

## STUDENT LIFE AND SUPPORT POLICIES

### Health and wellbeing: substance use Policy

<b>Authors:</b>	Laura Smith, Head of Student Life and Support Philipp Hahn, Head of Safety and Security
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### Summary of substance use at Constructor University

Location	Rules	Reference
Campus Grounds	Not permitted, including cannabis	Article 3.1 and 3.2 Article 4.1
Events	Not permitted, including cannabis	Article 3.1 and 3.2 Article 4.1
Apartments	Not permitted, including cannabis	Article 3.1 and 3.2 Article 4.1

#### 1. Purpose

1.1 Constructor University has a duty, as set out in our Community Standard to provide a safe environment for the whole University community and we take our responsibility for the health and wellbeing of all our students extremely seriously.

1.2 We understand that some students may encounter drugs during their time at University. Our primary aim is to promote education and provide support to reduce harm, ensuring the wellbeing of our students and safeguarding them from the potential negative effects of drug use.

1.3 The University is concerned where the use of drugs impairs personal and/or academic wellbeing, or has an adverse impact on other members of the University and wider community.

1.4 The purpose of this policy is to set out the harm reduction support available to students and ensure any safeguarding concerns are dealt with using effective procedures.

1.5 In this policy, when we refer to “drugs”, we are referring to controlled substances that it is a criminal offence to possess or supply, prescription medicines that are not prescribed to the

person or are not being used in accordance with medical instruction and any other substances (other than alcohol) that produce physical, mental, emotional, and/or behavioural changes in the user.

## **2. Policy**

2.1 We undertake all University activities in compliance with German law and do not condone any illegal activity. We also have a responsibility to cooperate with police in operations designed to safeguard our student population.

2.2 Possession, supply or dealing of drugs and some other substances is a criminal offence in many countries including Germany.

2.3 This policy does not mean exclusion from the law or other University standards and policies. We prioritise our safety and supportive measures, however, there may be occasions where drug related misconduct needs to be addressed through our student disciplinary procedures, especially where the wellbeing of others is placed at unacceptable risk. Whilst not common, the possible outcome of any disciplinary action could include, suspension and/or expulsion from the University and criminal proceedings if the activity also constitutes a breach of applicable criminal laws.

2.5 This policy does not cover use of alcohol by students, which is covered in the Responsible Alcohol Consumption Policy.

## **3. Consumption on campus**

3.1 The possession, consumption and supply of all drugs on campus is not permitted. This includes on the campus grounds and in student apartments.

3.2 Although the cultivation and consumption of cannabis has recently been legalized in the state of Bremen, given that utilization of Cannabis will remain forbidden for minors under the age of 18, and as it is prohibited within a 100 meter radius of any kindergarten buildings or sports areas, the University takes the following measures to ensure the safety of all community members:

- Possessing Cannabis is not permitted on campus. This applies to carrying it in person on campus or keeping it in rooms regardless of the amount.
- Consuming Cannabis on campus is not permitted.
- Cannabis consumption within 100 meters of the kindergarten on campus may lead to fines from officials. This applies to all kindergartens and sport areas/playgrounds in Germany.
- Growing Cannabis plants in rooms or offices is not permitted.

## **3. Who does the policy apply to?**

This policy applies to everyone with student status at Constructor University.

## **4. Roles and responsibilities**

4.1 Students of Constructor University have the responsibility to be an effective and professional representative of the institution. Students should not use drugs, give drugs to others or sell drugs, especially if it risks safety and wellbeing, if actions constitute a breach of criminal laws or if it could impact the trust people place in our university.

4.2 The university has a responsibility to safeguard the community and to provide students with information and support. We will take a proactive approach to ensuring students have access to information about substance use, access to services external to the university, which

provide support for substance users and will always take issues involving drug use on campus seriously. Students, who are concerned about their own drug use or the impact of drug use of others on themselves, they can be referred to the Residential Staff or counseling team, who can provide support and referral to external support.

4.3. The students right to privacy applies in respect of the sharing of information relating to students under this Policy. This means anything shared with the Residential Life Team or Counsellors is confidential unless they think safeguarding action is required. When this is the case, the university will always endeavor to act in the students best interests when initiating any safeguarding action and, where possible, work in collaboration with the students.

4.5 We will provide education via training and campaigns to ensure decision making is more informed.

4.6 In collaboration with the Student Government, we review our processes regularly to ensure we maintain effective Procedures.

## **5. Support seeking**

While we recognise that peer support is important, we believe that accessing professional Support is preferable and beneficial for all. As such we invite students and staff awareness of the safeguarding, support, education, and the effective procedures available so that you can support each other to make use of the appropriate professional support available.

## **6. Student Guests**

Guests of students are not subject to University disciplinary procedures. If such persons become intoxicated and endanger themselves or others, they will be asked to leave the campus or college premises and, as appropriate/necessary, the Security Office, the police, or the ambulance services will be called. This holds regardless if members of the University are acquainted with the individual. RLMs and Security Officers have the domiciliary right ('Hausrecht') to remove persons from the colleges. The Security Officers have the authority to escort persons off campus.