1. Purpose

1.1 The purpose of this regulation is to remove barriers and increase the likelihood that students who require emergency medical assistance as a result of alcohol consumption will receive such assistance. This regulation will provide students with an opportunity to receive a caring medical intervention that will not result in disciplinary action from the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities (“OSRR”).

1.2 The Alcohol Medical Amnesty regulation provides the University with a mechanism for reducing the harmful consequences caused by the abuse of alcohol by allowing students to receive medical assistance without worrying about NCCU judicial consequences. This regulation is designed to promote responsible decisions when students are faced with medical emergencies. This regulation is in place to encourage students to not fear seeking the help of others when faced with an alcohol intervention. Students who qualify for medical amnesty will not receive any sanctions from OSRR, and no documentation will be made in the student’s disciplinary record of the medical intervention.

1.3 North Carolina Central University does not condone underage drinking, but recognizes that it is occurring and has implemented this regulation in hopes that it will encourage more students to make the appropriate decision to call for help when emergency medical attention is needed.

2. Qualifying for Medical Amnesty
2.1 There are three situations wherein medical amnesty may apply. Medical amnesty applies to both on-campus and off-campus alleged violation(s) of the Student Code of Conduct. For the policy to apply, the individual in need of emergency medical attention, other individuals present, or an organization must request assistance. The three situations where medical amnesty may apply are described below:

2.2 Individuals in Need of Emergency Medical Attention
Students who receive emergency medical attention directly related to the consumption or use of alcohol may be eligible to receive medical amnesty. Students will be referred to OSRR, who will not issue any disciplinary action. Students may be referred to additional on-campus resources and be required to follow through with the additional requirements in order to receive amnesty, such as meeting with the University’s Alcohol and Other Drug Specialist. OSRR has the authority to notify the parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of students under the age of 21 (who are claimed as dependents for income tax purposes) who receive medical amnesty of the situation that has triggered the use of the medical amnesty regulation. Students who receive emergency medical attention may be granted medical amnesty only once while enrolled at North Carolina Central University. Any subsequent violation(s) will result in a referral to the OSRR.

2.3 Other Individuals Present
Students, even when consuming alcohol themselves, who seek emergency assistance on behalf of individuals experiencing alcohol-related emergencies or who provide assistance to another student who is experiencing an alcohol-related emergency, are eligible to receive amnesty, as long as they remain with the individual needing assistance until emergency medical attention is provided. Students who provide assistance to a student in need may or may not be referred to the OSRR. However, if students are referred, they will be granted amnesty and will not receive any disciplinary action from the OSRR. Students may be required to participate in an appropriate educational program or referred to additional on-campus resources in order to receive amnesty. In order to encourage students to be proactive in helping others, the University does not limit the number of times a student can seek medical amnesty on behalf of others during an alcohol-related emergency.

2.4 Clubs/Organizations
A representative of a university recognized club or organization hosting an event is required to seek medical assistance in a medical emergency to be eligible for medical amnesty as it applies to clubs/organizations. Representatives from the organization may be required to meet with a staff member in the OSRR or Student Engagement and Leadership. Clubs/organizations that seek emergency assistance on behalf of individuals experiencing alcohol-related emergencies or provide assistance in an emergency situation at an event sponsored by the club/organization, are eligible to receive amnesty, as long as they remain with the individual needing assistance until emergency medical attention is provided. Clubs/organizations that qualify for medical amnesty will not be held responsible or sanctioned for violations of the University’s alcohol-related policies, and the incident will not be noted on the club/organization’s record. Clubs/organizations may be required to participate in or organize an appropriate educational program for the club/organization and its members. Medical amnesty for a club/organization is granted to the club/organization only. Members of the organization must qualify for medical amnesty as described in Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of this regulation. Clubs/organizations may only be granted medical amnesty once per academic school year and only for appropriately recognized events of their club/organization.

3. Limitations of Medical Amnesty

3.1 The policy does not apply to any type of drug-related behavior, including use, possession, or distribution. Additionally, the policy does not apply to other prohibited conduct, such as, but not
limited to, assault, theft, driving while impaired, and property damage. If other prohibited conduct occurs, the University and/or the OSRR may hold the student(s) responsible for those violations.

3.2 Nothing in this policy shall prevent an individual who has enforcement obligations under state or federal law to report an alleged violation, file a charge, or take other action related to the possible criminal prosecution of any student.