

Basic Outline of Drug Schedules in Colorado

The vast majority of controlled substances in Colorado are categorized into one of five “schedules” based upon several factors. (Synthetic Cannabinoids and Salvia are not in the scheduled drugs and have their own statute.) This system generally follows the federal system for categorizing and scheduling controlled substances.

- **Schedule I** drugs are defined as those with a high potential for abuse, no currently accepted medical use in the United States and lacks accepted safety for use under medical supervision.

Examples include: opiates like heroin, LSD, psilocybin and psilocin (mushrooms), peyote, cathinone (bath salts), mescaline and marijuana.

- **Schedule II** drugs are defined as having a high potential for abuse but have some currently accepted medical uses with severe restrictions and the abuse may lead to severe psychological or physical dependences.

Examples include: Codeine, morphine, oxycodone, cocaine, methamphetamine, and methadone.

- **Schedules III – V** are defined as drugs with accepted medical purposes, each category with a lesser potential for abuse as working down from III to V and a similar decrease in potential for physical or psychological dependency. This are the more typical non – pain killer type prescription drugs but can include significantly lower dose levels of schedule II drugs such as low levels of codeine in some prescription cough medicines.