



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
CENTRAL TEXAS

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

2016

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) Biennial Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program Review

Review dates:

January 1, 2015-December 31, 2015
January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016

NEXT review dates:

January 1, 2017-December 31, 2017
January 1, 2018-December 31, 2018.
(Review to be completed by July 1, 2019)

Date of Destruction of Review: July 1, 2021

Introduction

Texas A&M University-Central Texas (TAMUCT) is one of the newest universities in Texas and the nation and the 10th university within the Texas A&M University System. TAMUCT is the product of a long history of desire for upper-level and graduate study accessibility in the Central Texas region. In May 2009, Governor Rick Perry signed Senate Bill (SB) 629 establishing Texas A&M University-Central Texas.

Texas A&M University-Central Texas is an upper-level university offering junior and senior-level coursework needed to successfully complete baccalaureate degrees and all coursework leading to the completion of graduate degrees. The University is committed to high quality, rigorous, and innovative learning experiences, and prepares students for lifelong learning through excellence in teaching, service, and scholarship.

Illegal and illicit drug and alcohol use and abuse are a significant risk for institutions from a compliance and enforcement perspective and more importantly for the health and safety of our campus. Excellence speaks to effective programs that promote and proactively respond to illegal use and personal abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

The Drug Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires an institution of higher education, (IHE) such as A&M University-Central Texas, to certify it has adopted and implemented programs to prevent the abuse of alcohol and use or distribution of illicit drugs both by students and employees both on its premises and as a part of any of its activities. At a minimum, each IHE must annually distribute the following to all students and employees:

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees
- A description of the legal sanctions under university policy, local, state, and federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol
- A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs that are available to employees or students
- A clear statement that the IHE will impose sanctions on students and employees and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct

The law further requires that the IHE conduct a biennial review of its program with the following objectives: 1) determine the effectiveness of the policy and implement changes to the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) program if they are needed; and 2) to ensure that the sanctions developed are enforced consistently.

The biennial review must also include a determination as to:

- The number of drug- and alcohol-related violations and fatalities occurring on the campus or as part of their activities that are reported to campus officials; and

- The number and type of sanctions the IHEs impose on students and employees as a result of the violations.

To best achieve the goal of liberal education and the exercise of A&M University-Central Texas' responsibilities, the University seeks to educate the university community about the effects of alcohol and illicit drugs. As a community, we believe that the sharing of knowledge can contribute to a more responsible approach to alcohol and drugs.

By law this document must be made available to the public upon request. It must be retained for three years after the academic year in which it was created.

Materials Reviewed

- Complying with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (EDGAR Part 86), A Guide for University and Campus Regulations prepared by the Higher Education Center
- The Higher Education Amendments of 1998 and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 and related provisions
- Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention
- Texas A&M University-Central Texas Clery Act report
- Conduct reports as prepared by the Associate Dean of Student Affairs
- Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M University-Central Texas policies and procedures related to alcohol and Drugs (System Rule 34.02)
- Texas A&M University System Drug and Alcohol Abuse Rehabilitation Programs (System Policy 34.02.01)
- Texas A&M University System Rule on Alcoholic Beverages (34.03)

II. Drug and Alcohol Programs and Services

This section states the ways in which specific functional areas provide or support TAMUCT's alcohol and other drug programs and/or services.

A. Student Affairs

The Division of Student Affairs, under the direction of the Dean of Student Affairs, complied with the annual notification of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to students, faculty, and staff. Notifications were sent on 8/31/15 and 8/25/2016.

B. Student & Civic Engagement

- All Student & Civic Engagements sponsored events are substance-free.
- Any university-sponsored events desiring to have alcohol present must have the approval of the University President.
- The Office of Student & Civic Engagement maintains display sites with informational material for students interested in the following:
 - TAMUCT's Community Counseling & Family Therapy Center
 - Drinking & Driving

- Smoking cessation
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Alcohol and Combat Stress
- Drug use

C. Student Conduct

The Office of Student Conduct responds to allegations that students have violated A&M University-Central Texas' alcohol or drug policies. Additionally, the Office of Student Conduct maintains the A&M University-Central Texas Student Handbook which proscribes community standards, including prohibition of illegal use of alcohol and other drugs.

