School of Law Catalog Addendum

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Changing Tomorrows
One Student at a Time

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Abraham Lincoln University School of Law 2016 Catalog (LCat v7.4a 0416)
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Abraham Lincoln University reserves the right to make changes at any time, with or without notice and in its sole and absolute discretion, to course structure and lecture delivery format, including the length and method of lecture delivery currently used at the university. To ensure students a progressive and challenging curriculum, Abraham Lincoln University also reserves the right to change graduation requirements and to revise or delete courses as deemed necessary.
1. Attendance Requirements

For successful studies and to comply with online education requirements, students must adhere to both the (1) University’s Participation Policy and (2) the Committee of Bar Examiners attendance standards.

(1) ALU’s Weekly Participation Policy Requirement

To determine if students are "attending" the University, students must actively participate in a weekly ALU academic-related activity (ARA). ARAs are used to determine a student’s official last date of attendance as well as the effective date of active and withdrawn enrollment statuses. Online courses begin on a Sunday for the School of Law and end on a Saturday. Regardless of when assignments are due, students must submit weekly ARA submissions in each week of the course (the week beginning on Sunday and ending on Saturday). Weekly ARA submissions are due no later than Saturdays at 11:59 PM (Pacific Standard Time).

The following are considered academically-related activities (ARAs) and meet the University’s Participation Policy Requirement:

• Participation in online Discussion Board Postings;
• Submission of Academic Assignment(s), including Cali and Barbi score submissions
• Submission of Quiz/Exam
• Attend a live online or in-studio lecture or chat session with online submission of discussion board posting, quiz, or assignment (local students who opt to physically attend live in-studio classes located in Los Angeles must log into the designated campus computer workstation);
• View archived streaming video with online submission of discussion board posting, quiz, or assignment

The following are not academically-related activity (ARA) and do NOT meet the University’s Participation Policy Requirement:

• Attending a live (online or in-studio) lecture class without any discussion board posting, quiz, or assignment submission
• Viewing archived streaming videos without any discussion board posting, quiz, or assignment submission
• Academic counseling or advisement

ALU’s learning management system captures when students complete the above academically-related activities (ARAs) online. The data captured on this learning management system will be used to monitor student progress.

Students who do not complete academically-related activities within the first 14 days of the term start date will be constructively withdrawn from their classes and their enrollment will be administratively cancelled.

Students who fail to complete academically-related activities for 21 consecutive calendar days will be out of compliance with ALU’s participation policy and will be academically dismissed from the University as recorded on the student’s transcript/records.
Lincoln University will issue an Academic Dismissal Warning Letter to students who have no academically related activity for two consecutive weeks (14 days) and who are in jeopardy of not meeting ALU’s Participation Policy.

(2) Committee of Bar Examiners (CBE) Minimum Requirements

- Students must participate in a minimum of 80% of the regularly scheduled and required events (lectures and chats) in each course by the time of the syllabus’s date for the Final Exam in order to receive credit for the course;
- Regular and punctual participation in interactive courses is required;
- CBE requires that students accrue JD program units in increments of 24-26 weeks or 48-52 weeks.

The following meet CBE’s attendance requirements:
- Attend at least 80% live (online or in-studio) lecture class AND chats;
- Viewing of at least 80% archived streaming video AND archived chats

The following do not meet CBE attendance requirements:
- Downloading ALU audio files only
- Optional sessions (e.g. office hours, academic counseling or advisement)
- Taking and completing the Final Exam does not constitute an agreement by ALU that the student has in fact complied with this 80% attendance rule

ARA Deadline Extensions and Special Circumstances

To request a weekly academic-related activity deadline extension, students must submit an Extension Request form on their online course site within ALU’s LMS and must follow all instructions on the form for approval. To request an extension on an exam, students must submit a separate petition to the Registrar’s office.

A student may appeal the University’s participation policy if the student can demonstrate that he/she is on pace, engaging in activities not captured, by default, by ALU's learning management system. Such activities may include initiating contact with faculty to ask questions about subject studied, posting subject related content in required live lectures or chat sessions, etc. The student must submit their request, in writing, and must provide supporting documentation to the ASC Academic Appeals Subcommittee. The ASC Academic Appeals Subcommittee will review the appeal, documentation, and will inform the student of the outcome.

