

Chicago Alternative Cannabis Enforcement Program- Municipal Code 7-24-099:

In August of 2012, the City Council of Chicago passed an ordinance that led to the establishment of the Chicago Police's "Alternative Cannabis Enforcement Program." In basic terms, this ordinance states that individuals 18 years of age and older who are in possession of up to 15 grams of cannabis *may* be ticketed by police versus arrested. The ticket issued in such a case is called an "Administrative Notice of Ordinance Violation" (ANOV). Important details and exemptions about this ordinance are as follows:

1. This ordinance refers mainly to the possession of cannabis; people caught in the act of smoking the cannabis will still be arrested.
2. People under the influence of cannabis and in control of a motor vehicle will be arrested versus ticketed.
3. **The ordinance does not apply on the grounds of a school or public park, beach, or playground. People in a school or on school grounds or property will not be ticketed but arrested. Accordingly, people caught with cannabis on DePaul University's property are not eligible for a ticket. DePaul University continues to call the Chicago Police whenever a person is in possession of cannabis or other illegal drugs on campus property.**
4. People found violating the ordinance during the execution of a search warrant will be arrested versus ticketed.
5. If evidence suggests that the person in possession of the cannabis has the intent to sell or deliver it, he/she will be arrested versus ticketed.
6. If there are other aggravating factors present at the time the person is found with cannabis, Chicago Police may be compelled to arrest versus ticket the person.

A person receiving his/her first ticket will pay between \$250-\$500. For second and subsequent offenses, the fine will be \$500. Persons receiving a ticket will have to attend a hearing, and additional sanctions such as community service or drug education classes may be applied. Failure to show to the hearing or failure to pay the fines may result in a jail sentence or other sanctions. **Keep in mind that students who are found responsible for violating DePaul University's policy on illegal drugs will undergo an additional judicial process on campus.**

Please see Chicago Municipal Code 7-24-099 and http://llnw.wbez.org/Special_order.pdf for more information.