Marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing agents than tobacco smoke. Long-term users of cannabis may develop psychological dependence and require more of the drug to get the same effects as felt within 10 seconds. The physical effects include dilated pupils, increased pulse rate, elevated blood pressure, insomnia, loss of appetite, tactile hallucinations, paranoia and seizures.

Tobacco (Nicotine): Tobacco consumption causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the risk of a fall by increasing the chance of a slip or stumble. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person’s ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol can lead to death. Smoking during pregnancy poses serious risk to the health of the unborn child. Low birth weight, low birth weight, and fetal and infant deaths. Perhaps the most dangerous substance in tobacco smoke is nicotine. Because nicotine is highly addictive, addicts find it very difficult to stop smoking. Of 1,000 typical smokers, fewer than 25 percent succeed in stopping on the first try. Depressants: Drugs: Respiratory depression, change in response to new stimuli, and decreased alertness may occur. Users may experience slurred speech, staggering gait, and altered perception. Large doses can cause respiratory depression, coma, and death. The combination of depressants and alcohol can multiply the effects of the drugs, thereby multiplying the risks. The use of depressants can cause both physical and psychological dependence. Regular use over time can result in dependence on the drug, leading the user to increase the quantity consumed. When regular users suddenly stop taking large doses, they may develop withdrawal symptoms ranging from restlessness, insomnia, and anxiety to convulsions and death. NARCOTICS: Narcotics induce a feeling of euphoria that often is followed by drowsiness, nausea, and vomiting. Users also may experience constricted pupils, watery eyes, and itching. An overdose may produce slow and shallow breathing, clammy skin, convulsions, coma, and possible death. Tolerance to narcotics develops rapidly and dependence is likely. The use of contaminated syringes may increase the risk of such diseases as AIDS, endocarditis, and hepatitis. Addiction in pregnant women can lead to premature, stillborn, or addicted infants who experience severe withdrawal symptoms. Anabolic Steroids: Anabolic steroids are a group of powerful compounds closely related to the male sex hormone testosterone. Steroids used subject themselves to more than 70 side effects ranging in severity from liver cancer to acne and include psychological as well as physical reactions. The liver and the cardiovascular and reproductive systems are most severely affected by steroid use. In males, use can cause testicular atrophy, sterility, and impotence. In females, irreversible masculine traits can develop along with breast reduction and sterility. Psychological effects include very aggressive behavior known as “roid rage” and depression. While some side effects appear quickly, others, such as heart attacks and strokes, may not show up for years.
EDUCATIONAL RECORDS AND STUDENT RIGHTS

The following information concerning student records maintained by Lamar University is published in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) as amended (PL93-380).

Access to educational records directly related to a student will be granted to him or her unless the type of record is exempt from the provision of the law.

The types, locations and names of custodians of educational records maintained by the University are available from the Registrar.

Access to records by persons other than the student will be limited to those persons and agencies specified in the statute. Records will be maintained of persons granted such access and the legitimate interest in each case.

The release of information to the public without the consent of the student will be limited to the categories of information which have been designated by the University as directory information. The student may request this information be withheld from the public by making written request to the Records Office. Directory information includes name, all addresses (including e-mail addresses), all telephone numbers, major field of study, academic classification, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, enrollment status, degrees and awards received, last educational agency or institution attended, photographs, and class rosters.

A student has the right to challenge records and information directly related to him or her if it is considered to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise inappropriate. Issues may be resolved either through an informal hearing with the official immediately responsible or by requesting a formal hearing. The procedure to be followed in a formal hearing is available in the Records Office.

Prior consent is not required from a student to disclose information to the Comptroller General of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, the Secretary of State and State and local educational authorities.

A reasonable attempt will be made by Lamar University to notify a student of a records request to comply with a judicial order or a lawfully issued subpoena.

The right of parental access to student records may be established by either of two methods: first, by the student filing a written consent statement or second, by the parent validating the student’s dependence as defined by the Internal Revenue Service.

A student has the right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office concerning alleged failures by Lamar University to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

Lamar University may release personally identifiable information to school officials. School officials include faculty, staff, or student workers who have a legitimate educational interest in gaining access to a student’s education record. Contracted individuals who are not employees of the institution, but who provide a service that the institution normally would perform itself, may also be classified as school officials.