(Revision to p.34 of JD Catalog, effective April 17, 2016)

2. Leave of Absence Policy

The purpose of this leave of absence (LOA) policy is to provide students with an opportunity to petition for a LOA between compliant periods of continuous study as defined by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California (CBE). ALU students must accrue JD program units through continuous study in increments of 48-52 consecutive weeks in the first year and, thereafter, in increments of 24-26 consecutive weeks or 48-52 consecutive weeks for any upper level year (the availability of 24-26 consecutive week periods of continuous study depends on when the ALU student starts his or her year of study and available ALU course schedules). The CBE prohibits taking a LOA that would disrupt the
CBE’s continuous study rule. **Students whose JD program studies are interrupted in the middle of any 24-26 week or 48-52 week period may be in jeopardy of losing credit for some or all of the coursework completed during that given year of study.**

The LOA period allows students to remain active during the period between the end of one continuous study period and the next available start date. ALU’s leave of absence policy (LOA) is applicable to all actively enrolled Juris Doctor (JD) students. Students may be approved for multiple LOAs in a 12-month period, however, the total of all approved LOAs may not exceed 180 calendar days in the 12-month period.

During an approved LOA, the student is not considered withdrawn and no Return to Title IV (R2T4) calculation is required for financial aid recipients. Upon the student’s return from the leave of absence, he or she continues to earn the Federal Student Aid previously awarded for the period.

**Required Documentation**

A LOA may be approved if ALU determines there is a reasonable expectation the student will return. Students must follow ALU’s LOA Policy when requesting a LOA, by providing a written, signed and dated request, on or before the start date of the LOA, including the reason for the LOA and expected return date to the Registrar’s Office. The leave of absence becomes final only when the University provides written notice to the student of acceptance of the leave of absence and provides a return date for the student. Students must settle all accounts before a Leave of Absence becomes effective. The student is responsible for tuition for classes offered before the Leave of Absence becomes effective.

If unforeseen circumstances prevent a student from providing a request to ALU on or before the start of the LOA, ALU may grant the LOA if the University has documented the reason and decision. ALU must collect the signed LOA petition from the student at a later date and provide it to the Registrar’s Office within a reasonable amount of time from the student’s last date of attendance. Unforeseen circumstances may include, but are not limited to, medical and family emergencies, military, jury duty, and natural disasters.

A LOA will NOT be approved if a student requests the LOA after 21 consecutive days of nonattendance and/or the request is not due to unforeseen circumstances that occurred prior to the unofficial withdrawal status.

**Verbal Approvals**

To ensure students who are receiving federal financial aid are not adversely affected because of their military status, a natural disaster or a national emergency, and to minimize the administrative burden placed on such individuals, if an affected student has difficulty providing a written LOA request because of affected status, a verbal LOA request may be approved. Affected students include those who:

- Are serving on active duty during a war or other military operation, or national emergency;
- Are performing qualifying National Guard duty during a war or other military operation, or national emergency;
- Reside or are employed in an area that is declared a disaster area by any federal, state or local official in connection with a national emergency

ALU will document the decision for granting an approved LOA to an affected student if that student has difficulty providing a written LOA request because of affected status. The documentation will include both the reason for the LOA and the reason for waiving the requirement that the LOA be requested in writing. For additional information, students
should contact the Financial Aid Office.

**Length**
In determining the length of the LOA, the LOA start date is the first day of the LOA, and the LOA end date is the day before the start date of the course the student is returning to at the University. The first day of the student’s initial LOA is used when determining the start date for the 12-month period. If a student is granted an LOA due to unforeseen circumstances, the beginning date of the approved LOA, as recorded by the student on the LOA form, is the date the student was unable to attend class because of the unforeseen circumstance.

The course start date will cease the LOA day count; however, the University’s academic system of record will use an active enrollment status effective date as determined by the date the student posts an academic-related activity in the course the student returns to at the University. NSLDS Enrollment Reporting will use the standard effective date for an active enrollment (i.e., course start date). A new LOA request form will be required for any additional LOAs.

**Extending an LOA**
A student may request an LOA extension as long as the request is made before the scheduled end date and does not exceed the maximum 180 day policy. Students must follow ALU’s LOA Policy when requesting the LOA extension, by providing on or before the scheduled end date, a written, signed, and dated request, including the reason for the LOA extension and expected return date to the Registrar’s Office. The extension becomes final only when the University provides written notice to the student of acceptance of the leave of absence extension and provides a return date for the student.

