VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
Lexington, Virginia

GENERAL ORDER)
NUMBER 53) 19 October 2026

Policy on Prohibiting Controlled Substances and Drug Paraphernalia and the VMI Drug Testing Program.

1) **General.** The VMI academic and co-curricular programs are unique among the colleges in the Commonwealth of Virginia. As part of the academic program, mandatory ROTC courses as well as participation in the Physical Education Department are graduation requirements for all cadets. The physical and mental skill requirements of these programs demand cadets perform at the highest state of awareness to prevent injury to themselves and others while participating in this training. Similarly, cadet co-curricular program requirements demand the same mental and physical acuity and include the following activities: Rat Challenge, which consists of a number of physically challenging activities to include rappelling off of a 150 foot cliff, climbing and navigating high ropes courses, participating in difficult obstacle courses, and self-defense training; barracks life, with each cadet maintaining a weapon in the barracks room (rifle and bayonet), and cadets routinely performing as members of the twenty-four hour – seven day a week VMI guard team with responsibility to ensure the safety and security of the barracks and their fellow cadets; and non-ROTC military training that includes mandatory weapons firing and land navigation. With the exception of Rats while in the Ratline, cadets are eligible to operate state vehicles in support of the VMI mission. It is only prudent, given VMI's rigorous training environment that VMI ensure as part of its safety program for cadets, that those among them using drugs and threatening their safety are identified.

2) **Prohibited Activity.** Virginia Military Institute (VMI) will not tolerate the possession, solicitation, distribution, sale, or use of controlled substances or drug paraphernalia.

a) VMI prohibits all cadets at any time or place, whether on or off Post, from possessing or using any controlled substances or drug paraphernalia as defined in Virginia Code § 18.2-247 and Virginia Code § 18.2-265.1 . A detailed description of controlled substances by schedule and the text of Virginia Code § 18.2-265.1 are incorporated herein as Annex I and II. Any cadet knowingly and willfully possessing or using such a substance or item in violation of this policy will be dismissed from the Institute. Any student possessing or using any such substance or item in violation of this policy, but for whom the possession or use is not knowing and willful, will be subject to a penalty up to and including dismissal from the Institute.

b) VMI additionally prohibits any person – whether a cadet, visitor, employee, or other person – from bringing onto or possessing on VMI property any controlled substance or any drug paraphernalia. Any such prohibited item located on VMI property is regarded as contraband and subject to immediate seizure.

c) Items constituting drug paraphernalia that are prohibited by this policy are those items

identified in Virginia Code §18.2 -265.1 (see Annex II).

3) **Drug Testing Program Policy.**

a) VMI's drug testing program allows the Institute to randomly test members of the Corps of Cadets periodically for the presence of illegal drugs and other controlled substances. Agreeing to participate in this program is a condition of matriculation at Virginia Military Institute, and submitting to testing when required under this program is a condition for remaining a cadet.

b) VMI will conduct unannounced random drug tests periodically. Cadets selected for random urinalysis testing will be directed to report immediately to a specified location for the purpose of providing a urine specimen for testing. Each cadet will be briefed on the process and will remain at the designated location until an acceptable sample is provided for use by the laboratory. Detailed instructions are contained in Annex III.

c) In addition, the Commandant may direct members of the Corps of Cadets to be tested when a reasonable suspicion of drug use exists. "Reasonable suspicion" is defined as the existence of circumstances, reports, information, or direct observation of such a nature as to create a reasonable belief that a violation of General Order 2, Alcohol and Controlled Substances Policy, or the Cadet Blue Book may have occurred.

d) Cadets participating in NCAA and ROTC activities are periodically directed to undergo random urinalysis testing. Cadets selected for testing will be directed to report immediately to a specified location for the purpose of providing a urine specimen for testing. Each cadet will be briefed on the process and will remain at the designated location until an acceptable sample is provided for use by the laboratory. A positive finding from an NCAA or ROTC random urinalysis test revealing the presence of a prohibited substance pursuant to any generally accepted test including, but not limited to, a blood, urine, or hair follicle test for such substance, will be reported to the Office of the Commandant and treated as confirmation of possession and use of the prohibited substance in violation of this policy and may result in suspension or dismissal.

e) Refusal to provide a specimen for testing upon request in accordance with the provisions of this policy may be treated as the equivalent of a positive test and turned over to the Commandant for appropriate disciplinary action.

f) A positive finding of the presence of a prohibited substance pursuant to any generally accepted Commandant, NCAA, or ROTC test including, but not limited to a blood, urine, or hair follicle test for such substance, will be treated as confirmation of possession and use of the prohibited substance in violation of this policy and may result in suspension or dismissal.

