



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
CENTRAL TEXAS

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

2013-2014 Biennial Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program Review

Review dates:

January 1, 2013-December 31, 2013
January 1, 2014-December 31, 2014

NEXT review dates:

January 1, 2015-December 31, 2015
January 1, 2016-December 31, 2016.
(Review to be completed by July 1, 2017)

I. 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.

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.

Biennial Alcohol & Other Drug Review Committee:

Paul York, Associate Dean of Student Affairs (Chair)

Deserie Rivera, University Compliance Officer

Shawn Kelley, Safety & Risk Management Officer

Dr. Morgan Lewing, Director of Civic & Student Engagement

Whisper Williams, Student Body President

Raymond Cockrell, Killeen City Government

Ben Belz, Assistant Director of Student Engagement

Lt. Tanya Little-Salas, Texas A&M University-Central Texas Police Department

Ida Macdonald, Director of Counseling Services

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 Director of Student Conduct
- Texas A&M University System and Texas A&M University-Central Texas policies and procedures related to alcohol and Drugs (System Policy 34.02)
- Texas A&M University System Drug and Alcohol Abuse Rehabilitation Programs (System Policy 34.02.01)

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 8/29/13 and 9/1/2014.

B. Civic & Student Engagement

- All University sponsored events are substance-free.
- The Office of Civic & Student 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.

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. A&M University-Central Texas partners with Central Texas College (CTC) to provide housing to students on a "as requested" basis.

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 2013 & 2014, new faculty and staff received notification of Texas A&M University System policies through new employee orientation.

In 2013 & 2014, 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](#)

[A&M University-Central Texas, Office of Student Conduct](#)

[A&M University-Central Texas, Human Resources](#)

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. Counseling may be required in the event of probation and/or suspension. 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:

See System policy 34.02.

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

2013

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

2014

- 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 2013, A&M University-Central Texas contracted with the American College Health Association to provide the National College Health Assessment tool in Fall 2013. The University has not done official assessment as to the effectiveness of its alcohol and other drug program.

VIII. Recommendations

1. The next biennial review needs to be completed by a working group or task force of representatives of specific functional areas. Here is the recommended makeup of the working group:
 - a. Office of Student Conduct
 - b. Office of Student Engagement
 - c. A faculty member
 - d. University Police Department
 - e. Counseling Services
 - f. Human Resources
 - g. Risk Management
 - h. A student body representative
2. The Division of Student Affairs should provide a clearer definition the institution's alcohol and drug-free awareness and prevention program. This is required by the federal Department of Education and Texas A&M University System regulation 34.02.01 (Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs) (Attached).
3. The Division of Student Affairs should work with other university offices to develop a guiding philosophy for its AOD plan.
4. The Division of Student Affairs should enhance the institution's alcohol and other drug prevention program by working with other university offices to implement standards that are set by the American College Health Association (ACHA), Healthy Campus 2020, and the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS).

5. The Division of Student Affairs should develop goals, objectives, and how the success and effectiveness of these programs will be measured.
6. The University should increase its education on the topic of alcohol abuse and illicit drug use.
7. The Office of Student Conduct should develop purposeful and intentional outcomes for students who are found responsible for alcohol and/or drug policy violations. Those outcomes should be made readily available in the student handbook. Many institutions complete this in the form of alcohol and drug education courses. Some institutions charge students for appropriate courses.
8. The university should develop a medical amnesty program.
9. Develop greater visibility of e-Chug and e-Toke courses to students.
10. Develop a standard operating procedure and point of contact to regularly capture information for the biennial review.
11. Support the adoption of a bystander intervention program on campus to provide students with the skills needed to intervene in harmful behaviors that include alcohol and other drugs.
12. Identify grants (federal and state) that may assist the institution in developing and funding its AOD program.
13. Continue biennial ACHA-NCHA
14. Work with the Student Government Association to establish student interest in a tobacco free campus

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Approval of report and acknowledgement of recommendations:

(Chairperson of the Biennial Alcohol and Other Drug Review Task Force)

(Date)

(Dean of Student Affairs)

(Date)

(Provost/VP for Academic and Student Affairs)

(Date)