**Disbursements During an LOA**
While a student is on an approved LOA, the University will not make a disbursement of the proceeds of a Direct Loan to a student. Moreover, the University will not assess the student any additional institutional charges and the student is not eligible for any additional federal student aid while on an approved LOA. Federal financial aid funds that are part of a credit balance created before a student began a LOA may be paid to a student, since those funds were disbursed before the student went on the LOA.

**Failure to Return**
If a student is granted a leave of absence and is a Title IV loan recipient and fails to return to school, the student’s Title IV loan repayment terms may be effected. The school must report a change in enrollment status to NSLDS - one possible consequence of not returning from a leave of absence is that a student’s grace period for a Title IV program loan might be exhausted. If a student does not return from an approved LOA, the withdrawal date and beginning of the grace period will be the student’s last date of attendance. In the event a student does not return from a leave of absence, any refunds due will be made to the appropriate financial aid programs within 45 days of the date the student was scheduled to return.

If the student reenters, after withdrawing from the University, the previously approved LOA days will count toward the student’s LOA maximum of 180 days in a 12-month period.


(New Policy effective April 17, 2016)

3. Federal Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy

Federal regulations require institutions to establish a reasonable Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy for determining whether an otherwise eligible student is meeting SAP in an educational program and may receive financial aid under the Title IV HEA programs. The SAP policy applies to all JD students including those not receiving federal financial aid under the Title IV HEA programs.

Students must maintain SAP throughout the duration of their academic program to remain eligible for federal financial aid. SAP is assessed by qualitative and quantitative measures and is evaluated at the end of each completed payment period in the student’s academic program.

Qualitative Measure
GRADE POINT AVERAGE
JD students must have a cumulative program grade point average (GPA) of 70 at the end of each completed payment period, unless otherwise defined by academic policy. A student’s cumulative program GPA is calculated using only those grades earned at the University for the current program of the student.

Quantitative Measure
The JD program has a published standard credit load for completion. Pace of completion is evaluated for all periods of attendance at the University, including periods the student did not receive federal financial aid.

MAXIMUM TIMEFRAME
The maximum timeframe to complete the JD program cannot exceed 150% of the published length of the program measured in credit hours attempted. Progress is evaluated cumulatively at the completion of each payment period to ensure completion of the program within the 150% maximum timeframe. If a student cannot complete the program of study within the maximum timeframe (as determined at the end of the payment period), the student will be placed on financial aid disqualification status without the ability to appeal.

PACE OF COMPLETION
The quantitative measure for the pace of completion is calculated using the following formula:
Cumulative number of credit hours the student successfully completed divided by cumulative number of credit hours the student attempted. At the end of each payment period, the student’s pace of completion is evaluated. Students must successfully earn at least 67% of the credit hours attempted toward completion of the primary program of study. Credit hours taken at other institutions and accepted toward a student’s primary program of study at the University are included in both attempted and completed credit hours when measuring pace of completion. Courses from which the student withdraws are counted as attempted credit hours when calculating the quantitative measurement or program pace.

EVALUATION
The University evaluates SAP for the JD program based on a completed payment period (generally, at least 17.5 credit hours, 26 weeks). As a result of the evaluation, a student is assigned a Federal SAP status.

FINANCIAL AID WARNING
Students with less than a cumulative 70 GPA, or the minimum as stated in the University’s
academic policy, OR who do not earn 67% of their attempted credits (cumulatively) at the end of a completed payment period, are automatically placed on Financial Aid Warning status. The University can disburse federal financial aid funds to students on Financial Aid Warning status for one payment period.

**FINANCIAL AID DISQUALIFICATION**

If a student on Financial Aid Warning status does not meet SAP at the end of the subsequent completed payment period, the student is not eligible for additional federal financial aid and will be placed on Financial Aid Disqualification status. Students who are placed on Financial Aid Disqualification status are ineligible for federal financial aid.

