

# Lifestyle Policies

## **Alcohol/Drugs and Tobacco**

Southwestern Christian University is committed to a program that will prevent the abuse and illegal use of drugs and alcohol by its students and employees. The university program includes this policy, which prohibits the illegal use of drugs and alcohol in the workplace, on university property, or as part of any university-sponsored activity. This policy also includes the prevention of the use of tobacco and tobacco-related products, such as vapors, hookahs, and related paraphernalia. See **Appendix B** for more information.

Southwestern Christian University holds a “No Tolerance” stance concerning all illegal drugs and will dismiss students from Southwestern Christian University for promotion, distribution, sale, or possession (either on or off campus). Dismissal from Southwestern Christian University for illegal drugs can have an adverse effect on your Title 4 funding (financial aid), which is in compliance with federal law.

## **Drug Testing**

Southwestern Christian University reserves the right to conduct drug testing throughout the academic year. Failed tests will result in disciplinary action.

The NAIA will conduct drug testing at all National Championship events. All student athletes/team sports that make it to the national championship tournament are subject to drug testing. Failed test will result in disqualification for the student athlete and could make the team ineligible for competition. The university also reserves the right to impose disciplinary action.

## **Crime and Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness**

Crime and sexual assault prevention programs are offered through the Office of Student. A common theme of all awareness and crime prevention programs is to encourage students and employees to be aware of their responsibilities for their own safety and security. When time is short, information is released to the university community through security alerts posted promptly throughout campus as well as via emails and e-alerts.

## **Disruptive and Obstructive Behavior**

Policies of the Board of Regents stipulate that any student, faculty member, administrator, or employee, acting individually or in concert with others, who clearly obstructs or disrupts, or attempts to obstruct or disrupt any teaching, research, administrative, disciplinary, or public service activity authorized to be discharged or held on any campus of Southwestern Christian University in Bethany or in Tulsa is considered by the Board to have committed an act of gross irresponsibility and shall be subject to disciplinary procedures, possibly resulting in dismissal as a student or termination of employment. See **Appendix F** for more

information.

### **Firearms and Explosives**

Students may not possess or discharge firearms, fireworks, explosives, or ignite a fire in any building or residence hall, except when officially approved for university activities. Firearms and explosives are banned on the campus of Southwestern Christian University. Weapons of any kind may not be stored in campus buildings or student vehicles. Any student caught with firearms and/or explosives on the Southwestern Christian University campus will be dismissed from the university.

### **Gambling**

Gambling is prohibited. Gambling is defined as playing a game of chance for money/something of value or to bet.

### **Graffiti**

Unauthorized alteration of property from its original condition, including graffiti, paint, and alteration to landscaping will result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from the university.

### **Harassment**

Southwestern Christian University is committed to providing its employees and students with an environment that is free from harassment. Physical, Verbal, and Sexual Harassment is strictly prohibited by the University and is against federal and state law.

Students experiencing any form of harassment should report such actions or behaviors against their person to the VPSS. See **Appendix G** for more information on reporting sexual harassment.

The university will immediately investigate any reported harassing, threatening and/or physically harmful behavior toward a person or persons because of:

- a. race, color, or national origin;
- b. creed, religion, age, physical or mental disability;
- c. gender, marital status, or sexual orientation;
- d. any other status protected by federal, state, or local law.

Confirmed reports of such behavior will result in disciplinary action against the offending individual(s), up to and including dismissal. Harassment should be reported to the VPSS. Harassment refers to unwelcome behavior that is offensive, fails to respect the rights of others, and interferes with work, learning, living, or campus environment. Forms of harassment include, but are not limited to:

Verbal: suggestive comments, derogatory slurs, off-color jokes, threats, suggestive or insulting sounds, etc. Verbal harassment also entails using the

telephone to harass others. This includes, but is not limited to, unwanted phone calls, hang-ups, unwanted voicemail messages, and/or obscene calls.

-Non-verbal/Visual: derogatory or inappropriate posters, pictures, cartoons, faxes, e-mails, or drawings, suggestive objects or pictures, graphic commentaries, leering, and/or obscene gestures. This includes all social media and texting.

-Physical: unwanted physical contact including touching, interference with an individual's normal work or movement, and/or assault.

