



DRUG LAWS AND POLICY NEW JERSEY

SCHEDULE I AND II DRUGS



- **Possession:** Considered the most severe, these drugs have a high potential for abuse and no accepted medical use (Schedule I) or a severe restriction on medical use (Schedule II). Penalties for possession can include significant fines and imprisonment, potentially several years for first-time offenses.
- **Distribution or Intent to Distribute:** Penalties are even more severe, with potential for extended prison sentences, sometimes decades, especially for large quantities.

SCHEDULE III DRUGS



- **Possession:** These drugs have less potential for abuse than Schedules I and II drugs and have a currently accepted medical use. Penalties for possession might include fines and imprisonment, but typically the terms are less severe than for Schedules I and II.
- **Distribution or Intent to Distribute:** Convictions can result in substantial fines and imprisonment, though generally less severe than for Schedule I or II substances.

SCHEDULE IV DRUGS



- **Possession:** These substances have a lower potential for abuse relative to Schedule III drugs. Penalties for possession often include fines and possible jail time but tend to be less severe than for Schedules I, II, or III.
- **Distribution or Intent to Distribute:** Although penalties for distributing Schedule IV drugs are serious, including fines and imprisonment, they are comparatively lighter than for the drugs in Schedules I through III.

SCHEDULE V DRUGS



- **Possession:** Schedule V drugs have the lowest potential for abuse and consist of preparations containing limited quantities of certain narcotics. Penalties for possession are the least severe among the schedules, often resulting in fines.
- **Distribution or Intent to Distribute:** Penalties involve fines and potentially short periods of imprisonment, reflecting the lower abuse potential of these substances.