



Search and Seizure Policy

Purpose:

The policy provides guidance for those situations in which a search is necessary to maintain an appropriate environment conducive to education and to ensure the health and safety of the students at Compass Career College. It governs the authorization and execution of searches and seizures by administration and/or law enforcement authorities pursuant either to a special condition of release permitting such searches or to the voluntary consent of the person under supervision. This policy provides procedures for the handling of seized evidence or contraband.

Policy:

To protect the health and safety of the school community, administration may conduct random and unannounced searches of lockers, desks, and other containers or enclosures which are the property of Compass Career College. Students may be required to submit to random or systematic searches and personal searches with reasonable suspicion. Any student failing to cooperate with a search will be subject to discipline under the Code of Conduct.

Procedure:

To maintain order and discipline and to protect the health, safety and welfare of students and school personnel, administration may search a student, student lockers, student containers or belongings, and/or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search.

As used in this policy, the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel, or disruptive of any lawful function, mission or process of the school, or any item described as unauthorized in school catalog given to students during orientation and available on the institution's website in pdf format (www.compasscareercollege.com).

A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action. Student desks and lockers are the property of the school, and may be used for the storage of permitted student belongings only. School officials reserve the right to search desks and lockers as well as to open lockers at any time for repairs. A general search of lockers or desks may be conducted to repossess school property or to locate illegal materials. A random, systematic, non-selective search of classrooms, lockers, desks or automobiles may be conducted by school officials and/or law enforcement authorities. Students are responsible for the content of their assigned locker at all times. The student's individual right to privacy and freedom from unreasonable search and seizure is balanced by the school's responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all persons within the school community. Should illegal materials be found during a search, law enforcement officials should be notified. The locations at which searches of students and student property may be conducted are not limited to the school building or school property, but may be conducted wherever the student is involved in a school-sponsored function.

PERSONAL SEARCHES

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the

student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials or has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule. A personal search may include requiring a student to be scanned with a metal detector. A pat down search of a student may only be conducted if a school administrator has a reasonable suspicion that evidence will be found to corroborate suspicion that a law or school rule has been broken. If a pat down search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness present of the same sex present. Strip searches may be used only in an extremely serious situation requiring immediate action. Such a search should be used only in the context of imminent threat of death or great bodily injury to a person or persons. If a strip search is necessary the school official should contact the appropriate law enforcement officials, and the search should be conducted by a sworn law enforcement officer of the same sex, in the presence of a same sex adult witness.

LOCKER SEARCHES

Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers and are responsible for the content of their locker at all times. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

AUTOMOBILE SEARCHES

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated or is about to violate the law or a school rule and that the search will yield evidence of the violation or that illegal or unauthorized materials or other evidence of illegal or otherwise prohibited activities are contained inside the automobile. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

COMPUTER SEARCHES

School computers, software and internet access are school property. Students are only authorized to use school computers and other similar educational technology consistent with the educational mission of the school. School officials may search school computers, software and internet access records at any time for any reason and without student consent.

SEIZURE OF ILLEGAL MATERIALS

If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.