The Office of Student Conduct has contracted with San Diego State University to provide e-Chug and e-Toke. These two research-based instruments educate students on the impact of their alcohol and other drug use.

D. Counseling Services

Counseling Services at A&M University-Central Texas provides referrals for students and employees who may be experiencing substance abuse issues.

E. Residential Life & Housing

A&M University-Central Texas does not support its own housing or residential life program.

F. Information and Prevention Resources Available Off-Campus

Medical Emergencies (911): 911

ULifeline: <http://www.ulifeline.org/texasamcentraltexas/>

Alcoholics Anonymous

Belton/Temple: 254-770-4629

Copperas Cove: 254-813-3313

Harker Heights: 254-690-5439

Pathways Group Counseling Center: 254-876-4006

Alcohol & Drug Abuse Action Helpline: 1-800-888-9383

National Substance Abuse Hotline: 1-800-662-4357

III. Policy

A. Distribution

In 2015 & 2016, new faculty and staff received notification of Texas A&M University System policies through new employee orientation.

In 2015 & 2016, the Dean of Student Affairs provided students with annual notification as required by the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. A&M University-Central Texas' alcohol and drug policies were included in the student handbook provided to students as well as on the websites for the Division of Student Affairs and the Office of Student Conduct.

Websites where Texas A&M University System and A&M University-Central Texas rules, standard operating procedures, and standard administrative procedures can be found:

[Texas A&M University System: https://www.tamus.edu/legal/policy/policy-and-regulation-library/](https://www.tamus.edu/legal/policy/policy-and-regulation-library/)

[A&M University-Central Texas, Office of Student Conduct: https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/studentconduct/](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/studentconduct/)

[A&M University-Central Texas, Human Resources: https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/employee-services/](https://www.tamuct.edu/departments/employee-services/)

B. A&M University-Central Texas Student Alcohol and Controlled Substance Statements:

Alcoholic Beverages

This regulation applies to all students present on property owned, leased, or otherwise under the control of Texas A&M University-Central Texas. The possession or use of an alcoholic beverage, as that term is defined in the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code, on property and/or at activities under the control of Texas A&M University-Central Texas is prohibited. Areas in which the possession or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited include but are not limited to classrooms, laboratories, offices, lounges, stadiums and other athletic facilities, dining areas, meeting and party facilities and residence halls. Students who violate the provisions of this regulation are subject to disciplinary sanctions under applicable university procedures.

Drug-Free Campus

The unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale and/or possession of a controlled substance or drug paraphernalia on property owned, leased or controlled by Texas A&M University-Central Texas or property on which university activities are held is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Also, Texas A&M University-Central Texas may enforce this policy when violations occur that directly, seriously, or adversely interfere with or disrupt the educational mission, program or other functions of the university, regardless of the location.

A violation of these policies may result in disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion. The university reserves the right to employ an outside agency to assist in the detection of illegal drugs, controlled substances and/or drug paraphernalia.

C. A&M University-Central Texas Employee Alcohol and Controlled Substance Statements:

IV. Health Risks

Serious health risks are associated with the use of illicit drugs and alcohol. Some of the major risks are listed below.

A. Alcohol and other depressants

Addiction; accidents as a result of impaired ability and judgment; overdose when used with other depressants; damage to a developing fetus; heart and liver damage

B. Marijuana

Panic reaction; impaired short-term memory, increased risk of lung cancer and emphysema; impaired driving ability

C. Cocaine

Addiction; heart attack, seizures, lung damage, severe depression, paranoia, psychosis. Similar risks are associated with use of other stimulants

V. Enforcement

A&M University-Central Texas is an upper-level institution serving junior and senior level undergraduates and graduate students. A&M University-Central Texas Police Department and the Office of Student Conduct are the two entities that support enforcement of alcohol and drug policies on campus. All registered students are required, as a condition of their continued enrollment, to abide by the standards set forth in the A&M University-Central Texas Student Handbook. This handbook is available in print form from the Division of Student Affairs in Founder's Hall 114 or on the Office of Student Conduct's website. Students are informed that whether they are on or off campus, they are held to the standards that are set forth in the Code of Student Conduct.

