All students have the right to learn and grow in an environment free of the effects of substance abuse. To that end, Harford Community College’s policies related to tobacco, alcohol and drugs mirror local, state and federal laws designed to protect individuals and the community.

The information in this document maintains the College’s compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989.

### CAMPUS RESOURCES

Harford Community College recognizes tobacco, alcohol, and drug addiction as illnesses and as major health problems. To that end, the College offers tobacco, drug and alcohol awareness programming at various times at no cost to students.

Students who suspect classmates may be under the influence or in possession of drugs or alcohol while on campus may notify any campus employee, or may directly contact the Department of Public Safety by calling 443-412-2272.

Students may also complete and submit a Report Form for Concerning Behavior, which can be located on OwlNet under My Academic Life or on the College website under Student Intervention Services. Submitting a concerning behavior report allows authorized employees the opportunity to meet with students of concern and provide resources and referrals.

### PHYSICAL AND PHYSIOLOGICAL EFFECTS OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE

#### Alcohol
- Distorted vision, hearing, and coordination
- Impaired judgment
- Altered perceptions and emotions
- Decreased social inhibitions
- Vitamin deficiencies
- Liver damage
- Skin problems
- Heart and central nervous system damage

#### Tobacco
- Nicotine dependency
- Anxiety
- Anger
- Emphysema (lung disease) and lung cancer
- Yellow teeth
- Skin discoloration, wrinkles, and premature aging
- Headaches

#### Drugs
- Increased heart rate and blood pressure
- Insomnia
- Heart attacks, strokes, and respiratory failure
- Hepatitis or AIDS through shared needles
- Confusion, anxiety and depression, paranoia
- Loss of interest in food or sex
- Violent behavior
- Confusion, suspicion, and loss of control
- Vitamin deficiencies
- Liver damage
- Skin problems
- Heart and central nervous system damage
It is the policy of Harford Community College that the College is committed to wellness and personal responsibility in the use of alcoholic beverages and limits the consumption of alcoholic beverages to receptions and events associated with cultural and corporate sponsorship primarily intended for employees, community or business patronage.

Further, use, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited at student events on or off campus that are organized or sponsored by College personnel or its agents.

Harford Community College is a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment. The use of any type of tobacco product, smoking device or equipment, or any item that simulates smoking is prohibited in all buildings and areas of the campus and off-campus sites supervised by the College.

It is the policy of Harford Community College to be drug free in order to ensure a safe, healthy and productive work and learning environment. This policy applies to all employees, applicants for employment, students and others under the control or of contracted by the College.

Students who violate the Harford Community College Code for Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct may be subject to:

- A $75 fine for any violation of the Tobacco Policy
- Referral for disciplinary action and possible sanction, up to and including expulsion
- Criminal charges

Possessing or administering a controlled dangerous substance is a misdemeanor in Maryland and carries a penalty of, depending on the circumstances, imprisonment not to exceed one to four years and/or a fine not to exceed $1,000 to a fine not to exceed $25,000. Possession of less than 10 grams of marijuana is a civil offense in Maryland and is subject to a fine of not more than $100 for a first offense, $250 for a second offense, and $500 for a third offense.

Generally, a person engaged in manufacturing, distributing, dispensing, or possessing with the intent to manufacture, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance carries a penalty under federal law of anywhere between imprisonment for a year and/or a fine of $100,000 and life in prison depending on the drug and its quantity.

In Maryland, possession of an alcoholic beverage by a person under the age of 21, misrepresentation of age to obtain alcoholic beverages, and/or possessing documents by a person under 21 that falsely represents that person as 21 or older subjects the individual to a fine of up to $500. Offenses related to supplying an individual who is under 21 years of age with an alcoholic beverage generally carry a penalty of a fine not to exceed $2,500 for the first offense and $5,000 for the second offense.

The College has policies that prohibit the use of tobacco, alcohol, and drugs on campus. All members of the College community, including students, employees and trustees share the responsibility for protecting the educational environment.