



Good Samaritan Protocol

Purpose:

The health and safety of every student within the California State University San Marcos Community is of the utmost importance. CSUSM recognizes that students who have been endangered by alcohol intoxication, drug use, or other health risks may be hesitant to seek help or report incidents due to fear of potential consequences. The Good Samaritan Protocol is intended to remove barriers for students seeking help.

This protocol applies to:

- the student(s) for whom medical assistance was provided
- student(s) requesting medical assistance for another person

Students are strongly encouraged to call 911 if they, or another student, is experiencing a medical emergency, including intoxication due to alcohol or other drugs.

Scope:

If a student is assessed by a medical professional, including an EMT/Medic, regardless of whether they are taken to the hospital, the following will occur.

- A. The student will meet with a Student Conduct Administrator; however, they will not incur disciplinary outcomes, provided they engage in an assigned counseling/educational program within the timeframe outlined during their meeting.
- B. If the student does not complete the required program, however, they will receive disciplinary follow-up and outcomes.

The Good Samaritan Protocol may only be used by a student once/semester. Additional medical calls for alcohol or other drug concerns will result in disciplinary follow-up. This Protocol does not eliminate referral to Student Conduct & Ethical Development for concurrent policy violations, such as vandalism or assault.

Active bystanders are key to maintaining a safe community. Those who call for help may be requested to meet with a Student Conduct Administrator for an educational/informational meeting, but will not face disciplinary charges* related to their personal alcohol/drug use, provided they:

1. **Call:** initiate a call to 911.
2. **Care:** remain at the scene and monitor the student of concern as directed by the 911 operator.
3. **Cooperate:** provide accurate and complete information regarding the student and what they know of the situation to personnel responding to the scene (EMT/police/firefighter, etc.).

*In extreme circumstances, the Good Samaritan protocol may not apply to the active bystander i.e. if they were engaged in sexual assault or hazing, or purchased, supplied, or otherwise made available the alcohol or drugs contributing to the student needing medical assistance. Such instances will be examined on a case-by-case basis, considering the severity and the degree of responsibility for the circumstances.

This Good Samaritan Protocol benefits Cougars in the following scenarios (among others):

- A residential student is reluctant to call for help because they were in violation of the Resident Handbook/Housing License and fear they could be removed from housing.
- A student is reluctant to call an ambulance because they and/or their friend is under the legal drinking age and consumed alcohol/other drugs.
- A student is reluctant to report sexual or relationship violence because they were under the influence of alcohol/drugs at the time of the incident.
- A student is reluctant to call for help when a student is experiencing a medical emergency at a fraternity/sorority/student organization event, or initiation.

In cases involving student organizations, including fraternities and sororities, the willingness of the members involved in seeking medical assistance, and their honesty and cooperation with responding parties and subsequent investigation will be considered in the review process