

Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations

Marian University is required to remind students who receive federal financial aid that the Higher Education Act includes a student eligibility provision related to drug possession and selling. A student who is convicted of a state or federal offense involving the possession or sale of an illegal drug that occurs during a period of enrollment in which federal student aid was received is not eligible for federal funds. Federal aid comprises grants, student loans, and college work-study.

Timeframe for Ineligibility

The timeframe for ineligibility begins on the date of conviction and lasts until the end of a specified period as outlined below.

	Possession of Illegal Drugs	Sale of Illegal Drugs
1 st Offense	One year from date of conviction	Two years from date of conviction
2 nd Offense	Two years from the date of conviction	Indefinite period of time
3 rd /more	Indefinite period of time	

Regaining Eligibility

Students may regain eligibility for federal aid early by completing an acceptable drug rehabilitation program, passing two unannounced drug tests administered by an acceptable drug rehabilitation program, or if the conviction is reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record so that fewer than two convictions for sale or three convictions for possession remain on the record.

Qualified Drug Rehabilitation Program Standards

A drug rehabilitation program is considered approved for these purposes if it includes at least two unannounced drug tests and meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly from a federal, state, or local government program.
- Qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a federally or state-licensed insurance company.
- Administered or recognized by a federal, state, or local government agency or court.
- Administered or recognized by a federally or state-licensed hospital, health clinic, or medical doctor.