

Pittsburg State University Good Samaritan Policy

A student or student organization seeking medical or emergency assistance or treatment for him/herself, or for any other student who is in immediate medical need, or any student who is the recipient of this emergency medical help, will not be subject to sanctions related to the violation of using or possessing alcohol or other drugs, as defined in Pittsburg State University *Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities*. This policy applies to emergencies both on and off campus. The Pittsburg State University Good Samaritan Policy supports students who reach out for assistance in the case of a medical emergency, as well as supports the student who is helped.

The policy does not preclude or prevent action by law enforcement or the University for violations associated with vandalism, theft, physical assault, sexual assault, or other policy violations.

Why do we have a Good Samaritan Policy?

At Pittsburg State University, the health and safety of every student is of primary importance and all students are strongly encouraged to be empowered bystanders who respond in a potentially dangerous situation without fear of reprisal from the University. **The positive impact of reporting a medical emergency will always hold the highest priority when determining the appropriate response for University policy violations.** A student is eligible to use the Good Samaritan Policy on more than one occasion and students are always expected to report a medical emergency. That being said, repeated incidents are cause for a higher level of concern for the wellbeing of the student and amnesty in these cases will be individually reviewed.

Because parents are vital partners in the educational process and because the student can be best supported from home, the University typically contacts parents of students under 21 years of age in instances where there is evidence of risk to health, welfare or safety in accordance with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). In addition, the University may record names of those students involved to enable the University to follow up with the students as deemed necessary to ensure a student's wellbeing.

A student who receives medical assistance for alcohol use under the Good Samaritan Policy will be referred by the Director of Student Rights and Responsibilities, or their representative, to a mandatory intervention and education program at Student Prevention and Wellness, and/or assessment and counseling at University Counseling. Additionally, a student who qualifies for the Good Samaritan Policy by calling for medical assistance for another student may be referred to these areas at the discretion of the Director of Student Rights and Responsibilities.

Q. What should I do if a friend is showing signs of alcohol poisoning or overdose?

A. Get Help: Call 911, Campus Police (620-235-4624), or University Housing Staff

Stay with the Individual: Until emergency help arrives, do not leave the individual alone. Ask for help from others if necessary and follow pieces of advice:

- DO: turn the person on their side to prevent choking in case the person vomits.
- DO: be prepared to tell emergency personnel as much information as possible, including the amount and type of alcohol/substances consumed.
- DO NOT: leave the person alone.
- DO NOT: leave the person on their back.
- DO NOT: try to make the person vomit
- DO NOT: try to get the person to eat or drink anything, even water at this point
- DO NOT: put the person in a cold shower/bath (this could cause shock to their body)

Follow up Afterward: You are expected to meet with appropriate University officials after the incident and cooperate with any University investigation. If you follow these steps, no disciplinary actions may be taken against you. But, it may still mean that other steps may be required, such as completing educational or health interventions as described in the Good Samaritan Policy.

Q. What should I do if a friend has been raped or sexually assaulted?

- Call 911 or the University Police at 620-235-4624
- Get your friend to a safe place (friend's house, hospital, police station)
- Save Evidence (encourage your friend not to shower, wash, or change clothes)
- Seek Immediate Medical Care (Via Christi Emergency Dept. 620-232-0123)
- Request an Advocate (24/7 Safehouse Crisis Hotline 800-794-9418)