



DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM (DAAPP)

2026 Annual Program and Policy Statement

Prism Career Institute

Philadelphia, PA • Cherry Hill, NJ • West Atlantic City, NJ

Program Owner	Director of Operations / Compliance
Applies To	All students and employees
Revised	August 2026
Annual Distribution	Distributed with the Annual Security Report (ASR)

Prism Career Institute maintains this Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program to support a safe educational and working environment and to satisfy the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and 34 CFR Part 86. The program combines standards of conduct, prevention information, legal and health-risk information, available support resources, institutional sanctions, annual distribution, and biennial review.

1. Purpose and Regulatory Basis

Prism Career Institute (Prism) is committed to maintaining an educational and workplace environment free from unlawful drug use, drug distribution, and alcohol misuse. This program applies to all students and employees at Prism locations and during Prism-sponsored or supervised activities.

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and its implementing regulations require participating institutions of higher education to adopt and implement a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. At a minimum, Prism distributes written information annually concerning standards of conduct, legal sanctions, health risks, treatment or rehabilitation resources, and institutional sanctions.

Primary federal authorities include 20 U.S.C. § 1011i, 34 CFR Part 86, and applicable Title IV participation requirements.

2. Standards of Conduct

Prism prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of controlled substances and prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol on Prism property or during any Prism-sponsored, supervised, or institution-related activity.

Students and employees may not report to class, clinical, externship, work, or another Prism activity while impaired in a manner that creates a safety risk, disrupts the educational or working environment, or prevents the individual from safely performing required responsibilities.

The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs, misuse of prescription medication, or use of another person's prescription medication is prohibited. Prescription and over-the-counter medications must be used only as directed and in a manner consistent with safety requirements.

State authorization of a substance does not by itself authorize possession or use on Prism property or during Prism activities. Questions involving prescribed medication, medical cannabis, or another state-authorized substance should be directed to Student Services/Campus Administration for students or Human Resources for employees so that any request can be addressed under applicable law and institutional safety requirements.

3. Institutional Response and Sanctions

Violations are addressed under the applicable Student Code of Conduct, employee policies, safety requirements, and other institutional procedures. Prism considers the circumstances of the conduct, safety concerns, prior history when relevant, and applicable law and policy.

Students who violate Prism's drug or alcohol standards may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal, referral for prosecution where appropriate, and/or referral for assessment or treatment as circumstances warrant.

Employees who violate Prism's drug or alcohol standards may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination of employment, referral for prosecution where appropriate, and/or referral for assessment or treatment as circumstances warrant.

Depending on the circumstances, other institutional responses may include a warning, required meeting, educational intervention, conditions for continued enrollment or employment, suspension, safety-related removal from an activity, or another action permitted by Prism policy.

Prism does not promise absolute confidentiality. Requests for assistance and related information will be handled as privately as reasonably possible, and disclosure will be limited to those with a legitimate need to know, consistent with applicable law, safety considerations, and institutional responsibilities.

4. Applicable Legal Sanctions

The following is a general summary. Criminal penalties vary based on the substance, amount, conduct, age of the individuals involved, prior offenses, and other circumstances. This program is not intended to replace the actual federal, state, or local law.

Federal Law

Federal law prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, and possession of controlled substances. Penalties under the federal Controlled Substances Act may include fines, imprisonment, forfeiture, and other consequences depending on the offense. Federal law places controlled substances into schedules and imposes different penalties based on the drug, quantity, conduct, and criminal history.

Detailed information regarding federal drug schedules, health effects, and trafficking penalties is available from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), including the current edition of *Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide* and DEA drug-scheduling resources.

Certain drug convictions may also result in court-imposed consequences affecting federal benefits where authorized by law. Prism does not treat every drug conviction as an automatic loss of federal student aid eligibility; financial-aid eligibility is determined under the federal rules in effect for the applicable award year.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania law prohibits unlawful possession, manufacture, delivery, and distribution of controlled substances. Penalties can include fines and imprisonment and vary based on the substance, quantity, conduct, and prior history.

