DRUG-FREE STATEMENT

In recognition of the problems associated with drug and alcohol abuse in society today, Hodges University is providing all students and employees with the following information:

1) Hodges University strictly prohibits the unlawful distribution, possession, or use of illegal drugs by students on University property or as a part of any Hodges University activity. This prohibition applies to all students and employees.

The unlawful, illicit, or unauthorized use, possession, distribution or dispensation of alcohol by students and employees on Hodges University property or as a part of any Hodges University activity are prohibited.

The consumption or possession of alcoholic liquor, beer, or wine is allowed by students and employees 21 years old or older in designated areas on University property, or on host property, in accordance with the Social Policy, with prior written approval, as stated in the Student and Administrative Handbooks. The consumption or possession of alcoholic liquor, beer, or wine by employees and students on Hodges University property other than as provided above is prohibited.

2) The following legal sanctions are applicable for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol:

   **LOCAL**-Penalties vary based on the severity of the offense and the number of offenses. Sanctions for possession of an illegal substance for the first time range from fines of $1,000,000 to $5,000,000 and up to 40 years imprisonment. For future offenses and/or larger quantities of illegal substances penalties include fines ranging up to $10,000,000 and up to lifetime imprisonment.

   **STATE**- Penalties vary based on the severity of the offense and the number of offenses. Sanctions for possession of illegal substance, the offense whether there is a repeat offense. First offenders may receive up to 20 years while repeat offenders could receive life imprisonment. A schedule of fines up to $20 million also is in place.
**FEDERAL**- Penalties for unlawful manufacturing, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances are provided under the federal Controlled Substance Act. The penalties are determined by the nature of the drug, the amount of drugs or other substances involved and the number of offenses.

3) There are various health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol. Some of the more common problems are cited below.

**Marijuana**- Use can lead to an increase in heart rate up to 50%, a sense of euphoria, acute anxiety, and tremendous mood swings. There is potential for long term physical and psychological damage.

**Cocaine**- Use can lead to an intense high within seconds, deep depression, and intense dependency in a short time.

**Amphetamines**- Use increases heart and breathing rates, raises blood pressure while often causing blurred vision, dizziness, lack of sleep, and anxiety. Body chemistry is upset which can lead to long term physical problems.

**Alcohol**- Use can lead to a feeling of confidence and control. Liver, brain, heart, and stomach destruction goes on even without apparent symptoms. Use for a period of time often causes dependency and may be fatal.

4) There is help available to our employees and students. Hodges University offers a confidential session(s) with the University Counselor for referral resources, such as:

- National Institute on Drug abuse Hotline: 1-800-662-HELP
- David Lawrence Center (Naples) : 239-455-8500
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Naples)/Al-Anon/Al-Ateen: 239-262-6535
- Naples Hotline: 239-262-7227
- David Lawrence Center (Immokalee) 239-657-4434
- Ruth Cooper Center (Ft. Myers): 239-275-4242
- Genesis Counseling (Ft. Myers): 239-939-5504
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Ft. Myers): 239-275-5111
- Harbor Counseling and Family Services (Charlotte County) 941-255-5900
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Manatee County) 941-951-6810
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Pasco County) East 352-683-4597/West 727-834-3236
- Narcotics Anonymous (Pasco County) 727-842-2433
- Avon Park Florida Drug Rehab. 800-468-6933
- Alcoholics Anonymous (Key West) 305-296-8654
ALL STUDENTS WILL BE GIVEN A COPY OF THIS DRUG/ALCOHOL PROGRAM AT ORIENTATION.

ALL DRUGS

Hodges University seeks to assure the well being of all students, faculty, and staff. This policy, therefore, reflects the University-wide commitment to: 1) programs of drug education and counseling, and 2) only lawful and prudent use of any drug. Those who use illegal drugs, and illicitly use legal drugs— including but not limited to alcohol, are in violation of the law and University regulations. All members of the University are accountable to the law and to the University regulations.

GOALS:

- Inform and educate all students, users, and nonusers alike, on drugs and their effects.
- Refer to professional counselors: drug users and those affected by the drug use of others.
- Discourage illicit drug use.
- Uphold the law.
COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

The catalog describes general principles and expectations for student behavior within a community dedicated to formal academic pursuits and personal growth. In accordance, Hodges University provides drug information and referral to professional counselors that meet individual needs and to assist at crisis points.

The University Counselor is available to all students for such assistance. Students, faculty and staff are urged to refer persons troubled by drug use to the University Counselor’s office.

PROVISIONS

The educational and referral services of the University Counselors are available for those who are troubled by the use of drugs, legal or illicit, their own or that of others. Seeking confidential help from or being referred to these services will not, by itself, result in disciplinary action. Individual privacy will be respected in this process. If warranted, the University Counselor will report to the Executive Administration any cases that might cause a threat or endanger any individual or the institution.

SANCTIONS

Explanation of the sanctions on student misconduct is described in the University catalog under Regulation governing Student Conduct.

Legal sanctions on students and staff are according to existing local, county, and state laws.

COMMITTEE

A Drug Awareness Committee, a sub-committee of the ADA Committee, will review the effectiveness of this program and implement changes if needed.

The ADA Committee posts or publishes current information on drugs and alcohol. Reference material is available in the library.

The primary goal of the program is to prevent students and employees of the University from beginning the use of illicit drugs and the misuse/abuse of alcoholic beverages.