

Drug Paraphernalia: Any person who sells, offers to sell, transports, exports or imports drug paraphernalia is subject to three years imprisonment (21 U.S.C. § 863).

Other Penalties: A federal drug conviction may result in the loss of federal benefits, including school loans, grants, scholarships, contracts, and professional and commercial licenses for up to one year for a first offense and up to five years for subsequent offenses (21 U.S.C. § 862). Federal drug trafficking convictions may result in denial of federal benefits for up to five years for a first conviction; possession convictions may result in denial of federal benefits for up to one year for a first conviction and up to five years for subsequent convictions (21 U.S.C. § 862). In addition, for crimes punishable by more than one year in prison, the person will forfeit personal or real property related to the violation, including houses, cars, and other personal belongings (21 U.S.C. § 853 (a)(2) & 881(a)(7)), or vehicles, boats, or other conveyance used to transport or conceal controlled substances (21 U.S.C. § 881(a)(4)). Finally, persons convicted are ineligible to receive or purchase a firearm (18 U.S.C. 922(g)).

A drug conviction under state or federal law may make a student ineligible for federal financial aid (loans, grants, work study). For more information, see:
<https://lstudentaid.ed.gov/eliqibility/criminal-convictions#drug-convictions>

SMOKE-FREE AND TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS

The Lawson State Community College Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Policy provides for a healthy working and learning environment by eliminating second-hand smoke and provides an environment that encourages people to explore health-related behaviors.

The Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Policy, effective April 15, 2013, prohibits all forms of tobacco or similar products outside of designated areas on the grounds and facilities under the jurisdiction of Lawson State Community College. It further prohibits smoking in any vehicle outside of the same designated areas. This supports Alabama Board of Education policy 514.01 (Use of Tobacco Products).

Furthermore, no person or company shall offer any tobacco products for free or of low cost, nor shall any party distribute coupons, coupon offers, gift certificates, gift cards, rebate offers or other similar offers for tobacco or nicotine products on campus property. No tobacco or nicotine samples shall be distributed at Lawson State Community College at any time. This policy applies to all students, faculty, staff and visitors on the properties of Lawson State Community College.

All visitors, employees, and students at Lawson State Community College are prohibited from the use of tobacco, in any form, in all indoor areas and public areas on campus. Smoking is inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette or pipe or any other lighted or heated tobacco or plant product intended for inhalation, in any manner or in any form. Indoor and public areas include, but are not limited to, restrooms, all campus buildings and college owned housing, private offices, vestibules, entrances, exits, stairwells and college-owned vehicles. Tobacco use is limited to the designated smoking areas. Receptacles are provided for the proper disposal of cigarettes.

Designated smoking Areas

- Birmingham West Campus:
 - a. the perimeter of the parking lot northeast of The Arthur Shores Fine Arts Building
 - b. the eastern perimeter of the main parking lot, outside Kennedy Student Center
- Birmingham East Campus:
 - a. the northern perimeter of the One-Stop Career Center parking lot
 - b. the eastern end of the Facilities and Planning parking lot
 - c. the eastern perimeter of the A.G. Gaston Building parking lot
- Bessemer Campus:
 - a. the western perimeter of the Diesel Mechanics building parking lot
 - b. the northeastern perimeter of the Milsap Industrial Training Center parking lot
 - c. the western perimeter of the Student Center parking lot
 - d. the eastern perimeter of the North Campus parking lot

Cessation and Education Programs

Students, faculty and staff can receive information and individual counseling in smoking education and cessation through the Alabama Department of Public Health by visiting the website:
<https://quitnowalabama.com/>

Fines

While education and smoking cessation programs are the preferred interventions, violators may be subject to fines and disciplinary actions as identified in the Lawson State Community College Code of Conduct. Those smoking in inappropriate areas of campus will be directed to dispose of their cigarettes in the appropriate receptacles provided within each smoking area. Disciplinary measures are reserved for repeat infractions and infractions that interfere with the College's academic or workplace needs or responsibilities.

Anyone noticing an individual who is smoking in a non-smoking area may inform the subject(s) of the Smoke-Free and Tobacco-Free Policy and refer them to one of the designated smoking areas, or contact the College Police at (205) 925-3587 (BHM) or (205) 426-3654 (BESS).