

HPTC provides information to all students at the beginning of school which is designed to inform students about the Board of Education's Drug Free School and Campus Policy, to educate students about the dangers of drug abuse, and to provide information about drug counseling and rehabilitation services. A statement of policy related to substance abuse and illegal drugs along with detailed information is contained in the Drug Free School and Workplace Handbook and in the Student Handbook both are available on this website, in the Student Services, Counselor's Office, and the Financial Aid Office. A list of referral agencies can be found at the end of the handbook. The Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy states: High Plains Technology Center prohibits the unlawful use, manufacture, possession, distribution, or dispensing of drugs ("controlled substances" as defined in the Controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. 812" and State Statue Title 63 2-101,2-608). Violation of this policy is grounds for disciplinary action up to and including immediate discharge for an employee and permanent dismissal for a student. Federal and State laws provide additional penalties for such unlawful activities, including fines and imprisonment. The district is bound to take all appropriate actions against violators, which may include referral for legal prosecution or requiring the individual to participate satisfactorily in an approved drug use/alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program. The district's policy requires an employee to notify his or her supervisor of a criminal conviction for drug-related offenses occurring in the work place no later than five days following the conviction.

### **Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations**

A student that is convicted of any drug offense during a period of enrollment for which the student is receiving Federal Title IV Pell Grant aid, under any federal or state law involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs, will lose eligibility for any Federal financial aid. For students that have lost eligibility, the High Plains Technology Center Financial Aid Office will provide a separate, clear, and conspicuous notification of Title IV eligibility loss, along with advisement on how eligibility may be regained. A student who has been convicted of drug related offenses that occurred while receiving Title IV aid may not be eligible to receive additional Federal financial aid for a period of time. Please see the Financial Aid Director for further information.

High Plains Technology Center strives to maintain a secure and safe environment for its students, employees, and the public. HPTC encourages all persons to report any criminal or suspicious activity to an Assistant Superintendent who will take appropriate action after analyzing and investigating the seriousness of the incident.