

Mid Michigan College Notice of Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations and Drug Conviction Policy Disclosure, 2020-21

midmich.edu/safety-security

# Notice of Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations and Drug Conviction Policy Disclosure

Please Note: This notification is sent to all enrolled students, whether using Financial Aid or not.

Mid Michigan College is required to notify all students of the federal regulations and penalties for drug law violation while receiving Title IV funds under the Higher Education Act. Mid is required to provide a timely notice to each student who has lost eligibility for any grant or loan assistance as a result of said penalties. We advise the student of ways in which to regain eligibility. Penalties are only imposed when students are receiving Federal Title IV funds.

Question regarding this Notice may be directed to the Financial Aid Office by e-mail at finaid@midmich.edu or by phone at 989-386-6664.

## Students Convicted of Possession or Sale of Drugs:

If a student, receiving Title IV funding, has been convicted of an offense involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs while enrolled, the student becomes ineligible to receive Title IV funds. If the offense occurred outside of an enrollment period, the student is still eligible to receive funding.

When completing the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Free Application, students self-certify and respond to questions regarding drug convictions. Should a conviction occur after a student has submitted the FAFSA, the student must notify the Financial Aid Office, immediately. A conviction denotes a conviction that is on a student's record. A conviction that was reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record is not relevant for these purposes. In addition, it is not a determination or adjudication arising out of a juvenile proceeding.

An illegal drug is a controlled substance as defined by section 102(6) of the Controlled Substance Act (CSA) (Title 21 of the United States Code section 802), and does not include alcohol or tobacco.

# Loss of Eligibility and Penalties:

## Possession of Illegal Drugs

First Offense: Ineligible for one year after date of conviction

Second Offense: Ineligible for two years after the date of second conviction
Third Offense: Ineligible indefinitely after the date of the third conviction

#### Sale of Illegal Drugs

First Offense: Ineligible for two years after the date of conviction Second Offense: Ineligible indefinitely after the date of conviction

In the event that a student is convicted of both, possessing and selling illegal drugs and the periods of ineligibility differ, it will result in the longer period of ineligibility.

## Notice After Loss Eligibility

Students who become ineligible for financial aid due to a drug related conviction will receive written notification from the Financial Aid Office, via e-mail to their midmail account, advising of the loss. Information will also be provided on ways in which eligibility can be regained.

# How to Regain Eligibility

A student regains eligibility the day after the period of ineligibility ends or when they successfully complete a qualified drug rehabilitation program. Additional drug related convictions will render a student ineligible again.

A student who successfully completes a drug rehabilitation program following their most recent drug conviction, regains eligibility on the date of the Program completion. A drug rehabilitation program is one that:

- Includes at least two unannounced drug tests and,
- Has received or is qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly under a Federal, State or Local government program;
- Is administered or recognized by a Federal, State, or Local government agency or court;
- Has received or is qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a Federally or State licensed insurance company, or
- Is administered or recognized by a Federally or State licensed hospital, health clinic or medical doctor.

#### Additional Information

For more information on the Higher Education Act as it pertains to drug law violations please see: Code of Federal Regulations Student Eligibility

US Department of Education Student Eligibility

For additional student information please see: Student Right to Know Information

You may also find helpful information by visiting Mid's <u>Alcohol and Other Drug Policy and Prevention Programming.</u>