



POLICY LETTER D -- Drug, Alcohol, Tobacco, Vape Policy at Fishburne Military School. 1 AUG 2024

DRUG/ALCOHOL/TOBACCO/VAPE POLICY: Cadets are strictly forbidden from possessing or using any illegal drugs, alcohol, stimulants, miscellaneous inhalants, unsupervised OTC medications, growth products, vapes, nicotine, and supplements of any kind while on or off campus. All medication must be turned into the infirmary by the parent or guardian upon the cadet's arrival or return to campus. Parents are required to send or deliver medication directly to the Infirmary in its original container. Cadets may not transport medication. Students found to be using, possessing, distributing illegal or unauthorized substances, paraphernalia, over the counter medications or any kind of prescription medication are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from Fishburne Military School. Vape devices, irrespective of their content are considered 'drug paraphernalia.'

SMOKING: Fishburne is a no smoking zone. Smoking of any kind is not permitted on the Fishburne campus. The Code of Virginia 18.2-371.2 makes it unlawful for anyone under the age of twenty-one to purchase or possess any tobacco product, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, vapes, JULLS, bidis, and rolling papers.

ENERGY DRINKS/BARS/GELS POLICY: Cadets at Fishburne Military School are not permitted to consume energy or soft drinks/bars/gels. An energy drink/bar/gel is described as containing stimulants, chiefly caffeine, which is marketed as providing mental and physical stimulation. Similarly, MiO or other energy supplement infusions are also not permitted.

PROTEIN POWDER POLICY: NONE ALLOWED

WHY: <https://www.healthforteens.co.uk/lifestyle/nutrition-diet/protein-just-the-facts/> Owing to the complexity and variety in the unregulated dietary supplement market; together with the vast unknowns of their interaction with many medications on youth, Fishburne Military School will not enter the fray on this subject. We will avoid the controversy by simply not permitting them on campus. If you wish to provide such for your own child at home, here is a useful article from the Mayo clinic.

<https://www.mayoclinichealthsystem.org/hometown-health/speaking-of-health/is-it-safe-for-my-kid-to-take-supplements>

ENFORCEMENT AND PREVENTION METHODS

Education – Cadets will be provided robust and constant education through JROTC and other means about the harmful nature of drug/alcohol use. This

will be a steady and on-going message from faculty, staff, administration, academic and military advisors. Every Cadet is encouraged to review and complete the following six lessons before reporting to Fishburne:

<https://everfi.com/courses/k-12/vaping-programs-for-high-school-students/>

Testing – Cadets will be subject to periodic random drug screening and breathalyzer tests conducted by Fishburne Military School, or its agencies. Drug screening may be conducted with or without cause at any time during the school year. If the test is given for ‘cause’ (suspicion) and found to be positive; OR if the test is part of a random regimen of testing due to a previous positive result, the test will be at the expense of the family. Cadets refusing to participate in a school drug testing or evaluation will be immediately remanded to the Commandant or President for dismissal. (Note that the below policy is much more developmental and aspirational in scope, so it’s best if parents advise their young men to comply with orders to be tested.)

Additionally, 10-15% of all cadets will be randomly selected for testing monthly.

Searches – Cadets will be subject to random searches of his person, room, and possessions with or without cause at any time. This is in an attempt to restore respect and honor to the Corps; and to implement search efforts that actually work. Actionable intelligence; adult instincts and scheduled efforts (unannounced and announced) will be the only way to trigger searches moving forward.

Cadet Integrity – In some quarters, ‘snitches get stiches.’ That culture will not be tolerated at Fishburne. Loyalty to the Corps of Cadets dictates that a person who lies, cheats or steals ***and tolerates those who do*** is not fit to be a member of the Corps. Underwriting a so-called ‘friend’ who is lying or duplicitous in his behavior by violating policy is disloyal to the Corps of Cadets. A real friend would never ask his peer to violate such integrity. It follows that anyone who knowingly protects, withholds the truth, or fails to disclose knowledge of vaping, alcohol use or other improper acts, will also be subject to severe scrutiny and very likely punishment. Cadet Integrity is the first line of defense against all harmful behavior, and we will depend upon it heavily.

VIOLATIONS

The following Violations are equal under this policy:

- Possessing a Vape Device, cigarettes of any kind or alcohol
- Using a Vape Device, cigarettes of any kind or alcohol
- Selling a Vape Device, cigarettes of any kind or alcohol
- Receiving a Positive result on a Drug Screening or breathalyzer

- Patronizing a Vape Store

Violations stay on the record. For example, see the consequence below about ‘additional random drug testing.’ This is a permanent consequence. Random tests will be conducted on this student throughout the rest of their time at Fishburne Military School. Violations will carry over from semester to semester, summer program to semester, and year to year. In other words, if a cadet commits a violation his freshman year, and again his junior year, it counts as two violations.

On the First Violation:

- The parent/guardian will be notified of the violation.
- The cadet will be placed under a regimen of additional random drug testing.
- Education:
 - If the violation includes vaping: The cadet will complete a course found at family expense (\$25) <https://www.vapeeducate.com/>
 - If the violation includes smoking: The cadet will complete the course found here: <https://www.freedomfromsmoking.org/>
 - If the violation includes alcohol: The cadet will complete the course found here at family expense (\$12): <https://www.udemy.com/course/how-to-stop-drinking-alcohol/?couponCode=THANKSLEARNER24>
 - If the violation includes multiples of the above, the cadet will complete all relevant courses.
- Consequences will include but are not limited to reduction in rank and suspension of duties if in a command or staff role. Specific consequences are beyond the scope of this policy letter and still in consideration. The messages of the consequences, however are meant to be severe, lasting and transformative.

On the Second Violation:

- The parent/guardian will be notified of the violation.
- The cadet will remain under a regimen of additional random drug testing.
- Consequences will include reduction in all rank; moving out of specialized quarters if the cadet is a Senior; and immediate In-School suspension.
- The parent/guardian will enroll the cadet in therapeutic counseling **within one week** (five working days,) of the finding. As part of their program, the cadet is required to undergo a full evaluation by a licensed Psychiatrist, licensed Psychologist or a licensed addiction counselor at their expense. Failure to do so within the allotted time, will result in at-home suspension of the cadet until a therapeutic arrangement can be made. The school will assist the cadet in making those appointments (in person or online.)

- Completing the program during the semester of the offense: upon successful completion of an approved program and with a certified counselor's recommendation, the cadet may be removed from in-school suspension.
- If the program is not completed during the semester, the cadet will not be readmitted to Fishburne without a certified counselor's recommendation.
- "Completing" a program of therapy is a clumsy way of saying we believe the cadet has reached sufficient aptitude that he will not risk one more offense - that it's safe for him to continue at Fishburne. It is acknowledged that finding a therapist or program that is working can (and often should be) a long-term year over year effort.

On the Third Violation:

- The parent/guardian will be notified of the violation and the cadet will immediately be expelled from Fishburne Military School.
- Cadets wishing to be readmitted must go through the application process again as if they were new students. Each applicant will be considered on its individual merit and discernable development seen in each case.
- A Fourth Violation after readmission will include permanent dismissal from FMS.

Another "New Drug": Pornography is the 'new' drug of choice that attacks and destroys many young and old alike. The Commandant has many resources to help all men attack and win the battle against porn. Families are welcome to explore <http://www.fightthenewdrug.org> and its educational arm: <http://www.joinfortify.com> to develop strategies to destroy this pernicious evil in society.