

# CHAPTER RESOURCE GUIDE

## For Addressing Illegal Drugs and Controlled Substances



**TRIANGLE**

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HEALTH & SAFETY INITIATIVE

## TRIANGLE PHILOSOPHY REGARDING ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCES

Triangle Fraternity is a values-based membership development organization that focuses on building brotherhood through character enhancement, leadership development, academic achievement, commitment to service, career preparation, life-long friendship and social experiences.

The Fraternity believes that alcohol abuse prevents individual members from realizing their full potential as citizens and from exemplifying the obligations of brotherhood as set forth in the ***Triangle Code of Ethics***.

We believe the moderate and legal consumption of alcohol, in and of itself, does not constitute a problem, but agree the illegal use and abuse of alcoholic beverages is widely recognized as a major problem in our society. Seeking to be a responsible member of the higher education community, Triangle is and will remain concerned about alcohol abuse.

We believe strongly in the betterment of men through the chapter experience. To support and guide that experience, our organization upholds the following philosophy related to alcohol and other substances:

- The Fraternity expects that our members follow state laws across the United States which have made consumption of alcohol illegal for people under 21 years of age and prohibit controlled substances.
- The Fraternity supports and enhances the mission of the institutions where we are present through application of student development theory.
- As a subset of the campus community, the Fraternity works to collaborate with our host institutions to address the problem of alcohol and substance misuse.
- The Fraternity works to address the negative behaviors associated with alcohol and substance misuse and abuse, and not simply the location of those behaviors. As such, Triangle seeks to address these behaviors with an educational approach.
- Through education, training, and mature adult guidance, we work to provide the tools to help students make good choices, and to understand the consequences of their choices. The organization will hold chapters and individual chapter members accountable for the choices they make.
- Triangle Ethic #8 challenges members to *“Maintain my self-respect by proper conduct at all times”*. Triangle expects personal responsibility from its members and accountability through local self-governance.
- The Fraternity follows a consistent and progressive discipline strategy with our chapters.
- We are concerned for the safety and well-being of our members.

Triangle members are drawn only from the student population admitted to the institution. Should we pledge or initiate members whose habits are inconsistent with our philosophy, we will work with the institution to help these men change, or we will remove them from membership.

## TRIANGLE POLICY ON CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Chapters, members, and guests must follow the federal law regarding illegal drugs and controlled substances. No person may possess, use, provide, distribute, sell, and/or manufacture illegal drugs or other controlled substances while at any chapter facility or at any activity that a reasonable, objective observer would associate with the organization.

## CREATING PROCEDURES & DEFINING YOUR CHAPTER'S PHILOSOPHY

Every member of Triangle has an obligation to obey and uphold the Fraternity's Constitution, Bylaws, Regulations, and policies. This includes Triangle's Risk Management Policy and the expectations on illegal drugs and other controlled substances outlined above.

### Focus on What You Can Control

At a minimum, chapter members and executive officers are expected to ensure members do not possess, sell, or use illegal drugs or controlled substances while on chapter property or at a chapter event. Chapter officers should develop specific, written procedures that address each of the following questions:

- How will you keep illegal drugs and other controlled substances out of chapter events?
- How will you keep illegal drugs and other controlled substances out of the chapter facility?
- How will you remove and/or keep drug paraphernalia out of the chapter facility?

Officers should outline the specific steps the chapter will take to address each of the areas outlined above, including the communication of clear expectations to members, policy education and enforcement, and the use of resources.

The Executive Board should also consider how the Standards Board will be utilized to enforce the procedures created and how best to communicate potential consequences to brothers and associate members BEFORE an incident occurs. (Refer to our Chapter Standards Guide for assistance.)

### Questions to Consider

Additionally, Triangle recognizes that the issue of individual drug use on today's college campus (beyond those specific situations prohibited under the Fraternity's Risk Management Policy) is far more complex. The following questions are intended to help you more clearly define your chapter's philosophy on illegal drugs and other controlled substances:

- What is Triangle's role in helping a brother who is using illegal drugs or other controlled substances?
- What is the underlying reason for the substance use and/or abuse? Can the chapter help?
- Is the brother truly living the Ethics by proper conduct at all times?
- Is the member truly reaching his potential? Will his habits help or harm in later in life?
- Is this an issue to be handled by the chapter Standards Board?
- What role does Triangle's Code of Ethics play in the conversation?