**FINANCIAL AID PROBATION**

Students who are granted an appeal will be placed on Financial Aid Probation status and will have their financial aid eligibility reinstated based on the appeal. The University can disburse federal financial aid funds to students on Financial Aid Probation status for one probationary payment period, provided all other eligibility requirements are met. The student must meet the University’s SAP standards to maintain federal financial aid eligibility. If the University determines, based on the appeal, that the student will require more than one payment period to meet progress standards, the University will place the student on probation and develop an academic plan for the student. The University will review the student’s progress at the end of one payment period, as is required of a student on probation status, to determine if the student is meeting the requirements of the academic plan. If the student is meeting the requirements of the academic plan, the student is eligible to receive Title IV aid as long as the student continues to meet those requirements and is reviewed according to the requirements specified in the plan.

**STUDENT NOTIFICATION**

The University will notify students at any point during their enrollment if they are placed on or taken off the Financial Aid Warning, Financial Aid Probation, Financial Aid Disqualification statuses, as these affect student eligibility to receive federal financial aid.

**STUDENT FINANCIAL AID APPEALS**

Students placed on Financial Aid Disqualification status due to a violation of the qualitative and/or quantitative standards during the Financial Aid Warning period may appeal the disqualification to regain eligibility for federal financial aid. Students may do so by submitting a written appeal to the Dean of School of Law. If there are unusual circumstances that should be considered during the appeal process, federal financial aid reinstatement may be possible during a financial aid probation period. All appeals MUST include a written statement to explain the circumstances of why the student failed to make SAP and what has changed in their situation that would allow them to demonstrate SAP at the next evaluation. Approval and/or reinstatement of federal financial aid eligibility are not guaranteed. The Academic Review Committee reviews all appeals on a case-by-case basis. Approval is only granted when there are significant extenuating circumstances. All decisions made by the Academic Review Committee are final. Examples of unusual circumstances may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Death of a relative
- An injury or illness of the student
- Other special circumstances

If students have more than 12 credits remaining in their program of study, they must demonstrate the ability to graduate within the maximum timeframe allowed and meet the GPA requirements. If students have 12 or less credits remaining, they must demonstrate the ability to complete the remaining credits successfully.
REGAINING ELIGIBILITY AFTER PAYMENT PERIOD OF INELIGIBILITY
A student who is not making SAP regains eligibility only when the student is in compliance with the University’s SAP requirements. Therefore, if a student loses eligibility for federal financial aid as a result of not meeting SAP requirements, the student must pay for the ineligible payment period using non-federal financial aid funds. If the student meets all SAP criteria after the ineligible payment period, the student’s academic year will start at the beginning of the eligible payment period following the period of ineligibility. If the ineligible payment period is the second payment period of an academic year/loan period already established, any federal financial aid awarded for the second payment period will be canceled and, if necessary, returned to the funding source.

MAXIMUM TIMEFRAME
If at any time during the evaluation period it is determined a student is not going to complete the program of study within the maximum timeframe of 150% of the length of the educational program, the student becomes ineligible for federal financial aid. This determination cannot be appealed.

TRANSFER CREDITS — QUALITATIVE
A student’s program GPA is calculated using only grades earned at the University in courses that are applicable to the program. Therefore, transfer credits do not apply when calculating the student’s GPA at the University. Transfer credits include credits for all courses not completed at the University that are applied toward the completion of the student’s degree program.

TRANSFER CREDITS — QUANTITATIVE
Credits taken at other institutions and applied toward the student’s program/version at the University are included in both attempted and completed hours when measuring the student’s pace toward completion.

REPEAT COURSES
Credits from all attempts are included when assessing if the student meets the quantitative component. Although a student may successfully complete a course more than once, only the most recent grade is computed into a student’s cumulative grade point average.

(Addition to p.32 of JD Catalog, effective April 17, 2016)

4. Cancellation, Withdrawal, Refund Policy

Return to Title IV (R2T4) Policy
For students receiving Federal Student Aid (FSA), federal law requires that the University, and in some cases you, the student, return funds you did not earn to the U.S. Department of Education within 45 days from date of determination. The refund process uses a formula to determine the amount of FSA funds a student has earned as of his or her last day of attendance. The Return of Title IV (R2T4) policy is in addition to the institution’s refund policy. Both calculations will be calculated when the student withdraws. If a student withdraws after completing 60% of the payment period, a student has earned 100% of the FSA funds he or she was scheduled to receive during the period. If a student withdraws before completing 60% of the payment period, FSA funds must be recalculated using Federal Return of Title IV funds formula:

- A determination of the percentage of the payment period the student has completed, which is used to calculate the amount of Title IV financial aid the student has earned, will be based on the number of days the student completed up to the last date of academic attendance, divided by the total days in the payment period. Any break of 5 days or more is not counted as part of the days in the term.
• To determine the amount of aid to be returned, subtract the percentage of aid earned from 100 percent of the aid that could be disbursed and multiply it by the total amount of aid that could have been disbursed during the payment period as of the date you withdrew.

