

FSU AND MARIJUANA FAQ

What is Proposal 1?

Statewide Ballot Proposal 18-1 is a ballot initiative creating the Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana Act, authorizing and legalizing the personal possession and use of marijuana products by individuals who are at least 21 years and older. It creates the framework for a licensing system administered by the State to regulate and enforce the legislation. Proposal 1 also establishes the taxation of revenue derived from commercial marijuana operations.

When will Proposal 1 take effect?

Proposal 1 will take effect 10 days after the date the election is certified by the Board of State Canvassers, which should happen sometime in December 2018.

Am I allowed to use and possess marijuana on campus now that Proposal 1 has passed?

No. Use and possession of marijuana in any form, including medical marijuana, remains prohibited by federal law and University policies. The use or possession of marijuana by employees and students is not allowed on any University-owned or leased property or during University business or events, whether on or off-campus.

Using and possessing marijuana remains fully criminalized under federal law. As a recipient of federal aid, the University must comply with federal laws regarding marijuana, including the Drug-Free Workplace Act and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, which require the University to maintain a drug-free workplace and educational environment.

Therefore, the University's policies on alcohol and other drugs prohibit the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of alcohol, controlled substances, and other drugs by employees and students on any property governed by the University or at any site where University work or student activity is performed.

Why is the University required to follow federal laws prohibiting the use and possession of marijuana and not state law legalizing it?

The University receives substantial federal funding to conduct its operations. This funding would be in jeopardy if the federal laws relating to the use and possession of marijuana did not take precedence over state law.

Can the University restrict me from engaging in behavior that is legal under state law?

Yes. Similar to restrictions placed on alcohol, smoking and chewing tobacco, and other controlled substances allowed under state law, the University can restrict the use and possession of marijuana on University premises and at University events.

Can I be subject to disciplinary action for using or possessing marijuana?

Yes, if the use or possession violates the University's policies prohibiting such activity. A violation of the University's policies can be grounds for disciplinary or corrective action, up to and including expulsion or termination.

What are the relevant University policies?

- Drug-Free Work Place Policy
- Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs
- Ferris State University Statement Supporting Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act
- Code of Community Standards
- Alcohol and Other Drug Use HRPP