A. Statistics of A&M University-Central Texas Student Conduct Process

2015

- 0 reported incidents involved alcohol
- 0 reported incidents involved drugs/drug paraphernalia

2016

- 0 reported incident involved alcohol
- 0 reported incidents involved drugs/drug paraphernalia

B. Potential Sanctions as Part of the A&M University-Central Texas Student Conduct Process

Sanctions are the assigned consequences for a student or group of students who have been found responsible for violating college policy. Multiple sanctions may be assigned for one violation. Sanctions of probation and suspension may affect a student's opportunities on campus including leading a student organization. A&M University-Central Texas reserves the right to respond as it sees appropriate and does so in an individual manner.

Our conduct process allows for hearing bodies to respond in a way that best fits the individual case at hand, while also providing a level of consistency. Additionally, though the cornerstone of our conduct process is education, there are situations where in which a punitive response is required to ensure the safety of the A&M University-Central Texas community.

The following sanctions are outlined in the Code of Student Conduct. This is not an exhaustive list.

Individual Sanctions:

Verbal or written reprimand
Imposition of Certain Tasks (reflection papers, research papers, etc.)
Disciplinary Probation
Suspension
Expulsion

Group Sanctions:

Verbal or written reprimand
Imposition of Certain Tasks
Disciplinary Probation
Suspension
Dissolution/Group removal and/or revocation of recognition

C. Incidents and Treatment of Substance Abuse – Employees

There were zero (0) referrals given by A&M University-Central Texas Counseling Services to employees for treatment of substance abuse. Additionally, there were zero (0) incidents of substance abuse by employees.

D. Potential Sanctions for Violating A&M University-Central Texas' Alcohol and Drug Policies by Employees

Reprimand
Probation
Termination

E. Federal Student Aid Penalties for Drug Convictions

In accordance with the Higher Education Amendments of 1998, a student becomes ineligible for federal student aid if convicted, under federal or state law, of any offense in violation of laws governing controlled substances while receiving federal financial aid. Students may regain eligibility by completing a drug rehabilitation program or if the conviction is overturned.

Students should refer to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) website for more information.

VI. Assessment

In 2015, A&M University-Central Texas contracted with the American College Health Association to provide the National College Health Assessment tool in Fall 2015.

VIII. Recommendations

Future efforts to revise and strengthen the effectiveness of alcohol and other drug programs include the recommendation:

1. Through committee collaboration with key personnel from various offices and other locations,
 - a. Identify and review programs and services to identify gaps and/or opportunities, emerging trends, and any resource needs.
 - b. Review options and implement modifications to address the gaps identified, emerging trends, and relocation of resources as needed.

IX. Summary

A&M-Central Texas is dedicated to providing effective programs for students, faculty, and staff to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distributions of illicit drugs and alcohol and the related health and safety risks. The review was conducted by staff within the Division of Student Affairs with responsibilities related to alcohol and other drug programs.

Appendix:

[Texas A&M University System Policy 34.02](http://policies.tamus.edu/34-02.pdf): Drug and Alcohol Abuse

<http://policies.tamus.edu/34-02.pdf>

[Texas A&M University System Policy 34.02.01](http://policies.tamus.edu/34-02-01.pdf): Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs (Procedure Statement)

<http://policies.tamus.edu/34-02-01.pdf>

[Texas A&M University System Policy: 34.03: Alcoholic Beverages](http://policies.tamus.edu/34-03.pdf)

<http://policies.tamus.edu/34-03.pdf>