Funds are returned to the appropriate federal program based on the percentage of unearned aid using the following formula:

• After the 60 percent point in the payment period, the student will have earned 100 percent of the federal financial aid funds already disbursed to him/her. This calculation concerning federal financial aid is separate and distinct from the institutional refund policy, and may result in the student owing additional funds to the University to cover tuition charges previously paid by federal financial aid prior to student withdrawal.

• If a student earned less aid than was disbursed, the institution would be required to return a portion of the funds (in some cases the student is also required to return a portion of the funds). Keep in mind that when unearned Title IV funds are returned, the school can collect this amount from the student. If the total amount of FSA funds the student earned is greater than the total amount disbursed, the student may be eligible to receive a Post-Withdrawal Disbursement (PWD) of FSA funds. The University will offer any loan amount to a PWD that is due within 180 days of the date that the School determined that the student withdrew. The University must get the student’s permission before it can disburse PWD loan funds (written notification provided to the student). The student may choose to decline some or all of the PWD loan funds. No PWD will be made if the student does not respond within 14 days of the written notification date.

• Unearned Federal Student Aid (FSA) funds to be returned, per federal R2T4 regulations, will be made within 45 days of the date that the University determined that the student withdrew (Date of Determination). Since the University does not participate in any federal grant programs, the formula above will only be used to calculate the amount of Title IV loans that may need to be returned. The University only participates in the Unsubsidized Federal Stafford loan (effective July 1, 2012, only unsubsidized Federal Stafford loans available to graduate students). As such, unearned FSA funds will be returned to the Unsubsidized Stafford loan program. The University will also calculate any refund that may be owed to the student pursuant to the institution’s refund policy. If a refund is due, monies will be returned pursuant to institution and accreditation regulations.

For the purpose of determining the amount of the refund, the date of the student’s withdrawal shall be deemed the last date of recorded attendance. For the purpose of determining when the refund must be paid, the student shall be deemed to have withdrawn at the end of 14 days. However, if a student notifies the University, in writing, that he or she is withdrawing, the University will use the date on the student's withdrawal letter, or the 14-day after his/her Last Day of Attendance (LDA), whichever is earlier, as the date of determination.

Here’s an example:

A student attends an academically-related activity on 2/1/2015. The student fails to attend an academically-related activity for 14 consecutive calendar days, i.e., from 2/2/2015 – 2/15/15. The 14 days of absence will trigger a warning to the student that if he/she fails to
attend classes on or before 2/22/2015, he/she will be terminated. If the student fails to return, the following will occur:

For the purposes of calculating the AMOUNT of refund due to the student, the University will use 2/1/2015 as his/her LAST DAY OF RECORDED ATTENDANCE (LDA). For the purposes of determining WHEN the refund is due to the student, the University will use 2/15/15 as his/her DATE OF DETERMINATION of withdrawal (the student is officially withdrawn from the University after 21 consecutive days of absence on 2/22/2015). The tuition funding source or the student will receive a refund (if applicable) no later than 45 days from the date of determination.

(Revision to p.43 of JD Catalog, effective April 17, 2016)

5. Drug Abuse Prevention Policy

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy
Abraham Lincoln University is committed to promoting a drug-free learning environment. The University has a vital interest in maintaining a safe and healthy environment for the benefit of its employees and students. Drug abuse affects all aspects of life. It threatens the workplace as well as our homes, our schools and our community. The U.S. Department of Education requires institutions of higher education to implement a drug prevention and awareness program for their students and employees. Consistent with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226), all students and employees are advised that individuals who violate federal, state or local laws and campus policies are subject to university disciplinary action and criminal prosecution.

