

Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital

Annual Security Report 2017-2018

1. Policy for Safety and Security Policies

(A) Campus crime reporting procedures

Any student or employee who observes a crime should immediately notify the nearest police station located at 2300 Randolph Road, Wheaton, Maryland, 240-773-5500. In addition, in the event of any threatening event (e.g. bomb threat, suspected criminal, suspicious character on premises, etc.) the person who observes the danger should carefully and quietly notify the senior administrative staff member in the building so that all students and employees can be notified and advised on what precautions to take, while avoiding panic.

All crimes should be brought to the attention of Rabbi Yitzi Labell who serves as a liaison with local police in coordinating information and keeping students informed. Pertinent crime information will be publicly announced to the student body within 24 hours of a crime.

(B) Policies on access to facilities

Campus facilities are all protected with accessed controlled doors that are locked full time during school hours. This restricts free entry to students, staff, and other authorized parties. Unknown persons are screened before entry.

Off-campus housing facilities should be locked at all times and students are provided keys. Select maintenance staff and administrators have access via key as well.

(C) Current campus law enforcement policies

The institution maintains no security force of its own. All students and employees who observe some dangerous or suspect situation are expected to communicate with local police immediately. Students are reminded of their responsibility for the welfare of their fellow students.

(D) Availability of on and off campus counseling and mental health services for crime victims

Counseling is available on campus and is provided by faculty and administration members. In addition, counselors with special training in the counseling field are available to students. Students who are reluctant to bring their concerns to a member of the school staff member may receive counseling off campus through services provided by Vesta, Inc., 8737 Colesville Road, Suite 700, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 240-296-5860.

(E) Policies for preparing the annual disclosure of crime statistics

The institution annually discloses crime statistics to students and employees. The statistics are compiled by the institution in conjunction with the local police station.

(F) Programs to educate students and employees about campus security procedures

Students are expected to read all the security materials carefully, and to adhere to all policies.

(G) Programs to educate students and employees about crime prevention

Students are required to participate in the periodic presentations by the police department and other recognized public safety authorities. Students are expected to observe rudimentary precautions, locking housing facilities and not traveling to unknown or high crime areas after dark.

(H) Policy regarding police monitoring of crime at recognized off-campus organizations

There are no authorized off-campus organizations.

(I) Substance abuse policy

See attached Drug and Alcohol policy.

(J) Campus policy regarding sexual assault

Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital is fully committed to maintaining a safe and secure environment for all students. Accordingly, the school adheres to a strict no-tolerance policy with regard to sex offenses.

In the event of a sex offense, students are urged to contact the police immediately. The nearest police station is located at 2300 Randolph Road in Wheaton, Maryland, 240- 773-5500.

If a student does not feel comfortable contacting the police directly, he may do so indirectly through the school's police liaison, Rabbi Yehoshua Singer.

Should such an assault occur, it is important for the student to preserve all evidence as proof of a criminal offense.

Confidential off-campus counseling for victims of sex offenses is available and may be obtained by services provided by Vesta, Inc., 8737 Colesville Road, Suite 700, Silver Spring, MD 20910, 240-296-5860.

Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital will change a victim's academic and living situation after the alleged sex offense if changes are requested by the victim and are reasonably available.

In the case of an alleged sex offense, both the accuser and the accused will be called before a disciplinary committee headed by the YGW Mashgiach. The accuser and the accused are entitled to the same opportunities to have others present during a disciplinary proceeding. The Mashgiach will interview both parties and any witnesses in order to make a determination of the

accused's culpability. The accuser and the accused will be informed of the school's disciplinary proceeding with respect to the alleged sex offense.

Any student who is found guilty of a sex offense, as determined by an investigation by a faculty board of inquiry, will immediately be expelled from the institution. There is no due process involved, and no appeal will be accepted. Attendance at our institution is a privilege, not a right, and may be withdrawn without notice if the student is deemed a threat to the safety and security of the student body.

2. Institutional Drug and Alcohol Policy

Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital is committed to maintaining a **drug-free campus**. This is for the benefit, protection, and welfare of all students and employees.

Although drug and alcohol abuse are common in American society, Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital sets higher standards and expects the campus to be totally drug-free. The policies listed below were formulated with that in mind and these standards are strictly enforced.

Please read the following carefully, and ask for clarification if needed.

(A) Standards of Conduct Regarding Drug and Alcohol Use

Unlawful use, possession, or distribution of drugs on school property, or as part of school activities is not tolerated.

Any student misusing drugs or alcohol off-campus will be subject to the same reprimands and disciplinary sanctions listed for violation on-campus (see #5 below), up to and including suspension and expulsion.

Responsible use of alcohol on or off premises, by students over 21, while not encouraged, will be allowed under the following circumstances:

- a. as part of Jewish ritual services and celebrations
- b. in control and moderation
- c. as long as the student makes no attempt to use a motor vehicle.

(B) Legal Sanctions: Local, State and Federal

Please remember that local, state and federal laws are constantly changing. As a result, information we distribute about legal issues may not be up-to-date. (Please check with law enforcement offices for current information.)

Note that the trend in legislation, law enforcement and the courts is toward harsher penalties, larger fines and longer periods of incarceration.

Remember, a conviction creates a permanent criminal record.

A student can be arrested if found in the company of others who are using illegal drugs, even if the student himself is not participating, which can lead to a very unpleasant period of incarceration and a court appearance.

