

Effective Date: 4/2/99

POLICY

Authority: Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and
Federal Drug-Free Schools & Communities Act Amd. of 1989
Approved by: Board of Trustees 4/2/99

POL-U7400.01 – POLICY CONCERNING ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS

This policy applies to all university faculty, employees, and students.

BACKGROUND

The Federal Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Federal Drug-Free schools and Communities Act amendments of 1989 require that universities promote reduction of risk associated with alcohol and other drug use through adoption and implementation of a policy and program designed to educate the university community about the dangers of alcohol and other drug abuse and to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on university property or while involved in university business or activities.

Abuse of Alcohol and Other Drugs Can Impair Ability and Endanger Others

Abuse of alcohol and other drugs can impair academic ability, work performance, relationships, and personal health and safety. Additionally, the safety of others may be placed at risk by an individual under the influence of alcohol and other drugs.

Diversity of opinion and freedom of choice are concepts which are essential parts of the university educational tradition. This freedom requires the exercise of personal responsibility, including the obligation to make informed decisions regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs. It also requires personal responsibility for the consequences of one's own actions.

WWU is Committed to Drug and Alcohol-Free Environment

POLICY. Western Washington University is committed to an environment which is free of alcohol and other drug abuse

for students, faculty and staff. It maintains this commitment in support of academic excellence, work performance and quality of life as well as for the future well-being of all members of this community.

Western Washington University provides: (a) information about alcohol and other drugs and the reduction of associated risks; (b) appropriate intervention when alcohol or other drug use creates unwanted or unintended consequences; and (c) support for members of this community in reducing the risk of consequences associated with alcohol and other drug abuse.

Western Washington University will uphold state and federal laws pertaining to alcohol and other drug use. All students, faculty and staff are required to comply with these laws. Action will be taken on any violation of State and Federal law or University regulations concerning alcohol and other drugs which (a) occurs in or on property controlled or owned by Western Washington University; or (b) involves University business or activities; or (c) relates directly and materially to the fitness of staff or faculty members in their professional capacities.