



## **Penalties Associated With Drug Related Violations and Offenses Under the U.S. Department of Education Higher Education Act Section 485(k)**

Federal law provides that a student who has been convicted of an offense under any federal or state law involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance shall not be eligible to receive any grant, loan, or work assistance during the period beginning on the date of such conviction and ending after the interval specified in the following table.

<b>Possession of a Controlled Substance</b>	<b>Ineligibility Period</b>
First offense	1 year
Second offense	2 years
Third offense	Indefinite
<b>Sale of a Controlled Substance</b>	<b>Ineligibility Period</b>
First offense	2 years
Second Offense	Indefinite

A student whose eligibility has been suspended based on a conviction for possession or sale of a controlled substance may resume eligibility before the end of the ineligibility period if:

- (A) the student satisfactorily completes a drug rehabilitation program that complies with the criteria prescribed in the federal regulations; and includes two unannounced drug tests;
- (B) the student successfully passes two unannounced drug tests conducted by a drug rehabilitation program that complies with the criteria prescribed in the federal regulations; or
- (C) the conviction is reversed, set aside, or otherwise rendered nugatory.

**Contact the Office of Financial Aid for more information or assistance:**

**Deirdre Moore, Director of Financial Aid**

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