1. Federal Penalties

There are severe penalties for illegal drug trafficking with minimum sentences for many categories.

2. State Penalties

In addition to the federal laws, the State of Maryland has its own laws dealing with distribution, manufacturing, and possession of controlled dangerous substances. MD. Ann. Code Art. 27 section 286 (1994), states that any person who unlawfully manufactures or distributes a Schedule I or II narcotic drug may be fined up to \$25,000 and/or may be imprisoned for up to 20 years for a first offense. Please note that new and stiffer penalties come up in new legislation with great frequency.

3. Local Ordinances

These may range from fines for driving with an open container of an alcoholic beverage in the car, regardless of whether the driver has consumed any alcohol, to more severe penalties.

(C) Health Risks

Studies have now proven that all illegal (and many prescription) drugs are, to some extent, physically and / or psychologically addictive.

Marijuana, once considered relatively harmless, has been shown to affect memory and intelligence, most seriously among young people who are at a crucial stage of development. Marijuana may also act as a “gateway” to more dangerous drugs.

In the past, marijuana was often of very weak quality. Potency has increased over the years, and many samples have been found to be adulterated with dangerous hallucinogens and other substances.

There is no safe drug. Many drugs are potentially addictive after only one dose. Many drugs can kill with just the smallest amount of overdose. There is no drug experience that is worth risking one’s health and the health of one’s family, including unborn children, and even life.

(D) Available Counseling and Treatment

Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital is committed to helping students deal with life's problems in a mature, sensible manner. The thrust of the institutional counseling effort is directed at prevention, rather than treatment. The counselling process is viewed very positively, with specialists provided on a regular basis. In addition, all faculty members have been trained to be sensitive to the physical and emotional well-being of the students and to assist as appropriate.

In The Event of a Drug Problem

Any student needing assistance is expected to speak to a faculty member for referral for counseling. Any student who is discovered to have an unreported problem will be suspended and required to seek professional assistance before being permitted to return to the school.

For counseling and treatment, students are referred to the CounterForce, the counseling and drug abuse prevention and treatment division of Torah Umesorah National Association of Hebrew Day Schools.

(E) Disciplinary Sanctions that the Institution Will Impose on Students and Employees

As an institution which is firmly opposed to any drug involvement, Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital shall deal severely with any student who misuses controlled substances. The following is the only warning given before sanctions are imposed.

1. Knowledge that Another Student/Employee is Involved With Drugs or Alcohol

Students/employees who become aware that a fellow student/employee is misusing drugs or alcohol are expected to bring the problem to the attention to the Mashgiach immediately. Students/employees who fail to do so will be held responsible and will be censured.

Any problem can be resolved more easily the earlier it is caught. Neglect of a problem can be a severe danger to the person involved, as well as those around him/her.

2. First Offense - Students

A student who is reported to have misused drugs/alcohol will be called to the Mashgiach's office to explain himself. The Mashgiach will interview any witnesses and make a determination of the student's culpability.

If found at fault, the student will receive a reprimand and the offense will be noted in the student's permanent record.

At the discretion of the Mashgiach, the student will be suspended, pending discussion with the student's parents and meeting with a health professional to assess the degree of the problem.

If the Mashgiach is fully satisfied that this was a unique occurrence, and that the student is sincerely regretful, and can be trusted to refrain from any future involvement with drugs, the student will be allowed back into school. He will be clearly warned that any repeat of the offense will result in immediate suspension pending investigation, and ultimately in expulsion.

3. Second Offense - Students

Any student who is guilty of a second offense, as determined by investigation by a faculty board of inquiry, will immediately be expelled from the institution.

Reinstatement may be considered only after a prolonged period of professional counseling and compliance testing, and at the discretion of the Mashgiach.

There is no due process involved, and no appeal will be accepted. Attendance at Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital is a privilege, not a right, and may be withdrawn without notice if the student is deemed a threat to the moral and/or physical integrity of the student body.

4. First Offense - Employees

In general, no applicant who has been convicted of a drug-related offense will be hired as an employee of this institution, although we may consider extenuating circumstances.

Any employee who has concealed a past drug-related conviction will be terminated without notice if such offense comes to our attention.

Any employee who is observed to be misusing drugs/engaging in the unlawful possession or sale of drugs will immediately be terminated and referred to appropriate law enforcement officials.

5. Addiction to Prescription Drugs/Alcohol

As legal substances, prescription drugs and alcohol are, unfortunately susceptible to misuse and addiction under certain circumstances.

The institution is sympathetic to any individual who is inadvertently entrapped in such a situation, and urges that individual to obtain immediate professional and/or self-help group assistance in curing the addiction.

The administration will make every effort to allow the employee to arrange his/her schedule to facilitate seeking professional assistance, and will make every possible effort to allow an employee to return to work after seeking treatment for his/her addiction at a residential clinic.

6. Responsible Use of Alcohol

Under no circumstances is a student who has consumed **any** alcohol beverage, in **any** quantity, to drive **any** motor vehicle. A student's friends are expected to exercise good judgment and seek the assistance of an adult if they are unable to dissuade a student from driving.

Preferably, a student who is drinking should turn his car keys over to a friend. Yeshiva College of the Nation's Capital wholeheartedly supports the idea of a designated driver. This is an arrangement where one person, who will not drink at all, is selected in advance to drive home.

Any student who drinks will be held responsible, and censured severely, for any infraction of this rule, up to and including a meeting with the student's parents, and/or suspension