



Question 2: Youth Drug Awareness Program

ON NOVEMBER 4, 2008, the voters passed Ballot Question 2, “An Act Establishing a Sensible State Marihuana Policy,” commonly known as Question 2. The new law became effective on January 2, 2009. A full copy of this law can be found at the MA Executive Office of Public Safety and Security website: www.mass.gov/eopss under the section entitled “2008 Statewide Ballot Initiative Question 2: ‘An Act Establishing a Sensible State Marihuana Policy.’”

The penalty for a youth under 18 who receives a citation for possessing under an ounce of marijuana is completion of a Drug Awareness Program: at least four hours of a drug awareness classroom instruction, ten hours of community service, and a \$100 fine. IHR’s Question 2 Project specialist provides state-wide coordination of the Drug Awareness Classroom instruction.

Classroom instruction sessions of the drug awareness programs will be scheduled periodically throughout the state based on demand. A youth who receives a citation under this law must register for classroom instruction under the drug awareness program by calling the Institute for Health and Recovery (IHR) at (617) 661-3991, or toll free at (866) 705-2807 and ask to speak with the Question 2 Project Specialist.

Youth will be asked to provide a current address and telephone number, and will be contacted by IHR when a classroom instruction placement becomes available.

For more information, please contact Jennie Murnane, MS, Question 2 Project Specialist.