Federal Student Financial Aid
Penalties for drug law violations

Suspension of Financial Aid

Students who have been convicted of possessing or selling illegal drugs while receiving federal financial aid may have their eligibility for further federal financial aid suspended.

Student convicted of possessing illegal drugs are ineligible for federal financial aid for the following time periods:
- One year for a first offense
- Two years for a second offense
- An indefinite period for a third offense

Students convicted of selling illegal drugs are ineligible for federal financial aid for the following time periods:
- Two years for a first offense
- An indefinite period for a second offense

If the student was convicted of both possessing and selling illegal drugs, and the periods of ineligibility are different, the student will be ineligible for the longer period.

Students who have lost their financial aid eligibility due to such a conviction may regain it by passing two unannounced drug tests conducted by a drug rehabilitation program that complies with criteria established by the U.S. Department of Education, or by having their conviction reversed, set aside, or otherwise rendered nugatory. Students can call 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243) for additional information.