

Marijuana on Campus*

Southeast Missouri State University has maintained a tobacco-free campus for years, and that policy extends to marijuana use (in any form) even after recent changes to state laws.

While the use of recreational marijuana for those 21 and older became legal in the state of Missouri under certain conditions following the passage of Amendment 3 last year, **no policies or procedures will be altered on campus**. Marijuana remains classified by the federal government as a Schedule 1 controlled substance. As an institution that receives federal assistance, Southeast will continue to abide by all federal guidelines on this matter. It is illegal for any employee, student or visitor to possess, use, distribute, dispense, sell or manufacture on University property. This includes both recreational and medical marijuana.

In 2018, the State of Missouri legalized the medical use of marijuana (19 CSR 30-95). In November 2022, the State of Missouri passed a ballot initiative to amend the State Constitution to legalize the purchase, possession, consumption, use, delivery, manufacture and sale of marijuana for personal use for adults over the age of 21. However, the possession or use of marijuana remains an offense under the Controlled Substances Act, a federal law.

Southeast is obligated to comply with all federal laws and regulations. In order to remain in compliance, the University will not permit the possession or use of marijuana on-campus, or at University-sponsored events, regardless of age, and will not permit the possession or use of marijuana at educational or other activities sponsored, conducted or authorized by the University or its Student Organizations, whether on- or off-campus, in any on-campus housing, or in any other University buildings or other property. Any Student who uses or possesses marijuana on-campus, regardless of age, will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) or Office of Residence Life Staff will confiscate and dispose of any marijuana found on campus regardless of student, staff, faculty or visitor's age, even if individual is 21 or the person possesses a medical card.

In summary, the University prohibits the use, possession, manufacture, sale, cultivation, purchase with the intent to distribute, distribution of marijuana and other drugs, and storage of marijuana and other drugs by students, faculty, staff, and visitors on all of University campuses and properties and at all University-sponsored events.

*Information adapted from Saint Louis University and Truman State University.