### Specific to Marijuana

Until marijuana is removed as a Schedule I controlled substance by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), its possession and use at any property or event sponsored or identified with Triangle must be prohibited. Like it or not, federal law trumps state law. Even if marijuana is legal in your state and even if a student has a prescription for medical marijuana, it is a violation of federal law to possess or use. Our risk management policies and our insurance coverage both prohibit marijuana.

## HOW TO HELP A BROTHER

### Campus & Community Resources

If you decide to help a brother who is using drugs, rather than removing him from the chapter, there is a real responsibility that goes along with that decision. Helping a brother doesn't mean limiting his ability to do drugs. It doesn't mean you have the skills to actually help him. Helping a brother means you identify the very best campus or community resource to refer him to so he can get the help he needs. This may include your campus Counseling Center, Wellness Center, or Health Center. It will also mean you should include your Chapter Advisor, Leadership Consultant or campus fraternity/sorority life advisor for guidance.

### Drug Testing

Drug testing has consistently proven to be one of the most effective tools available to deter drug use in organizations. Testing is available utilizing urine, hair, saliva or sweat. A policy and procedures must first be established. An independent third-party medical provider should be retained to set-up clinics, laboratory accounts and coordinate with medical review officers to review and report test results. Should you have an interest in this option, contact Triangle HQ or talk with your campus fraternity/sorority life advisor or dean of students office.

### Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator

1-800-662-HELP | <http://findtreatment.samsha.gov>

Providing your geographical location over the phone or online will give you treatment options in your area. This helpline and website are maintained by The Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, a U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services agency.

**NOTE:** A more complete list of helpful resources is provided on Page 8 of this Guide.

## ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

### Role of the Executive Board vs. Role of the Housing Corporation

If chapter officers learn of something taking place in the chapter facility or at a chapter event, the Fraternity's expectation is that they confront the behavior and report the alleged violation of Triangle risk management policies to the Standards Board.

Additionally, if the violation occurred in the chapter facility, the President should notify the Housing Corporation, who ultimately has jurisdiction over alleged violations of an individual's lease agreement. In order to help prevent the possession, sale, or use of illegal drugs or controlled substances in the chapter facility, the Housing Corporation may consider implementing individual room inspections to ensure policy compliance.

### Individual Lease Agreements

Housed chapters should consider adding language about illegal drugs and other controlled substances to the individual lease agreements members sign. The following is sample language included in a lease agreement template available from Triangle Building and Housing Corporation (TBHC):

9. **RULES AND REGULATIONS.** YOU agree to abide by all the rules and regulations of [DESIGNATION] chapter of Triangle Fraternity and the national organization as they currently exist or as legally enacted in the future. YOU agree to treat all guests with respect. YOU acknowledge receipt of a copy of these rules which are attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- 9.1 YOU agree to obey and uphold all federal, state, local, and Fraternity laws, rules and regulations pertaining to the possession, distribution, and consumption of alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs.
- 9.2 YOU agree to obey and uphold all rules and regulations of [COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY] as they pertain to tenant conduct and the conduct of your activities on your campus.

### House Rules / Community Living Standards Document

Housed chapters should consider adding language about illegal drugs and other controlled substances to the chapter's house rules or community living standards document. The following is sample language:

#### Drugs/Drug Paraphernalia

- transport, possession, possession with intent to deliver, delivery, manufacture, purchase, sale, distribution, or use of illegal drugs or controlled substances is strictly prohibited.
- Prescription drugs may only be taken by patients for the intended use and in the prescribed manner as directed by their physician.
- Possession of drug-related paraphernalia is prohibited unless otherwise approved by the Housing Corporation.

### Chapter Standards Board

In addition to proactively educating both initiated members and associate members on the standards of the Fraternity, the Standards Board is also responsible for adjudicating alleged violations of Triangle's ByLaws and Regulations, as well as the chapter's Code of Conduct, constitution, bylaws, and house rules/community living standards.

