

# The University Office of Student Conduct

## Medical Assistance Policy

The health, safety, and welfare of University of South Alabama students are of the utmost importance. As such, all students are expected to alert appropriate emergency officials to the existence of potentially serious or life-threatening situations. The Medical Assistance Policy empowers students and student organizations to seek medical assistance for individuals who may be experiencing health-related complications from alcohol, drugs, or other substances. The policy aims to reduce barriers to seeking medical assistance and to encourage students and student organizations to make responsible decisions in potentially serious or life-threatening situations. Except as set forth below, students that abide by this policy and its protocols will be granted an exemption from disciplinary proceedings (i.e., the incident will not appear on his/her student disciplinary record). In addition, a student organization's compliance with this policy and its protocols may serve as a mitigating factor if the incident results in disciplinary proceedings against the student organization.

This policy does not preclude or prevent action by police or other legal authorities.

### Medical Assistance Protocol (MAP)

In potentially serious or life-threatening situations, students and student organizations are expected to follow all steps noted below:

1. Immediately contact emergency officials by calling 911 to report the incident;
2. remain with the individual(s) needing medical assistance, so long as it is safe to do so;
3. cooperate with emergency officials;
4. meet with appropriate university officials after the incident; and,
5. cooperate with any university and/or law enforcement investigation(s).

Additional and/or elevated disciplinary outcomes may be applied for students and student organizations that fail to follow the Medical Assistance Protocol in potentially serious or life-threatening situations.

### Who is covered by the Medical Assistance Policy?

The Medical Assistance Policy applies to: students seeking medical assistance on their own behalf or who obtain medical assistance under this policy, students seeking and obtaining medical assistance on behalf of another individual, and student organizations seeking and obtaining medical assistance on behalf of a member or guest.

### Who is NOT eligible for a disciplinary exemption under the Medical Assistance Policy?

A student or student organization will not be considered eligible for exemption under this policy if the incident is first discovered by a University employee or public safety official (i.e., USAPD, faculty, administrative staff, residence hall staff, etc.) acting within the scope of his/her responsibilities.

## What University policy violations are NOT eligible for disciplinary exemption under the Medical Assistance Policy?

Certain University policy violations are not eligible for disciplinary exemptions due to the severity of the incident. This policy does not protect flagrant or serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct or other university policies, including, but not limited to, the following: physical abuse or violence, sexual misconduct, hazing, harassment, theft, or vandalism.