FERPA ANNUAL NOTICE ADDENDUM

As of January 3, 2012, the U.S. Department of Education’s FERPA regulations expand the circumstances under which your education records and personally identifiable information (PII) contained in such records — including your Social Security Number, grades, or other private information — may be accessed without your consent. First, the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education, or state and local education authorities (“Federal and State Authorities”) may allow access to your records and PII without your consent to any third party designated by a Federal or State Authority or evaluate a federal- or state-supported education program. The evaluation may relate to any program that is “principally engaged in the provision of education,” such as early childhood education and job training, as well as any program that is administered by an education agency or institution. Second, Federal and State Authorities may allow access to your education records and PII without your consent to researchers performing certain types of studies, in certain cases even when we object to or do not request such research. Federal and State Authorities must obtain certain use-restriction and data security promises from the entities that they authorize to receive your PII, but the Authorities need not maintain direct control over such entities. In addition, in connection with Statewide Longitudinal Data Systems, State Authorities may collect, compile, permanently retain, and share without your consent PII from your education records, and they may track your participation in education and other programs by linking such PII to other personal information about you that they obtain from other Federal or State data sources, including workforce development, unemployment insurance, child welfare, juvenile justice, military service, and migrant student records systems.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON IMMUNIZATION TO ALL APPLICANTS OF LAMAR UNIVERSITY

MEASLES

(aka. Rubella, Red Measles, Hard Measles, 10-day Measles)

Measles is a highly contagious viral disease for which antibiotics are not effective. It has been responsible for many hospitalizations and several deaths among the college-aged population. The measles vaccine is usually given in combination with vaccines for mumps and rubella (MMR). It is strongly recommended that students of Institutions of Higher Education receive two doses of the vaccine prior to beginning classes. Many young adults have received only one dose.

TETANUS

(aka. Lockjaw)

The illness caused by tetanus results from the poison produced by a bacteria. Again, this is a very difficult illness to treat once it occurs and prevention is the most appropriate choice. The vaccine is effective for about 10 years and needs to be boosted at that interval. It is now common for older adults to develop Tetanus in the United States as many adults do not receive the recommended 10 year boosters. The Tetanus vaccine should be given in combination with the diptheria vaccine.

POLIOMYELITIS

In the United States, polio immunization is not routinely recommended for persons 18 years of age or older. However, if travel to other parts of the world is planned, a physician should be contacted for specific recommendations.

Immunization is an integral part of your health care. This part is called PREVENTION. It means that you must do something before you become ill to stay healthy! Don’t be part of the PROBLEM, be part of the SOLUTION. Make sure that your immunizations are current NOW!

For more information on immunizations, contact your physician, public health clinic, or:

Lamar University Health Center
P. O. Box 10015
Beaumont, TX 77710
Phone: 409-880-8466

Health students must contact their advisor for specific information.

BACTERIAL MENINGITIS VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

Texas Senate Bill 62 requires that all new students under age 22 who attend on-campus classes at an institution of higher learning either receive a vaccination against bacterial meningitis or meet certain criteria for declining such a vaccination before the first day of the semester. The requirement also applies to returning students under age 22 who were not enrolled in the previous long semester. Please go to http://beacardinal.lamar.edu/bacterial-meningitis for more information.

MANDATORY NOTICE ON HAZING

HAZING

The University reserves the right to take disciplinary action against individual students and/or groups who are involved in hazing activities. Such disciplinary action may be taken independent of state and local prosecutorial actions regardless of the outcome of such prosecutorial actions. Hazing on the part of students, faculty or staff is strictly forbidden, whether on or off campus. The state law providing penal sanctions in the event of a conviction of hazing is set forth in sections 4.51-4.58, Texas Education Code. Full policy is available in the student affairs office in 115 Wimberly Building.

Member of The Texas State University System

Lamar University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action educational institution and employer. Students, faculty, and staff members are selected without regard to their race, color, creed, sex, age, handicap or national origin, consistent with the Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11246 as issued and amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.