35
- 36 (3) Drug Paraphernalia: means any equipment, products and materials of any kind which
37 are used, intended for use or designed for use in planting, propagating, cultivating,
38 growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing,
39 processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing
40 or concealing, or injecting, ingesting, inhaling or otherwise introducing any controlled
41 substance into the human body, including but not limited to all items specified in
42 Connecticut General Statutes Section 21a-240(20)(A), such as "bongs," pipes, "roach
43 clips," miniature cocaine spoons, cocaine vials, and any object or container used,
44 intended or designed for use in storing, concealing, possessing, distributing or selling
45 controlled substances. Connecticut General Statutes Section 21a-240(20)(A).
46
- 47 (4) Performance Enhancing Substances: means any anabolic steroid, hormone or
48 analogue, diuretic or other substance designed to enhance a student's performance
49 in athletic competition, except when used under the care and direction of a licensed
50 medical professional and only then in the manner prescribed by the medical
51 professional and manufacturer's recommendations.
52
- 53 (5) Professional Communication: means any communication made privately and in
54 confidence by a student to a professional employee of such student's school in the
55 course of the professional employee's employment. Connecticut General Statutes
56 Section 10-154a(a)(4).
57
- 58 (6) Professional Employee: means a person employed by a school who (A) holds a
59 certificate from the State Board of Education, (B) is a member of a faculty where
60 certification is not required, (C) is an administration officer of a school, or (D) is a
61 registered nurse employed by or assigned to a school. Connecticut General Statutes
62 Section 10-154a(a)(2).

63

64 (7) Student Athlete: means any student participating in an extracurricular school-
65 sponsored athletic activity, whether interscholastic or intramural, including but not
66 limited to student athletes who are participating in CIAC controlled activities.

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68 Procedures

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70 (1) Discretionary Nature of Student Athletics

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72 The Board sponsors athletic programs as part of its extracurricular program. The
73 opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities such as student athletics is a
74 privilege, not a right. The Board may remove students from participation in athletics
75 activities in its discretion.

76

77 (2) Emergencies.

78

79 If an emergency situation results from the use of drugs, performance enhancing
80 substances or alcohol, the student athlete shall be sent to the school nurse or medical
81 advisor immediately, or emergency medical personnel will be notified. The parent or
82 designated responsible person will also be notified as soon as possible.

83

84 (3) Prescribed Medications.

85

86 The parent or guardian of any student athlete who is required to take any prescribed
87 medication during student athletic activities shall so inform the school nurse or the
88 person designated to act in the absence of a nurse. Such prescribed medication will
89 then be administered to the student athlete under the supervision of the school nurse
90 or designee in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-212a and the
91 applicable regulations and in accordance with any Board policies and regulations
92 concerning medication administration, except as provided below.

93

94 Student athletes taking improper amounts of a prescribed medication, or taking a
95 prescribed medication without proper notification and supervision of the school nurse
96 or designee, will be subject to the procedures for improper drug or alcohol use
97 outlined in this policy.

98
99 Student athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for
100 regular use of performance enhancing substances for therapeutic purposes shall not be
101 considered to be in violation of this policy when such substances are properly
102 prescribed and taken by the student athlete in accordance with Connecticut General
103 Statutes Section 10-212a and the applicable regulations and in accordance with any
104 Board policies and regulations concerning medication administration.

105
106 Student athletes with a documented medical history demonstrating the need for
107 regular, palliative use of marijuana shall not be considered to be in violation of this
108 policy when such substance is properly prescribed and taken by the student athlete in
109 accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Sections 21a-408a through 408q.
110 Under no circumstances shall the school nurse or designee administer to the student,
111 or permit the palliative use of marijuana by the student, on a school bus, school
112 grounds or property, in public places or in the presence of persons under the age of
113 eighteen.

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115
116 (4) Voluntary Disclosure of Drug/Alcohol Problem (Self-Referral).

117
118 The following procedures will be followed when a student athlete privately, and in
119 confidence, discloses to a professional employee in a professional communication
120 information concerning the student's use, possession, distribution or sale of a
121 controlled drug, controlled substance or alcohol.

