STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

Julie Stamps, FNPC, Director of Willcoxon Health Center
Beimdiek Recreation Center 242, 417.625.9323

The Willcoxon Health Center is staffed with one full-time and two part-time nurse practitioners and a physician who is available for daily consultation as needed. Appointments to see the nurse practitioner Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 P.M. can be made by contacting the Willcoxon Health Center. All currently enrolled students are eligible for treatment at the Center. Some of the services offered are: first aid and injury care, allergy injections, TB skin testing, flu shots (in season) and screening for certain illnesses. Most services are free; however, students are expected to pay for laboratory, x-ray, work/school physicals, emergency room, hospital services, gynecological, STD testing, prescriptions and ambulance service. The Health Center maintains confidential files on current students, including medical history and immunization records. Recommendation and referral to community or campus resources are also part of student health services.

A voluntary accident and sickness insurance plan for students is strongly recommended. Information on insurance plans is available from the Student Services Office.

Communicable Diseases
Students must submit proof of immunization, including TB testing within the last year and two doses of measles/mumps/rubella vaccine. These records are to be kept on file in the Willcoxon Health Center. The state of Missouri requires all resident students to also receive the meningococcal vaccine (for meningitis). In the instance of an outbreak of a communicable disease on the MSSU campus by a student, faculty or staff member, the University physician and the Director of the Health Center will assume responsibility for conducting a thorough review based upon the best medical and legal information available. Students who have not provided proof of immunity to the Willcoxon Health Center may be restricted from University property in the event of an outbreak on campus. Any actions taken will respect the confidentiality of the individual as well as the individual’s welfare and that of the University community.

STUDENT POLICIES

Dr. Ron Mitchell, Dean of Students
Billingsly Student Center 347D, 417.625.9531

Student Conduct
In order to provide the best possible environment for personal and intellectual growth, the University has established regulations to guide student conduct. A summary of these rules and regulations is found in the Student Handbook which may be obtained from the Student Services Office.

Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program
Pursuant to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Missouri Southern State University has established a drug and alcohol prevention program for its students. The University’s program is described below.

Smoking and Tobacco Use Policy: The Board of Governors of Missouri Southern State University prohibits smoking and tobacco use of any kind. Tobacco products are not permitted in any campus buildings. Smoking and other tobacco usage is permitted only in designated areas outside of buildings.

Substance Abuse Policy: Students are prohibited from using alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs on University-owned or controlled property and at University-sponsored or supervised activities. Irresponsible alcohol or other drug use off campus resulting in disorderly conduct on campus also is not acceptable. Any student of Missouri Southern State University found to have manufactured, dispensed, possessed or used a controlled substance in violation of the Substance Abuse Policy of this University will be subject to discipline in accordance with University policy and reported to local, state or federal law enforcement authorities for criminal prosecution. Criminal prosecution for these acts could lead to a conviction and such a conviction could result in a sentence imposing a monetary fine, imprisonment in a state or federal penitentiary or both.

Health Risks: Specific serious health risks are associated with the use of illicit drugs and alcohol. Some of the major risks:

Alcohol and other depressants (barbiturates, sedatives and tranquilizers): addiction, accidents as a result of impaired ability and judgment, overdose when used with other depressants, damage to a developing fetus, heart and liver damage.

Marijuana: addiction, panic reaction; impaired short-term memory; increased risk of lung cancer and emphysema, particularly in cigarette smokers; impairment of driving ability.

Cocaine: addiction, heart attack, seizures, lung damage, severe depression, paranoia, psychosis. Similar risks are associated with other stimulants, such as speed and uppers.

Hallucinogens (acid, LSD, PCP, MDMA, etc.): unpredictable behavior, emotional instability, violent behavior organic brain damage in heavy users, convulsions, coma.

Narcotics (heroin, Demerol, morphine, Codeine, etc.): addiction, accidental overdose, risk of hepatitis and AIDS from contaminated needles.

Inhalants (gas, aerosols, glue, nitrites, etc.): loss of consciousness, suffocation, damage to brain and central nervous system, sudden death, nausea and vomiting, nosebleeds, impaired judgment.

Methamphetamines: addiction, irritability, sleeplessness, nervousness, sudden weight loss, pungent body odor, protrusion of eyes.

Resources: A variety of resources exist for drug or alcohol counseling, treatment or rehabilitation programs. A few are listed inside the front of the Student Handbook. For more detailed information concerning these resources and others available from the University and/or community agencies, students may contact the ACTS-Advising, Counseling and Testing Services (417.625.9595) or the Student Services Office (417.625.9392). Such referrals will respect individual confidentiality.

A main objective of the drug and alcohol prevention program is to encourage healthy attitudes and behaviors on the part of all students and responsible decisions about alcohol/drug use. Another objective is to provide students in certain high risk groups (freshmen, Greeks, athletes, residence hall students, etc.) with specific and up-to-date information regarding the long-and-short-term effects of alcohol/drug use. A final objective is to provide students with the necessary skills to help them carry out the decisions they have made in regard to their use or nonuse of alcohol/drugs and how to effectively handle certain “high pressure” situations.

To meet the above objectives, information and assistance is provided to students in several ways. First, alcohol and drug films are shown and programs conducted in all orientation classes, which are required for all new students. Additional alcohol and drug information is presented in other academic classes, including KINE 103, Lifetime Wellness. Pamphlets about alcohol and drug