FOR THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Travis Homiak
Colonel, USMC (Ret.)
Chief of Staff

DIST: E

Annex I – Controlled Substances Schedules in the Code of Virginia
Annex II –Definition of drug paraphernalia in the Code of Virginia §18.2- 265.1.
Annex III - Random Drug Screen Procedures

Annex I –Controlled Substances

Chapter 34. Drug Control Act

Article 5. Standards and Schedules
§ 54.1-3446. Schedule I.
The controlled substances listed in this section are included in Schedule I:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title54.1/chapter34/section54.1-3446/

1. Any of the opiates, including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, esters, and ethers, unless specifically excepted, whenever the existence of these isomers, esters, ethers and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation

2. Any of the opium derivatives, their salts, isomers and salts of isomers, unless specifically excepted, whenever the existence of these salts, isomers and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation

3. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation, which contains any quantity of hallucinogenic substances, or which contains any of its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation (for purposes of this subdivision only, the term "isomer" includes the optical, position, and geometric isomers):

4. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture or preparation which contains any quantity of substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation

5. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture or preparation which contains any quantity of the substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers and salts of isomers

6. Any substance that contains one or more cannabimimetic agents or that contains their salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation, and any preparation, mixture, or substance containing, or mixed or infused with, any detectable amount of one or more cannabimimetic agents.

§ 54.1-3448. Schedule II.
The controlled substances listed in this section are included in Schedule II:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title54.1/chapter34/section54.1-3448/

1. Any substances, except those narcotic drugs listed in other schedules, whether produced directly or indirectly by extraction from substances of vegetable origin, or independently by means of chemical synthesis, or by combination of extraction and chemical synthesis
2. Any of the opiates, including their isomers, esters, ethers, salts, and salts of isomers, whenever the existence of these isomers, esters, ethers and salts is possible within the specific chemical designation:

3. Any material, compound, mixture or preparation which contains any quantity of substances having a potential for abuse associated with a stimulant effect on the central nervous system:

4. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

5. The following hallucinogenic substances:
Nabilone; Dronabinol ((-)-delta-9-trans tetrahydrocannabinol) in an oral solution in a drug product approved for marketing by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

6. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances which are:
a. Immediate precursors to amphetamine and methamphetamine:
b. Immediate precursor to phencyclidine:

§ 54.1-3450. Schedule III.
The controlled substances listed in this section are included in Schedule III
https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title54.1/chapter34/section54.1-3450/

1. Unless specifically exempted or listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of substances having a depressant effect on the central nervous system;

Any substance which contains any quantity of a derivative of barbituric acid, or any salt of a derivative of barbituric acid, except those substances which are specifically listed in other schedules.

Any compound, mixture or preparation containing amobarbital, secobarbital, or pentobarbital or any salt of amobarbital, secobarbital, or pentobarbital and one or more other active medicinal ingredients which are not listed in Schedules II through V;

Any suppository dosage form containing amobarbital, secobarbital, or pentobarbital or any salt of amobarbital, secobarbital, or pentobarbital and approved by the Food and Drug Administration for marketing only as a suppository;

Any drug product containing gamma hydroxybutyric acid, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers, for which an application is approved under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. § 355);

2. Nalorphine.
3. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule:
a. Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any of the following narcotic drugs or their salts thereof:
Buprenorphine.
b. Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing limited quantities of any narcotic drugs, or any salts thereof:
Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers (whether optical, position, or geometric), and salts of such isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

4. The Board may except by regulation any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any stimulation or depressant substance listed in subsection A from the application of all or any part of this chapter if the compound, mixture, or preparation contains one or more active medicinal ingredients not having a stimulant or depressant effect on the central nervous system, and if the admixtures are included therein in combinations, quantity, proportion, or concentration that vitiate the potential for abuse of the substances which have a stimulant or depressant effect on the central nervous system.

5. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any quantity of the following substances, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers whenever the existence of such salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

6. Dronabinol (synthetic) in sesame oil and encapsulated in a soft gelatin capsule in a drug product approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

§ 54.1-3452. Schedule IV.
The controlled substances listed in this section are included in Schedule IV unless specifically excepted or listed in another schedule:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title54.1/chapter34/section54.1-3452/

1. Any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of substances having a potential for abuse associated with a depressant effect on the central nervous system:

2. Any compound, mixture or preparation which contains any quantity of substances including any salts or isomers thereof:

3. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers (whether optical, position, or geometric), and salts of such isomers whenever the existence of such salts, isomers, and salts of isomers is possible within the specific chemical designation:

4. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation containing any of narcotic drugs, or their salts calculated as the free anhydrous base or alkaloid, in limited quantities

5. Unless specifically excepted or unless listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation which contains any quantity of substances, including their salts:

6. The Board may except by regulation any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any depressant substance listed in subdivision 1 from the application of all or any part of this chapter if the compound, mixture, or preparation contains one or more active medicinal ingredients not having a depressant effect on the central nervous system, and if the admixtures are included therein in combinations, quantity, proportion, or concentration that vitiate the potential for abuse of the substances which have a depressant effect on the central nervous system.