Pennsylvania law also regulates alcohol-related conduct, including underage possession or consumption, furnishing alcohol to minors, false identification used to obtain alcohol, and other unlawful conduct.

Primary state authorities include the Pennsylvania Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, 35 P.S. § 780-101 et seq., and applicable provisions of Pennsylvania criminal and liquor law.

New Jersey

New Jersey law prohibits unlawful possession, manufacture, dispensing, and distribution of controlled dangerous substances. Penalties vary based on the substance, amount, conduct, and prior history and may include fines and imprisonment. New Jersey also regulates underage alcohol possession or consumption, furnishing alcohol to minors, false identification, and other unlawful alcohol-related conduct.

Primary state authorities include the New Jersey Controlled Dangerous Substances Act, N.J.S.A. 24:21-1 et seq., applicable criminal provisions in N.J.S.A. Title 2C, and applicable alcoholic beverage laws.

Local Law

Local ordinances may impose additional restrictions or penalties relating to public consumption, open containers, nuisance or disorderly conduct, and other alcohol- or drug-related behavior. Local requirements vary by municipality and are enforced by the appropriate local authorities.

5. Health Risks Associated with Alcohol and Drug Misuse

Alcohol and drug misuse can affect judgment, coordination, memory, learning, mood, behavior, and physical health. Risk varies by substance, dose, frequency, route of administration, individual health factors, and whether substances are combined. Mixing alcohol, opioids, sedatives, or other central nervous system depressants can significantly increase the risk of overdose and death.

Alcohol

- Short-term risks may include impaired judgment and coordination, injury, alcohol poisoning, risky behavior, violence, motor-vehicle crashes, falls, and other accidents.
- Long-term excessive use may contribute to liver disease, cardiovascular disease, digestive problems, certain cancers, memory and learning problems, mental-health concerns, and alcohol use disorder.
- Alcohol use during pregnancy can cause serious health risks to a developing fetus.

Opioids and Other Depressants

- Opioids such as fentanyl, heroin, oxycodone, and similar drugs can cause sedation, slowed breathing, loss of consciousness, dependence, overdose, and death.
- Sedatives and tranquilizers can impair memory, coordination, and judgment. Combining them with alcohol or opioids can greatly increase respiratory-depression and overdose risk.

Stimulants

- Cocaine, methamphetamine, and misuse of prescription stimulants can increase heart rate and blood pressure and may contribute to anxiety, agitation, paranoia, heart attack, stroke, seizures, dependence, or other serious complications.

Cannabis

- Cannabis can impair attention, reaction time, judgment, coordination, and memory. Effects vary by potency, amount, method of use, and individual factors.
- High-potency products and edible products can produce stronger or delayed effects and may increase the risk of overconsumption, panic, confusion, or unsafe behavior.

Hallucinogens and Other Substances

- Hallucinogens and dissociative drugs may alter perception, mood, and thinking and can cause impaired judgment, panic, confusion, or dangerous behavior.
- Illicitly manufactured substances may contain unexpected ingredients, including fentanyl or other potent compounds, creating additional overdose risk.

Prescription and Over-the-Counter Medication Misuse

- Using medication in a manner other than prescribed, using another person's medication, or combining medication with alcohol or other drugs can create serious health and safety risks.
- Students and employees should follow prescribing instructions and consult a qualified healthcare provider or pharmacist regarding medication interactions or impairment concerns.

6. Prevention, Education, and Early Intervention

Prism's prevention approach is designed to provide practical information rather than create unnecessary programming. Prevention and awareness information may be delivered through institutional communications, orientation or onboarding materials, annual campus-safety and prevention notices, the Annual Security Report, this DAAPP, and other educational materials when appropriate.

Prevention messages may address responsible decision-making, the risks of impairment, prescription-drug misuse, overdose risk, safe storage of medication, avoiding impaired driving, recognizing signs that someone may need help, and how to locate treatment or support.

Students and employees are encouraged to seek assistance before substance use creates an academic, employment, health, or safety crisis. Requesting assistance does not prevent Prism from addressing separate misconduct or safety issues when required.

