



# Operating Protocol & Procedure

## Details:

Number: 816

Title: Marijuana Use On College Premises

Category: Facilities

Office of Primary Responsibility: Dean of Students

Approval Date: 4/11/16

Effective Date: 4/11/16

Revised: N/A

Reviewed: December 2024

## Purpose:

The purpose of the operating protocol is to clearly define the prohibition of marijuana use on the premises of all Pueblo Community College campuses.

## Applicability:

All students, staff, faculty, and visitors of any PCC campus

## Definitions:

None

## References:

[Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989](#) (Public Law 101-226)

[PCC Student Handbook](#), Student Code of Conduct, Misconduct, #9

PCC Operating Protocol-Procedure 240, [Reasonable Suspicion Drug and Alcohol Testing](#)

## Attachments:

None

## Operating Protocol:

Pueblo Community College will comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989 (Public Law 101-226), which states that students, staff, or faculty shall not engage in the unauthorized or unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, use/abuse of alcohol and/or illicit drugs on college property or as part of any college activity.

While marijuana can be legally purchased and consumed in one's home in Colorado, Pueblo Community College does not allow individuals to possess, consume, distribute, sell, or be under the influence of marijuana

on any campus or ancillary site associated with the institution including vehicles parked on college premises. Should an employee or student be deemed to be impaired by the use of marijuana or any other substance, they will be subject to disciplinary action or expulsion.

Furthermore, possession of a state of Colorado medical marijuana card does not entitle a student, employee, or visitor to possess or use marijuana on the premises of any PCC campus or ancillary site. Although possession and use of marijuana for certain medical conditions, consistent with the requirements of the Colorado Constitution, is no longer a crime in the state of Colorado, the possession and use of marijuana remains illegal under federal law. Consistent with federal law, including the Controlled Substances Act and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, the use and/or possession of marijuana continues to be prohibited while a student, employee, or visitor is on college owned or college controlled property, and/or any function authorized or supervised by the college and/or in state owned or leased vehicles.

The college will impose penalties against students who violate the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226). Violators will be subject to disciplinary action under student disciplinary policies. The sanctions include, but are not limited to probation, suspension, or expulsion from the college, termination of student employment, and referral to authorities for prosecution, as appropriate and are further detailed in the Student Code of Conduct found in the PCC Student Handbook. Employees may be subject to corrective and/or disciplinary action as per State Personnel Rules and Regulations, up to and including termination. Visitors will be referred to the Department of Public Safety for further action, which could include removal from the campus.

#### Procedure:

If a student is suspected of being under the influence or in possession of marijuana, the observer should contact the Department of Public Safety or designee at their campus. The staff or faculty should also complete a Behavior Reporting Form (found on the Portal) to notify the College of the situation and the reasons for suspicion of use of marijuana or other drugs.

If an employee is suspected of being under the influence or in possession of marijuana, the observer should follow the procedures stated in PCC Operating Protocol-Procedure 240, Reasonable Suspicion Drug and Alcohol Testing.

If a visitor is suspected of being under the influence or in possession of marijuana, the observer should contact the Department of Public Safety or designee at their campus.