



Kutztown University Policy COT-009

MEDICAL MARIJUANA POLICY

A. Purpose

This Medical Marijuana policy is a notification to all individuals affiliated with Kutztown University who have been prescribed medical marijuana. Some people need to use medical cannabis, also known as marijuana, that is lawfully obtained under Pennsylvania law. However, under Federal law, specifically the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, cannabis is an illegal drug and federal law supersedes Pennsylvania state law. Therefore, the use and possession of cannabis is prohibited on campus and in University-sponsored activities.

B. Scope

This policy applies to anyone who has a physical presence on University properties, instructional locations, or at off campus activities and events sponsored by the University, including students, employees, visitors, contractors, and employees who work for contractors, including bookstore and food services personnel.

C. Definitions

Medical Marijuana - Medical cannabis, also called medical marijuana, is derived from plants of the genus *Cannabis* that is used as part of the treatment for a specific symptom or disease when it is ordered by a physician.

D. Policy

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, medical cannabis is a lawfully recognized medication. Pennsylvania's medical marijuana program provides access to medical marijuana for patients with specific medical conditions through a safe and effective method of delivery that balances patient need for access to the latest treatments with patient care and safety.

Under federal law, specifically the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act, cannabis in all forms (regardless of its medical necessity) is an illegal drug. Kutztown University must abide by and certify that it is in compliance with all federal laws and regulations to be eligible to receive federal funding through Title IV in the form of student financial aid (grants, loans, and work-study programs), as well as other forms of federal funding, such as research or program grants. Federal law requires universities to adopt and enforce a written policy that bans the possession, storage, or cultivation of marijuana, even for medical purposes, on campus or in connection with university activities. Marijuana is prohibited on Kutztown University properties and instructional locations, as well as at all Kutztown University sponsored, conducted, or authorized events and activities held off campus. Students and employees who violate this policy may be subject to campus sanctions, including loss of housing, and federal penalties.

E. Effective Date – 3/24/23

F. Endorsed by Administrative Council- 9/15/22

G. Approved by Council of Trustees, pursuant to Act 1982-188 and Act 50 of 2020 – 3/23/23