7. Counseling, Treatment, Rehabilitation, and Referral Resources

Prism does not provide substance-use treatment directly. Students seeking assistance may contact their Campus Director or Student Services for help identifying appropriate community resources. Employees may contact Human Resources. Prism can assist with referrals but does not diagnose or provide clinical treatment.

Resource	Contact	Purpose
SAMHSA FindTreatment.gov	https://findtreatment.gov/	National locator for mental-health and substance-use treatment providers.
SAMHSA National Helpline	1-800-662-HELP (4357)	24-hour information and treatment referral for mental-health and substance-use concerns.
Pennsylvania Get Help Now	1-800-662-HELP (4357) pa.gov/ddap	24/7/365 substance-use treatment and support referral for Pennsylvania.
New Jersey ReachNJ	1-844-REACHNJ (1-844-732-2465) ReachNJ.gov	24/7 referral and connection to treatment and support services in New Jersey.
Emergency / immediate danger	911	Emergency medical or safety response.

8. Annual Distribution

Prism distributes the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program annually in conjunction with the Annual Security Report (ASR).

- Students receive the annual ASR and DAAPP notice through CANVAS.
- Employees receive the annual ASR and DAAPP notice through institutional email.
- Students who enroll after the annual distribution receive the DAAPP information as part of their initial institutional communications or onboarding process.
- Employees hired after the annual distribution receive the DAAPP information as part of onboarding or initial institutional communications.
- The annual notice provides access to the full ASR and DAAPP and explains how to request a paper copy.
- Prism retains documentation supporting annual and subsequent distribution.

The DAAPP is also made available through Prism's Consumer Information resources so that students, employees, and other interested persons can access the current program information.

9. Biennial Review

Prism conducts a biennial review of its Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program in accordance with 34 CFR Part 86. The review evaluates the effectiveness of the program, identifies needed changes, assesses the consistency of disciplinary sanctions, reviews relevant drug- and alcohol-related violations and fatalities reported to campus officials, and identifies the number and type of institutional sanctions imposed when applicable.

Prism completed its most recent biennial review in 2025 for the January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024 review period. The next biennial review is scheduled for 2027.

Prism maintains the review and supporting documentation and makes the biennial review available upon request as required by federal regulation.

10. Records and Program Administration

Prism retains records related to the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program in accordance with applicable federal record-retention requirements. This includes annual distribution evidence, program materials, biennial review documentation, and supporting data used in the review process. Federal Student Aid guidance calls for DAAPP-related records to be retained for three years after the fiscal year in which the record was created.

The Director of Operations coordinates the institutional DAAPP review and annual distribution process with Compliance, Campus Administration, Student Services, Human Resources, and other appropriate personnel.

11. Institutional Contacts

Students	Employees
Campus Director or Student Services Questions about student support, referrals, or institutional procedures.	Human Resources Questions about employee support, referrals, or workplace procedures.
Director of Operations DAAPP / Consumer Information / institutional compliance questions.	Director of Operations / Human Resources DAAPP / institutional compliance questions.

12. Official Resources and References

Federal Student Aid Handbook, Consumer Information and School Reporting:

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/fsa-handbook/2026-2027/vol2/ch6-consumer-information-and-school-reporting>

Federal Student Aid Handbook, Institutional Reporting and Disclosure Requirements:

<https://fsapartners.ed.gov/knowledge-center/fsa-handbook/2026-2027/appendices/appx-e-institutional-reporting-and-disclosure-requirements>

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration - Controlled Substances Act and Drug Scheduling:

<https://www.dea.gov/drug-information>

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration - Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide:

<https://www.dea.gov/documents/2024/2024-12/2024-12-12/drugs-abuse-2024>

SAMHSA Treatment Locators: <https://www.samhsa.gov/find-help/locators>

Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs: <https://www.pa.gov/agencies/ddap>

New Jersey Department of Human Services - ReachNJ: <https://www.nj.gov/humanservices/reachnj/>