122
123 (a) Professional employees are permitted, in their professional judgment, to disclose
124 any information acquired through a professional communication with a student,

125 when such information concerns alcohol or drug abuse or any alcohol or drug
126 problem of such student athlete. In no event, however, will they be required to do
127 so. Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-154a(b).

128

129 (b) Any physical evidence obtained from such student athlete through a professional
130 communication indicating that a crime has been or is being committed by the
131 student athlete **must** be turned over to school administrators or law enforcement
132 officials as soon as possible, but no later than two calendar days after receipt of
133 such physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Employees
134 are encouraged to contact the school administrator immediately upon obtaining
135 physical evidence. In no case, however, will such employee be required to
136 disclose the name of the student athlete from whom the evidence was obtained.
137 Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-154a(b).

138

139 (c) Any professional employee who has received a professional communication from
140 a student athlete may obtain advice and information concerning appropriate
141 resources and refer the student athlete accordingly, subject to the rights of the
142 professional employee as described in paragraph (a) above.

143

144 (d) If a student athlete consents to disclosure of a professional communication
145 concerning the student athlete's alcohol or drug problem, or if the professional
146 employee deems disclosure to be appropriate, the professional employee should
147 report the student athlete's name and problem to the school's building
148 administrator or designee who shall refer the student athlete to appropriate school
149 staff members for intervention and counseling.

150

151 (5) Involuntary Disclosure or Discovery of Drug/Alcohol Problems.

152

153 When any school staff member, or a coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in
154 student athletic programs, obtains information related to a student athlete **from a**
155 **source other than the student athlete's confidential disclosure**, that the student

156 athlete, on or off school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, is unlawfully under
157 the influence of, or unlawfully possesses, uses, dispenses, distributes, administers,
158 sells or aids in the procurement of a controlled drug, controlled substance, drug
159 paraphernalia, performance enhancing substances or alcohol, that information is
160 considered to be involuntarily disclosed. In this event, the following procedures will
161 apply.

162
163 (a) The staff member, coach or volunteer will immediately report the information to
164 the building administrator or designee. The building administrator or designee
165 will then refer the student athlete to appropriate school staff members for
166 intervention and counseling.

167
168 (b) Any physical evidence (for example, alcohol, drugs, drug paraphernalia or
169 performance enhancing substances) obtained from a student athlete indicating that
170 a crime has been or is being committed by the student athlete must be turned over
171 to the building administrator or designee or to law enforcement officials as soon
172 as possible, but no later than within two calendar days after receipt of such
173 physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Connecticut
174 General Statutes Section 10-154a(b). The name of the student athlete must be
175 disclosed to the building administrator or designee.

176
177 (c) Search and Seizure of Students and/or Possessions: A staff member, coach or
178 volunteer who reasonably suspects that a student athlete is violating a state/federal
179 law, school substance abuse policy or this chemical health policy must
180 **immediately** report such suspicion to the building administrator or designee. The
181 building administrator or designee may then search a student athlete's person or
182 possessions connected to that person, in accordance with the Board's policies and
183 regulations if such employee has reasonable suspicion from the inception of the
184 search that the student athlete has violated or is violating either the law, a school
185 substance abuse policy, or this chemical health policy.

187 Any physical evidence obtained in the search of a student athlete, or a student
188 athlete's possessions, indicating that the student athlete is violating or has violated
189 a state or federal law **must** be turned over to law enforcement officials as soon as
190 possible, but not later than within three calendar days after receipt of such
191 physical evidence, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Connecticut
192 General Statutes Section 10-154a(c). All school employees are encouraged to
193 contact the school administration immediately upon obtaining physical evidence.
194

195 (6) Consequences for the Use, Sale, Distribution or Possession of Controlled Drugs,
196 Controlled Substances, Drug Paraphernalia, Performance Enhancing Substances or
197 Alcohol.
198

