



What is the purpose of Medical Amnesty, and how does it affect me as an EMU student?

- The purpose of Medical Amnesty is to eliminate any perceived barriers to seeking help. If a student is under the legal drinking age, or is consuming other drugs, and they seek medical assistance for **legitimate health care concerns** related to alcohol or other drug use, they will **not** face criminal prosecution in connection with their consumption of alcohol and/or drug use. **However**, this does not mean that MIP (Minor in Possession) charges no longer exist. There are specific expectations that **need** to be met in order to successfully utilize Medical Amnesty. You can view these specific expectations in the ***“What is Medical Amnesty Law?”*** section of this document.
- **Please note:** Medical Amnesty does not apply to university rules and regulations. The law specifically addresses protocol for law enforcement. If you use Medical Amnesty, you will automatically be called in for a meeting with The Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility. For more information on what this process looks like, please see the section titled: ***“So I’ve used Medical Amnesty, what’s next?”***

Remember: It is crucial to watch out for each other, and to stick with friends when alcohol and/or other drugs are being consumed. Additionally, it is imperative to seek help when you or someone you know needs medical assistance related to the consumption of alcohol or other drugs.

So I’ve used Medical Amnesty, what’s next?

- You will automatically be called in for a meeting with **The Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility (OWCR)**.
 - This is because Medical Amnesty does **not** apply to university rules and regulations. The law specifically addresses protocol for law enforcement. All Eastern Michigan University students are expected to follow the **Code of Community Responsibility**.
 - For more information on the Code of Community Responsibility, please click [here](#).
- When you meet with The Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility, **you will be eligible for an informal resolution**, and you will create an **action plan** with an OWCR staff member.
 - Cases resolved through an **informal resolution** will be noted as resolved informally in your case file. If you resolve your case informally, you are **not** eligible for an appeal. When cases are resolved informally, this means that the case will not remain on your student disciplinary record.

- **Action plans** often require you to participate in one of the educational interventions that The OWCR offers, but The OWCR can also create action plans that are tailored to your specific needs. The OWCR finds it important that you are involved in the creation of your action plan.
- You **must** complete your action plan in order to be eligible for an informal resolution.

What is The Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility?

- The OWCR is a restorative office dedicated to the flourishing of students at Eastern Michigan University. This office oversees the Code of Community Responsibility and the student disciplinary process.
- The OWCR works with students from a wellness perspective, and assumes that being in conflict with the community can create barriers to success. The OWCR would like to help remove those barriers.
- The Community Responsibility Process is **not** a legal process.
- For more information about The OWCR, please click [here](#).

What is Medical Amnesty Law?

The State of Michigan accepted a medical amnesty law in 2012 to remove perceived barriers to seeking help.

Medical Amnesty as a result of alcohol intoxication:

This law is to better guarantee that minors (under the age of 21) at medical risk as a result of alcohol intoxication will receive timely and appropriate medical attention.

The medical amnesty law provides an exemption from prosecution for the following:

- A minor (under the age of 21) who, after consuming alcohol, voluntarily presents themselves to a health facility or agency for treatment or observation, including medical examination and treatment for any condition as a result of sexual assault (as defined in Michigan law).
- Any minor (under the age of 21) who accompanied an individual who, after consuming alcohol, voluntarily presented themselves to a health facility or agency for treatment or observation, including medical examination and treatment for any condition as a result of sexual assault (as defined in Michigan law).
- Any minor (under the age of 21) who initiated contact with law enforcement or emergency medical services personnel for the purpose of obtaining medical assistance in connection with a legitimate health care concern.

Michigan law continues to prohibit a minor (under the age of 21) from purchasing, consuming, or possessing, or attempting to purchase, consume, or possess, alcoholic liquor, and from having any bodily alcohol content.

Medical Amnesty as a result of an overdose of any controlled substance, including a prescription drug:

This law is to better guarantee that individuals at medical risk as a result of an overdose of any controlled substance, including a prescription drug, will receive timely and appropriate medical attention.

The medical amnesty law provides an exemption from prosecution for the following (when the amount of the drug possessed is sufficient only for personal use):

- Any individual who voluntarily seeks medical assistance for themselves as a result of an overdose of any controlled substance, including a prescription drug.
- Any individual who accompanies or obtains medical assistance for another individual as a result of an overdose of any controlled substance, including a prescription drug.
- Any individual who as a result of an overdose of any controlled substance, including a prescription drug, is presented for medical assistance by a third party.