False accusations regarding harassment, sexual harassment, or hate crimes can have serious effects on the person being accused. Any false accusation will result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion/dismissal from the university in addition to any legal remedies.

### **Hate Crimes**

Hate Crimes are prohibited. Hate crimes are defined as offenses motivated by animosity that victimizes a person or a group of persons based on their actual or perceived race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and/or disability. Southwestern Christian University does not tolerate any form of hate crime. Violation of any university policy that also fits within this definition may result in suspension or expulsion/dismissal from the university.

### **Hazing**

Abusive behavior which injures, disgraces or threatens to do the same to any individual and/or their property is prohibited by the university. Serious injuries and deaths that have occurred as a result of hazing incidents prompted the Oklahoma legislature to adopt the following legislation in 1990:

Chapter 48, Section 1190 defines Hazing as ...an activity which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health or physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or admission into or affiliation with any organization subject to the sanction of the public or private school...or any institution of higher education in the state. Such conduct includes whipping, beating, branding, forced calisthenics, exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, alcoholic beverage, drug or any other forced activity which could adversely affect the physical health or safety of the individual. Endangering the mental health includes activities, which would subject the individual to extreme mental stress, such as prolonged sleep deprivation, forced prolonged exclusion from said intent.

Southwestern Christian University does not permit students to engage or participate in hazing. Any violation of this policy by an individual or campus organization shall result in disciplinary action, which may include dismissal from the institution.

### **Pets**

For health and sanitation reasons, no animals, reptiles, amphibians, fish, crustaceans, including laboratory specimen, are permitted in University-owned facilities including residential housing, classrooms, cafeteria and common areas. This includes pets of guests or visitors who may be present in the building for any length of time. Pets will be removed from the building and the owner(s) (if students) will be subject to disciplinary action.

Note: This does not apply to individuals accompanied by trained service assisting animals.

### **Pregnancy**

When a pregnancy occurs outside the realm of biblical guidelines, the students involved will be asked to complete assignments established through the Office of Student Life and will be assigned to a faculty/staff member for accountability and mentorship.

The first goal of the University will be to support the individuals involved in order to lead them toward behavior which falls within biblical guidelines. The involved students will be placed on disciplinary probation for violating the Lifestyle Covenant. Continued immoral behavior will result in dismissal from the university.

- Female students will not be allowed to live in Residence while pregnant;
- Male students involved in the pregnancy will not be allowed to live in the residence during the same time as the female student who is pregnant;
- Both the male and female students will be disciplined appropriately and equally;
- If the other partner is not a member of the Southwestern Christian University community, the Southwestern Christian University student will be placed on probation and will have to meet with VPSS and complete assignments.
- The Office of Academic Affairs will need to be contacted concerning assignments, examinations, or projects that may be missed due to the birth of a child during a semester.

### **Profanity**

The use of profane language or any gestures which imply profanity are prohibited. This includes but is not limited to music and movies.

### **Sexual Misconduct and Reporting Policies**

It is the policy of Southwestern Christian University, in keeping with its Christian standards, to establish an environment in which the dignity and worth of all members of the institutional community are respected. In accordance with 1992 Campus Sexual Assault Victim's Bill of Rights, Southwestern Christian University will make every effort to help students who are victims of sexual assault by providing options for reporting the crime as well as options for counseling and treatment.

Southwestern Christian University is concerned about any allegations of sexual assault and, therefore, strongly encourages any person who has experienced such a violation to report incident immediately to the VPSS, who will take action to ensure that appropriate medical

and counseling services are provided.

Sexual assault is defined as rape, acquaintance rape, and other sex offenses, forcible or non-forcible. Victims of sexual assault should attempt to preserve evidence that may be necessary for the proof of criminal sexual assault.

In accordance with federal regulations regarding disciplinary resolutions of sexual assault cases, both the accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during disciplinary hearings and to be informed of the outcome.

Southwestern Christian University will report and cooperate with the appropriate authorities that have the right and responsibility to act in response to law violations which involve Southwestern Christian University student(s). Southwestern Christian University will report complaints of sexual assault that involve minors to the appropriate law enforcement officials. Victims of sexual assault may notify the proper law enforcement themselves.

Sexual misconduct includes but is not limited to:

- Sexual harassment, consensual sex, cohabitation, pornography, inappropriate displays of affection, sensual dancing, immoral conduct, and homosexuality.