§ 54.1-3454. Schedule V.
The controlled substances listed in this section are included in Schedule V:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title54.1/chapter34/section54.1-3454/

1. Any compound, mixture, or preparation containing limited quantities of any narcotic drugs, which also contains one or more nonnarcotic active medicinal ingredients in sufficient proportion to confer upon the compound, mixture, or preparation, valuable medicinal qualities other than those possessed by the narcotic drug alone:

The Board may except by regulation any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any depressant substance listed in subdivision 1 from the application of all or any part of this chapter and such substances so excepted may be dispensed pursuant to § 54.1-3416.

2. Unless specifically excepted or listed in another schedule, any material, compound, mixture, or preparation that contains any quantity of the following substances having a stimulant effect on the central nervous system, including its salts, isomers, and salts of isomers:

§ 54.1-3455. Schedule VI.
The following classes of drugs and devices shall be controlled by Schedule VI:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title54.1/chapter34/section54.1-3455/

1. Any compound, mixture, or preparation containing any stimulant or depressant drug exempted from Schedules III, IV or V and designated by the Board as subject to this section.

2. Every drug, not included in Schedules I, II, III, IV or V, or device, which because of its toxicity or other potentiality for harmful effect, or the method of its use, or the collateral measures necessary to its use, is not generally recognized among experts qualified by scientific training and experience to evaluate its safety and efficacy as safe for use except by or under the supervision of a practitioner licensed to prescribe or administer such drug or device.

3. Any drug, not included in Schedules I, II, III, IV or V, required by federal law to bear on its label prior to dispensing, at a minimum, the symbol "Rx only," or which bears the legend "Caution: Federal Law Prohibits Dispensing Without Prescription" or "Caution: Federal Law Restricts This Drug To Use By Or On The Order Of A Veterinarian" or any device which bears the legend "Caution: Federal Law Restricts This Device To Sales By Or On The Order Of A _____." (The blank should be completed with the word "Physician," "Dentist," "Veterinarian," or with the professional designation of any other practitioner licensed to use or order such device.)

Annex II – Paraphernalia listing per Code of Virginia section 18.2- 265.1.

§ 18.2-265.1. Definition.

As used in this article, the term "drug paraphernalia" means all equipment, products, and materials of any kind which are either designed for use or which are intended by the person charged with violating § 18.2-265.3 for use in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, strength testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body marijuana or a controlled substance. It includes, but is not limited to:

https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title18.2/chapter5/section18.2-265.1/

Annex III (Random Drug Screen Procedures)

Purpose: To provide the Commandant's staff a set of procedures for implementation of unannounced random drug screening, minimizing interference with cadet daily schedule. Description: The Commandant's Staff will conduct random drug screen testing in accordance with the following guidelines:

Step One. The Commandant will determine the time and date of unannounced random drug screen tests. In selection of the time and date, the Commandant will be mindful of the Corps calendar and seek to minimize disruption of or interference with the Institute's educational program.

Step Two. At the request of the Commandant, Information Technology will provide a computer-generated, random list of cadets for testing. The Commandant will assign a Test Administrator and Test Proctor to conduct the test. The Test Administrator will test all cadets present for duty, excusing only those cadets who are participating in authorized NCAA or ROTC morning physical training, those on authorized permits or leave and are out of barracks, or those who are in-patient at the Post Infirmary. The Test Administrator will select cadets for screening from that list based upon their schedules and availability only, making every effort to avoid interference with academic duty.

Step Three. On the morning of the random drug screen test, The Test Administrator will order the Guard Team to wake the cadets on the random list. The Guard Team will order those cadets selected for testing to report immediately to the test area, with a photo ID, wearing Summer Gym Dyke, only. The Test Administrator will not inform the Guard Team members or the subject cadet the reason the cadet is to report to the Commandant's office.

Step Four. Upon arrival at the Commandant's office, the Test Proctor will confirm that the cadet's name is on the list and check their ID Card. The Test Administrator will perform the actual test.

Step Five. Once the Test Proctor verifies the identity of the cadet, the Test Proctor will order the cadet to select an "iCup" test kit from the box of unopened test kits, supervise the opening of the kit, and send the cadet to the latrine to provide a specimen in the "iCup," leaving the door to the latrine open. The Proctor will not directly watch the cadet. The cadet then reports to the Test Administrator with their specimen.

Step Six. If a cadet cannot immediately provide a specimen, the cadet will remain in the test area under the control of the Test Proctor or the Test Administrator until successfully providing a sample.

Step Seven. The Test Administrator will call cadets into the test area, individually, and verify their name and ID again.

Step Eight. The test Administrator will test the urine using the "iCup" test, in the presence of the cadet.

If the test result is negative, The Test Administrator will return the cadet's ID card and return the cadet to duty. The Supervisor will discard the sample.

If the test results are positive for one or more of the tested drugs, the Test Administrator will contact the Institute Physician to review the cadet's medical records for any prescribed medication that could cause a positive result.

If none, the Test Administrator will escort the cadet to the Lab at Quest Diagnostics in Lexington, Virginia, for an additional drug screening. The Test Administrator will remain with the cadet during the entire Lab process. The Lab will give a copy of the test paperwork to the cadet and a second copy to the Test Administrator. The Test Administrator will return the second copy to the Deputy Commandant and return the cadet to duty.