199 (a) Any student athlete in the Madison Public Schools using, consuming, possessing,
200 being under the influence of, manufacturing, distributing, selling or aiding in the
201 procurement of controlled drugs, controlled substances, drug paraphernalia,
202 performance enhancing substances or alcohol, either on or off school property, or
203 at a school-sponsored activity, except as such use or possession is in accordance
204 with Connecticut General Statutes Sections 21a-408a through 408q, is subject to
205 discipline up to and including expulsion pursuant to the Board's student discipline
206 policy. On and after January 1, 2022, a student shall not face greater discipline,
207 punishment or sanction for the use, sale, or possession of cannabis on school
208 property than a student would face for the use, sale, or possession of alcohol on
209 school property, except as otherwise required by applicable law.
210

211 (b) Student athletes found to be in violation this policy may be referred by the
212 building administrator to an appropriate agency licensed to assess and treat drug
213 and alcohol involved individuals. In such event, assessment and treatment costs
214 will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.
215

216 (c) A meeting may be scheduled with appropriate school staff members for the
217 purpose of discussing the school's drug and alcohol policy and this chemical
218 health policy with the student athlete and parent or guardian.

219
220 (d) Law enforcement officials may be contacted by the building administrator in the
221 case of suspected involvement in the use, sale or distribution of controlled drugs,
222 controlled substances, drug paraphernalia, performance enhancing substances or
223 alcohol.

224
225 (e) A student athlete found by the administration to have violated this policy may, in
226 the discretion of school administrators, be suspended from play for short or long
227 term periods, or may have student athletic participation privileges revoked.

228
229 (f) A student athlete found by the administration to have used performance enhancing
230 substances shall receive a minimum penalty of revocation of athletic participation
231 privileges for one hundred eighty (180) days. The Board shall report the violation
232 to the CIAC.

233
234 (g) The Board recognizes that the CIAC may impose additional sanctions on student
235 athletes participating in CIAC controlled activities who are found to have violated
236 this policy.

237
238 (7) Prohibition on the Promotion or Dispensing of Performance Enhancing Substances by
239 School Staff Members, Coaches or Volunteers.

240
241 (a) No school staff member, coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in student
242 athletic programs shall dispense any drug, medication (prescription or non-
243 prescription), or food supplement to any student athlete except under the
244 supervision of the school nurse or designee in accordance with Connecticut
245 General Statutes Section 10-212a and the applicable regulations, and in

246 accordance with any Board policies and regulations concerning medication
247 administration.

248

249 (b) No school staff member, coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in student
250 athletic programs shall encourage the use of any drug, medication (prescription or
251 non-prescription), or food supplement in a manner not described by the
252 manufacturer.

253

254 (c) No school staff member, coach or volunteer responsible for or involved in student
255 athletic programs shall supply, recommend, or knowingly permit student athletes
256 to use any drug, medication (prescription or non-prescription), or food supplement
257 for the specific purpose of enhancing their athletic performance.

258

259 (d) A school staff member, or coach responsible for or involved in student athletic
260 programs, who violates the terms of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to
261 and including termination of employment. The Board may also report violations
262 of this policy by employees to parents of student athletes and/or state and local
263 authorities.

264

265 (e) The Board shall immediately terminate a volunteer responsible for or involved in
266 student athletic programs who violates the terms of this policy. The Board may
267 also report violations of this policy by volunteers to parents of student athletes
268 and/or state and local authorities.

269

270 (8) Publication of Chemical Health Policy to School Staff Members, Coaches, Volunteers
271 and Student Athletes.

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273 (a) The Board shall publish this chemical health policy to all school staff members,
274 coaches and volunteers responsible for or involved in student athletic programs.

275

276 (b) The Board shall publish this chemical health policy to all student athletes and
277 their parents/guardians.

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282 Legal References:

283 Connecticut General Statutes:

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285 June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-1, An Act Concerning
286 Responsible and Equitable Regulation of Adult-Use Cannabis

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288 Section 10-154a

289 Section 10-212a

290 Section 10-221

291 Section 21a-240

292 Section 21a-243

293 Sections 21a-408a through 408q

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295 2021-2022 CIAC Handbook, Section 4.12.E (Chemical Health Policy and
296 Regulations), available at https://www.casciac.org/pdfs/ciachandbook_2122.pdf

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298 ADOPTED: _____

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