The role of educational discipline is foremost in the process of sanctioning. The conduct process of the Fraternity is not intended to punish. Rather, it exists to protect the greater interest of the Fraternity, to challenge those whose behavior is not in accordance with established standards, to deter future conduct violations, and to educate members on their responsibilities as brothers and as members of their campus community.

Sanctions are intended to challenge members' moral and ethical decision-making and to help bring their behavior in accord with Fraternity expectations. When a member is unable to conform to the expectations of the Fraternity, the conduct process may determine that he should no longer share in the privilege of participating in the Fraternity.

If a member is found in violation of the Fraternity or chapter's policy on the possession, sale, or use of illegal drugs or other controlled substances, the Standards Board should consider utilizing the following types of sanctions:

<b>Educational Sanctions</b>	Requires the member to complete an educational program related to skills or knowledge he is currently lacking. Educational sanctions may include research and reporting, the completion of online education modules, attendance at a campus or area program, and/or completion of a university health services program on personal drug usage.
<b>Loss of Privileges/ Exclusion from Various Events (Probation)</b>	<b>General Probation</b> – this includes things like the loss of voting privileges, inability to eat meals at the chapter house, loss of Big Brother privileges, etc. <b>Social Probation</b> – restrictions on a member's ability to attend any parties, socials, formals, or special events for a specified period for a time. <b>Associate Member Function Probation</b> – restrictions on a member's ability to attend any new member events including, but not limited to, pinning, Initiation activities, Big Brother/Little Brother events, etc.
<b>Removal from Office</b>	<b>The chapter Standards Board may not impose this sanction</b> but may forward a recommendation of removal from office to the chapter for final adjudication.
<b>Suspension</b>	The suspension of a member for a set period of not more than one year requires a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote by the chapter. The suspension of a member deprives him temporarily of all rights and privileges in the Fraternity. During his suspension, he may not hold office, vote or attend meetings, nor participate in any Fraternity activities (i.e. social or athletic events, intramurals, new member activities, Ritual, etc.). Suspension does not relieve the chapter from the responsibility to pay the National Active Fee (NAF) for the suspended member.
<b>Expulsion</b>	The expulsion of a member requires a three-fourths (3/4) majority vote by the chapter and shall not be effective until approved by the National Council who shall have the authority to impose a lesser sanction. An expelled member loses all rights and privileges and forfeits all claims on the Fraternity. He shall return his badge, membership card and certificate to the active chapter secretary. Chapters will be credited the NAF for members who are expelled.
<b>Other Agreed Upon Sanctions</b>	Any other sanctions agreed upon by the Standards Board and the Respondent, such as drug/alcohol counseling, community service, reparation for damage or expenses incurred as a result of behavior, personal/public apologies, etc.

## RESOURCES

### Advisors & Staff

Complex problems require complex solutions. As fraternity men, you are not drug experts, and no one expects that of you. We do expect that you will involve outside resources when you have a member who has a problem. Start with a conversation with your Chapter Advisor, campus counselor or campus/national staff member. In some cases, there might be the need to involve the parents. This is a challenging issue and you need to seek adult advisement for assistance.

#### Triangle Fraternity Headquarters

317-837-9640 | <https://www.triangle.org/>

#### James R. Favor & Company Insurance

(800) 344-7335 | <http://jrfco.com/> | Claims/Incident Reporting: (303) 755-5639

FHSI Training & Resources: <http://fhsi.jrfco.com/>

### Websites & Third-Party Organizations

#### American Council for Drug Education

<http://www.acde.org>

#### Cocaine Anonymous

<http://www.ca.org>

#### Columbia University's Health Advice for Students. Go Ask Alice

<http://www.goaskalice.org>

#### Drug Help

<http://www.drughelp.org>

#### Families Anonymous

<http://www.familiesanonymous.org>

#### Jewish Alcoholics, Chemically Dependent Persons and Significant Others (JACS)

<http://www.jacsweb.org>

#### Marijuana Anonymous

<http://www.marijuana-anonymous.org>

#### Narcotics Anonymous

<http://www.na.org>

#### National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism's College Drinking Prevention

<http://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov>

#### National Institute on Drug Abuse

<http://www.drugabuse.gov/drugpages>

#### National Poison Control

1-800-222-1222

#### Recovery Schools

<http://www.recoveryschools.org/schools.htm#colleges>