

ACCENT DRUG/SUBSTANCE ABUSE POLICY

I. Purpose of Policy

ACCENT's strict policy is to maintain a program which is free from illegal drugs. Students, faculty, staff, and/or others with whom they interact, whose behavior is influenced by illegal drugs, compromise the academic program and living conditions of all concerned, endanger their own health and safety, and that of others, violate the laws of their host country, violate the substance abuse policies of their sponsoring institution.

II. Illegal Drugs or Substances

The following acts are prohibited, and will subject the violator to, immediate expulsion from the program and residence facilities without refund or recourse; immediate termination of employment, referral to law enforcement authorities, and/or other enforcement action deemed by ACCENT to be reasonable under the circumstances:

- a. The use, possession, purchase, sale, manufacture, distribution, transportation, or dispensation of any illegal drug or other controlled substance; or
- b. Being under the influence of any illegal drug or other controlled substance.
- c. A person who is convicted under a criminal drug or controlled substance law for a violation occurring at any time within twenty-four (24) months of a program shall be deemed to have violated this policy standard and shall be unqualified to participate in an ACCENT program in any capacity whatsoever.
- d. "Reasonable suspicion" of II. a., b., or c., above.

III. Definitions

For purposes of this policy,

- (1) "Illegal drugs or other controlled substances" means any drug or substance that:
 - a. is not legally obtainable; or
 - b. is legally obtainable, but has not been legally obtained; or
 - c. has been legally obtained, but is being sold or distributed unlawfully.
- (2) "Legal drug" means any drug, including any prescription drug or over-the counter drug that has been legally obtained, and that is not unlawfully sold or distributed.
- (3) "Abuse of any legal drug" means the use of a legal drug:
 - a. for any purpose other than for which it was prescribed or manufactured, or
 - b. in a quantity, frequency, or manner that is contrary to the instructions or recommendations of the prescribing physician or manufacturer.
- (4) "Reasonable suspicion" includes a suspicion that is based upon specific personal observation such as a person's manner, disposition, muscular movement, appearance, behavior, speech, breath odor; information provided by a program participant, law enforcement or security service official, faculty or staff member, other credible individual; or a suspicion based upon other surrounding circumstances.
- (5) "Possession" means that the individual in question has the drug or substance on his/her person or otherwise under his/her control.