Standards of Conduct
Students are expected to conduct themselves ethically, honestly and with integrity as responsible members of the University’s academic community. The University community must adhere to a code of conduct that recognizes the unlawful manufacture, sale, delivery, unauthorized possession or use of any illicit drug is prohibited on University property. If an individual is apprehended for violating any alcohol- or other drug-related law while at a University location or activity, the University will fully support and cooperate with federal and state law enforcement agencies. The University enforces a “zero tolerance” policy regarding underage drinking.

Institutional Sanctions
Any member of the University community found possessing or selling illegal drugs on University property shall be subject to discipline on a case-by-case basis.

- Discipline will be based on the seriousness of the situation.
- A case may result in dismissal from the University.
- In all cases, the University will abide by local, state and federal sanctions regarding unlawful possession of drugs and the consumption of alcohol.
- Additional state penalties and sanctions may also apply.
- Penalties may include required participation in and completion of appropriate rehabilitation programs
- The University has adopted a zero-tolerance policy regarding alcohol and drug violations.
Legal Sanctions (Federal, State, and Local)
There are numerous legal sanctions under local, state, and federal laws which can be used to punish violators. Penalties range from suspensions, revocation, denial of a driver’s license, and/or 20-50 years’ imprisonment at hard labor without benefit or parole. Property may be seized. Community services may be mandated. For more information about federal penalties and sanctions visit the Department of Justice Federal Trafficking website at http://www.dea.gov/druginfo/ftp3.shtml
Federal anti-drug laws affect a number of areas in everyone’s lives. Students could lose eligibility for financial aid, could be denied other federal benefits, such as Social Security, retirement, welfare, health care, disability, and veteran benefits.
In addition to local and state authorities, the federal government has four agencies employing approximately 52,500 personnel engaged in fighting illicit drugs. These agencies are: The Drug Enforcement Agency, U.S. Customs Service, Federal Bureau of Investigations, and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Federal Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Violations
According to the Higher Education Act (HEA), if a student is convicted of a drug-related felony or misdemeanor that took place while her or she was receiving federal student aid, the student will become ineligible to receive further aid during a period of enrollment for which he or she was receiving federal student aid. If the student was convicted of both possessing and selling illegal drugs during a period for which the student was receiving federal student aid, and the periods of ineligibility are different, then the student will be ineligible for the longer period. If the conviction was reversed, set aside, or removed from the student’s record, or if the conviction occurred while the student was a juvenile (unless s/he was tried as an adult) it will not affect student’s eligibility. If students lose their financial aid eligibility, the University will notify them of their status in writing including how to regain eligibility.

Health Risks Associated with Use and Abuse
Students should be aware there are significant psychological and physiological health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and alcohol. Drug abuse is the utilization of natural and/or synthetic chemical substances for non-medical reasons affecting the body and its processes, the mind and nervous system, and behavior. The abuse of drugs can affect a person’s physical and emotional health and social life. Alcohol is the most abused drug in the United States.

Drugs can be highly addictive and injurious to the body, as well as, one’s self. People tend to lose their sense of responsibility, control, and coordination. Restlessness, irritability, anxiety, paranoia, depressions, acting slow moving, inattentiveness, loss of appetite, sexual indifference, comas, convulsions, serious damage to vital organs or even death can result from overuse or abuse of alcohol and drugs.

A description of alcohol and drug categories, their effects, symptoms of overdose, withdrawal symptoms and indications of misuse can be found at:
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: http://www.samhsa.gov/

Drug and Alcohol Counseling/Treatment Availability
The following resources are available for assisting students and employees with possible problems of alcohol or drug abuse:
• **Alcoholics Anonymous Support Group**: [http://www.aa.org/?Media=PlayFlash](http://www.aa.org/?Media=PlayFlash)


• **National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence**: [https://www.ncadd.org/](https://www.ncadd.org/)

• **Mayo Clinic-Alcohol Use Disorder**: [http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/alcohol-use-disorder/basics/definition/con-20020866?reDate=05042016](http://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/alcohol-use-disorder/basics/definition/con-20020866?reDate=05042016)

• **The National Institute on Drug Abuse Hotline** - information and referral line that directs callers to treatment centers in the local community, (800) 662-HELP or visit [https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/](https://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/)

• **The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)** - ensures the effective translation, implementation, and dissemination of scientific research findings to improve the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders and enhance public awareness of addiction as a brain disorder. Visit [https://www.drugabuse.gov/](https://www.drugabuse.gov/)