

# GOUCHER | college

## Heroin and Opioid Policy

### **HEROIN AND OPIOID ADDICTION PREVENTION POLICY**

#### BACKGROUND:

Sections §11-1201 through §11-1204 of the Education Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland require Maryland institutions of higher education to (1) adopt and implement a policy to prevent heroin and opioid addiction by educating students about addiction and prevention, and (2) maintain and use naloxone and other overdose-reversing medications on campus.

#### TRAINING FOR STUDENTS:

All incoming full-time undergraduate students will be required to participate in face-to-face heroin and opioid addiction and prevention awareness training. If not practical, such training will be provided in electronic form. The trainings will be facilitated by Goucher's Director of Public Safety and Director of Student Wellness. The College will also provide resources to all full and part-time students that will alert and educate them regarding heroin and opioid addiction and prevention.

#### OVERDOSE-REVERSING MEDICATION:

Goucher's Office of Public Safety and Student Health Center will maintain an easily accessible supply of overdose-reversing medication to be used in the case of emergencies. Public Safety officers and other designated personnel will be trained to recognize the symptoms of opioid overdose, implement recommended procedures for the administration of overdose-reversing medication, and provide proper follow-up emergency procedures related to opioid overdose.

#### LIABILITY:

Pursuant to Section 11-1203(b) of the Education Article, except for any willful or grossly negligent act, campus security officers or other designated personnel who have been trained as provided above and who respond in good faith to the overdose emergency of a student in accordance with this section, may not be held personally liable for any act or omission in the course of responding to the emergency.

Also, Maryland's Good Samaritan Law (Md. COURTS AND JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS, Code Ann. § 5-603) provides that a member of the general public cannot be held civilly liable for any act or omission when providing assistance or medical aid at the scene of an emergency if the

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aid is rendered in a “reasonably prudent manner,” and is provided without the expectation of a fee or other compensation. The individual must also relinquish care to a certified first responder when they arrive.

Finally, Maryland law protects people who seek, provide, assist, or receive assistance in an emergency overdose situation from arrest and prosecution for certain crimes, if the evidence for the arrest charge or prosecution was obtained solely as a result of the person seeking or receiving medical assistance. (Md. CRIMINAL PROCEDURE Code Ann. § 1-210). This immunity applies to crimes including:

- Possession of a controlled dangerous substance
- Possession or use of drug paraphernalia
- Providing alcohol to minors

In addition, the College’s [Medical Amnesty Policy](#) provides that students will receive amnesty from code of conduct charges for alcohol or drug violations against:

- An intoxicated student receiving medical assistance
- Student(s) actively assisting the intoxicated student

Thus, the college strongly encourages anyone who witnesses an individual in an emergency overdose situation to call 911 immediately, followed by a call to the Office of Public Safety (410-337-6112).

#### REPORTING:

The College will report to the Maryland Higher Education Commission on or before October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year regarding each incident at the College that required the use of an opioid overdose-reversing medication. The Director of Public Safety will be responsible for submitting the report.

This policy will be reviewed biennially in connection with the required Biennial Review of the College’s Policy on Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs.