



Texas A&M University-Central Texas

2019 - 2020 Biennial AOD Review
Drug Free Schools & Communities Act

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Executive Overview

Texas A&M University-Central Texas is committed to the prevention of abuse and illicit use of alcohol and other drugs. This report documents our biennial review of the alcohol and other drugs program to determine its effectiveness and consistency of sanction enforcement and to identify and implement any necessary changes. The university's commitment consists of multiple programs, services, and other related initiatives and enforcement efforts to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

Our alcohol and other drug prevention program's overall goals reflect federal guidance and are as follows:

- Articulate and consistently enforce clear policies that promote an educational environment free from substance use/abuse.
- Provide ongoing education for members of the campus community for the purpose of preventing alcohol abuse and other drug use.
- Offer a reasonable level of care for those abusing substances through counseling, treatment, and referral.
- Implement campus activities that promote and reinforce health, responsible living, respect for community and campus standards, individual responsibility on the campus, and intellectual, social, emotional, spiritual or ethical, and physical well-being of the members.
- Be vocal and visionary in combating the negative issues that surround alcohol and other drug use and abuse on campus.

Multiple factors impact academic excellence and student and employee success. Abuse and illicit use of drugs and alcohol correlates with increased violence, health issues, and impaired performance. Other impacts include disruption of campus safety and personal growth. Programs that prevent abuse of alcohol and other drugs are founded on needs, periodically evaluated, and improved.

Consistency in enforcing sanctions is essential to effective drug and alcohol prevention programs and services that achieve prevention goals. Texas A&M University-Central Texas has adopted A&M University System Policies and Regulations, University Rules, Standard Administrative Procedures, and Student Rules that define requirements and processes regarding alcohol and other drugs.

Report Dates: January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019
January 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Introduction

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

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act requires an institution of higher education (IHE) 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, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct

The law further requires IHEs to conduct a biennial review of its program with the following objectives:

1. Determine the effectiveness of the policy and implement changes to the AOD program if they are needed; and to
2. Ensure sanctions developed are enforced consistently and fairly.

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.

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.

Objectives of the Biennial Report Review

The objectives of the biennial review as identified by the United States Department of Education include determining the effectiveness of and implementing any needed changes to all Alcohol and Drug Prevention Programs; relevant policies and procedures, and ensuring disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct are enforced consistently. This is done in compliance with the Code of Federal Regulations, 34 CFR Part 86, or The Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention code.

This biennial review includes:

- Review of alcohol and other drug (AOD) programming occurring on the A&M University-Central Texas campus, their specific goals, and a measurement of their effectiveness. Consideration given to the consistency of sanction enforcement. Recommendations made for revision to A&M University-Central Texas's existing AOD programs are also detailed.
- Summary of AOD program effectiveness and areas of improvement.
- Presentation of alcohol and drug-based data (collected through student surveying, conduct violations, police citations, and psychological intakes to assist) in measurement of policy and programming effectiveness and to identify areas of need. Consideration given to the consistency of sanction enforcement.

Program Elements

Texas A&M University-Central Texas provides various programs, services, and outreach efforts to prevent and address alcohol and other drug issues.

Division of Student Affairs

The objective of alcohol and drug programming within the Division of Student Affairs is to promote responsible decision-making regarding alcohol and other drugs to the Texas A&M University-Central Texas community through educational programming and resources.

Program activities include the following:

Student Conduct Office

- Cannabis Wise – Student Conduct has contracted with 3rd Millennium Classrooms to provide an online education opportunity for students who are curious about their use of cannabis and its impact on their health.
- eCheckUp2Go – eCheckUp2Go is an interactive, online program developed by San Diego State University providing students with immediate and personalized feedback about their alcohol use and related variables.
- 21st Birthday Postcards program – The Student Conduct Office sends a birthday postcard to each A&M University-Central Texas student during the month of their 21st birthday. The cards are intended to promote responsible decision-making and celebrating as it applies to Warriors' 21st birthday. A copy of the 21st birthday postcard is in [Appendix B](#).

Goals

- Provide population-wide education regarding alcohol and other drugs.

Goal Achievements and/or Outcomes

- Between Academic Year (AY) 2019-2020 and AY 2020-2021, 103 students completed the eCheckUpToGo alcohol course (2019-2020 = 42; 2020-2021 = 61).
- Between AY 2019-2020 and 2020-2021, 254 21st birthday cards were sent to students encouraging responsible decision-making.

Assessment

- 2 students completed the voluntary CannabisWise course through 3rd Millennium Classrooms.
- No students were sanctioned to complete the THC 101 sanction course through 3rd Millennium Classrooms.

Recommendations

The Student Conduct Office has identified recommendations for the upcoming academic years, to include:

- Collaborate with Student Wellness & Counseling Center to develop support services, resources, and programming for students in recovery.
- Identify community resources that provide alcohol and other drug treatment and education to increase referral resources.
- Collaborate with Student & Civic Engagement to determine student interest in establishing a recovery community on campus.
- Increase the usage of eCheckUpToGo.
- Increase the usage of CannabisWise.

Student & Civic Engagement

- WarriorEngage Event Planning Form – A&M University-Central Texas' online student organization management platform, WarriorEngage, includes a pre-event planning questionnaire as a part of its event review and approval process. As student organization's complete and submit the Event Planning Form, they are guided through critical thinking questions and responses to identify and address the laws, rules, and minimum standards for organizational risk mitigation, including specific questions regarding events with alcohol. This process allows student organization leaders to proactively identify potential and perceived risks, and then allows advisers and SCE staff to review event plans and provide feedback and recommendations as needed.
- Hazing Prevention Workshop – A comprehensive anti-hazing presentation that lightly touches on alcohol awareness and bystander intervention. Each student organization must have at least two officers and their advisor attend risk management training.

Goal(s)

- Provide alcohol and other drug abuse mitigation education within risk management training.

Goal Achievements and/or Outcomes

- 27 student organizations provided representatives at the fall semester student organization risk management training; 31 student organizations provided representatives at the spring semester student organization risk management training.

Recommendations

- Develop a plan by which Student & Civic Engagement will assess the AOD prevention training/education provided in hazing prevention.

Student Wellness & Counseling Center (SWACC)

- SWACC supports the academic and student development missions of Texas A&M University-Central Texas through its services.

Division of Finance & Administration

The objective of alcohol and drug programming within the Division of Finance & Administration is to promote responsible decision-making regarding alcohol and other drugs to the Texas A&M University-Central Texas community through educational programming and resources.

Employee Assistance Program

ComPsych (hereinafter referred to as Guidance Resources) is the primary provider of mental health counseling services for FY 2019-2020 and FY 2020-2021. This program is available to faculty, staff, and their benefit-eligible dependents who may be experiencing personal or workplace difficulties. Services may address a variety of issues including substance abuse.

- Counseling Services: Guidance Resources services includes referral information to employees and benefit-eligible dependents for substance abuse treatment.
- Human Resources coordinates alcohol and other drug testing for Texas A&M University-Central Texas. Employees may be tested for alcohol and other drugs due to reasonable suspicion, following a job jeopardy agreement, or because they are required to participate in alcohol and drug testing per Department of Transportation regulations.

Other Services & Awareness Initiatives

Scholarships and Financial Aid

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) includes a drug question that reads: Have you been convicted for the possession or sale of illegal drugs for an offense that occurred while you were receiving federal student aid (such as grants, loans, or work-study). The student self-certifies this question. The Student Financial Assistance office is notified by the Department of Education (DoE) if a student admits conviction. The Student Financial Assistance office must determine if the conviction affects the student's eligibility. No financial aid can be awarded or disbursed until Student Financial Assistance office receives confirmation from the DoE the student is eligible for aid. The DoE requires any student convicted to complete a qualified drug rehabilitation program, which much include to unannounced drug tests.

Program Participation Agreement

As part of the Department's Program Participation Agreement (PPA), TAMUCT must make a certification statement, which is signed by the President of TAMUCT. Under the PPA, if an employee is found to have a drug or alcohol related issue, TAMUCT must have programs and procedures in place to assist that employee. The Employee Assistance Program satisfies the employee portion of the PPA. The PPA must be completed and renewed every five (5) years as part of TAMUCT maintaining eligibility for administering financial aid programs.

University Police Department

Education, outreach, and enforcement is provided through the following activities:

The University Police Department (UPD) enforces alcohol and other drug laws. UPD also tracks alcohol and other drug violations that occur on and adjacent to campus.

Alcohol and other drug law violations are tracked and reported by UPD as part of the Annual Security Report required by the Clery Act. The numbers of alcohol and other drug arrests and referrals to student disciplinary officials are reported for a three-year period. The Annual Security Report also contains a section on TAMUCT's alcohol and other drug policies.

Policy and Regulations

The University neither condones nor sanctions the irresponsible use of alcohol or the illegal use of drugs. Texas A&M University-Central Texas is committed to a drug-free environment and protecting the safety, health and wellbeing of all employees and students. The use of illicit drugs and irresponsible use of alcohol by have a detrimental impact on the university and its ability to achieve its lawful missions.

Procedures for Distributing Written AOD Annual Notification

Student Notifications

The annual AOD notification letter is disseminated to all students each semester via campus email. Students are made aware of TAMUCT's alcohol and other drug abuse prevention education programs, including information about the university standards of conduct, health risks and sanctions for engaging in illegal substance abuse on campus and at university-sponsored activities. In addition, students are provided links to Texas A&M University System policies and regulations, university rules and administrative procedures, and additional information or resources available to support their needs and decision-making process. See [Appendix A](#) for an example notification.

Employee Notifications

The annual AOD notification letter is disseminated to employees each year in the fall via campus email. Employees are made aware of TAMUCT's alcohol and other drug abuse prevention education programs, including information about the university standards of conduct, health risks and sanctions for engaging in illegal substance abuse on campus and at university-sponsored activities. In addition, during new employee orientation, new employees are provided links to

System policies and regulations, university rules and administrative procedures, and any additional information or resources available to support their needs and decision-making process. See [Appendix A](#) for an example notification.

Sanction Enforcement

The biennial report includes a review of consistent enforcement of sanctions. A student or employee found responsible for noncompliance with federal or state laws or institutional policies, regulations, and/or rules regarding alcohol or other drug policies has committed a violation and is subject to sanctions commensurate with the offenses and any aggravating and mitigating circumstances.

Disciplinary action in cases involving drug-related violations by students may result in suspension, or expulsion from Texas A&M University-Central Texas. Cases involving employees result in disciplinary sanctions up to and including termination. Severity of sanctions will depend upon the nature and seriousness of each case.

Division of Student Affairs

Student Conduct Office AOD Violations

The Student Conduct Office handles alleged violations of university rules and/or student rules on Texas A&M University-Central Texas premises. Violations of any state or federal law pertaining to controlled substances that occur off campus and are not associated with a connected activity may also result in conduct charges in situations where the continued presence of the individual on campus is likely to interfere with the educational process and/or the orderly operation of Texas A&M University-Central Texas. Texas A&M University-Central Texas student conduct proceedings will comply with the procedures outlined in the university rules and procedures as well as the student rules. Any conduct action imposed by Texas A&M University-Central Texas may precede and be in addition to any penalty imposed by authorities off campus.

The chart below provides the number of total violations for the fall and spring semesters of the Academic Year (AY) 2019-2020 and AY 2020-2021. For charts included in this section, the numbers represent individual charges of policies where a student accepted and/or was found responsible. Multiple charges may apply to the same individual.

	Spring 2019	Summer 2019	Fall 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020	Fall 2020	Total
ALL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ALCOHOL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DRUGS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
%	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Sanction Frequency

The following tables contain sanction frequency pertaining to alcohol and other drug violations. Any sanction frequency noted under the Alcohol column is the number of times that sanction was implemented when a student was found responsible for any University policy relating to alcohol. These violations may not be violations of the law. The same is true for any numbers listed under the Other Drug column. Furthermore, some sanctions may be included in both the Alcohol and the Other Drug column as a student may be found responsible for violating both an alcohol and other drug policy. Also, multiple sanctions may be imposed for a single violation.

The following are examples of how sanction numbers are counted:

- A student is found responsible for violating the alcohol policy. The student is sanctioned to conduct probation, the Alcohol Education Workshop and the Ethics and Decision-Making Workshop. This is counted as 1 under conduct probation and 2 under Educational Requirements in the Alcohol Column.
- A student is found responsible for both the University alcohol and illegal drugs and controlled substances policies. The student receives a disciplinary suspension with a period of conduct review upon return to the University. The student is also required to do a Drug Assessment with SWACC, attend the Alcohol Education Workshop and the Drug Education Workshop. This is counted as 1 under suspension, 1 under probation, and 3 under Educational Requirements in both the Alcohol and the Other Drugs columns.

Sanction Frequency: Spring 2019 and Fall 2019

(Number of Alcohol or Other Drug Violations and Type of Sanction)

Sanction	Spring 2019 (Alcohol)	Spring 2019 (Other Drug)	Fall 2020 (Alcohol)	Fall 2020 (Other Drug)
Expulsion	0	0	0	0
Suspension	0	0	0	0
Deferred Suspension	0	0	0	0
Conduct probation	0	0	0	0
Loss of campus privileges	0	0	0	0
Enrollment block	0	0	0	0
Written Warning	0	0	0	0
Educational Requirements				
Alcohol Education	0	0	0	0
Drug Education	0	0	0	0
Written Reflection	0	0	0	0
Meet with Administrator	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0

Sanction Frequency: Spring 2020 and Fall 2020

(Number of Alcohol or Other Drug Violations and Type of Sanction)

Sanction	Spring 2020 (Alcohol)	Spring 2020 (Other Drug)	Fall 2020 (Alcohol)	Fall 2020 (Other Drug)
Expulsion	0	0	0	0
Suspension	0	0	0	0
Deferred Suspension	0	0	0	0
Conduct probation	0	0	0	0
Loss of campus privileges	0	0	0	0
Enrollment block	0	0	0	0
Written Warning	0	0	0	0
Educational Requirements				
Alcohol Education	0	0	0	0
Drug Education	0	0	0	0
Written Reflection	0	0	0	0
Meet with Administrator	0	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0	0

Texas A&M University-Central Texas has Texas A&M University System policies and regulations and university rules and standard administrative procedures that specify requirements and processes regarding use and abuse of alcohol and illegal drugs. Offices with trained personnel handle alleged violations to provide consistent enforcement of sanctions.

Student & Civic Engagement

The student conduct office, in collaboration with Student & Civic Engagement, adjudicates alleged rule violations by all recognized student organizations.

Student Organization Alcohol Violations

	Spring 2019	Summer 2019	Fall 2019	Spring 2020	Summer 2020	Fall 2020
General Organizations	0	0	0	0	0	0

Division of Finance & Administration

Employee Assistance Program

Human Resources coordinates alcohol and other drug testing for Texas A&M University-Central Texas. Employees may be tested for alcohol and/or other drugs due to reasonable suspicion, following a job jeopardy agreement, or because they are required to participate in alcohol and other drug testing per Department of Transportation regulations.

Employees who violate System substance abuse policy or regulation or the TAMUCT rules are subject to discipline up to and including termination. Employees in violation of the policy, regulation or rule if not terminated, may be asked to sign a job jeopardy agreement which requires completion of a substance abuse evaluation, requirement to follow all evaluation recommendations and submission to alcohol and other drug testing for a two-year period (five years for Department of Transportation violations). Employees completing an alcohol or other drug test found to be positive are also subject to discipline up to and including termination. For an employee to remain employed, the employee must sign a job jeopardy agreement following a positive test result and follow all requirements.

Category	FY 2019-2020 (Alcohol)	FY 2020-2021 (Alcohol)	FY 2019-2020 (Other Drug)	FY 2020-2021 (Other Drug)
Reasonable suspicion	0	0	0	0
Follow Up	0	0	0	0
Return to duty	0	0	0	0
Post accident	0	0	0	0
Total Number of Positive Tests	0	0	0	0

Health Risks

There are many types of drugs that trigger harmful effects. According to The National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the following risks are associated with drug and alcohol abuse.¹

Substances and Potential Health Risks

¹ Points on substance abuse long-term effects were obtained from The National Institute on Drug Abuse Commonly Abused Drug Charts found online at: <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/commonly-abused-drugs-charts> and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism found online at <https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health/alcohols-effects-body> (websites last visited 12/16/21).

Substance	Possible Health Effects
Alcohol	Liver inflammation, mood changes and behavior, problems with thinking and coordination, stroke blood pressure, inflammation of the pancreas, increased cancer risk, bleeding in the intestinal tract
Cannabis Marijuana, Hashish, Synthetic Marijuana	Enhanced sensory perception and euphoria followed by drowsiness/relaxation, slowed reaction time, problems with balance and coordination, increased heart rate and appetite, problems with learning and memory, anxiety
Stimulants Cocaine, Methamphetamine (MDMA, Molly, Ecstasy, X, XTC), Nicotine, Amphetamines (Adderall)	Anxiety, confusion, insomnia, mood problems, violence behavior, paranoia, hallucinations, delusions, weight loss
Depressants Benzodiazepine (Valium, Xanax), Flunitrazepam (Roofies), GHB	Euphoria, drowsiness, nausea, vomiting, confusion, memory loss, unconsciousness, slowed heart rate and breathing, lower body temperature, seizures, coma, death
Hallucinogens LSD, Psilocybin (Shrooms, Peyote, PCP)	Frightening flashbacks [called Hallucinogen Persisting Perception Disorder (HPPD)], ongoing visual disturbances, disorganized thinking, paranoia, and mood swings
Narcotics Heroin, Morphine, Codeine, OxyContin, MS Contin, Opium, Hydrocodone, Salvia	Collapsed veins, abscesses (swollen tissue with pus), infection of the lining and valves in the heart, constipation and stomach cramps, liver or kidney disease, pneumonia
Steroids	Kidney damage or failure; liver damage; high blood pressure; enlarged heart; changes in cholesterol leading to increased risk of stroke or heart attack, even in young people; aggression; extreme mood swings; anger (“roid rage”); extreme irritability; delusions; impaired judgment
Inhalants Spray paints, Markers, Glue, Cleaning Fluids, Gasoline	Liver and kidney damage; bone marrow damage; limb spasms due to nerve damage; brain damage from lack of oxygen that can cause problems with thinking, movement, vision, and hearing

Alcohol and Other Drug Laws and Policies

Texas State Drug and Alcohol Laws

[Alcoholic Beverage Code Title 4. Regulatory and Penal Provisions Chapter 101. *General Criminal Provisions*](#)

[Alcohol Beverage Code Chapter 106. *Provisions Related to Age*](#)

[Health & Safety Code Subtitle H. Public Health Provisions Chapter 161. *Public Health Provisions*](#)

[Labor Code Chapter 411. Workers' Health and Safety; Subchapter G. *Policy for Elimination of Drugs in the Workplace*](#)

[Health & Safety Code Subtitle C. Substance Abuse Regulation and Crimes Chapter 481. *Texas Controlled Substances Act*](#)

[Government Code Chapter 2113. Use of Appropriated Money; Subchapter A. *General Provisions*](#)

The Texas A&M University System Drug & Alcohol Policies & Regulations

[34.02 *Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs*](#)

[34.02.01 *Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs*](#)

[34.03 *Alcoholic Beverages*](#)

Texas A&M University-Central Texas University Rules and Standard Administrative Procedures

[13.04.99.D1 *Student Travel Rule*](#)

[13.04.99.D1.01 *Student Travel Procedures*](#)

[34.03.99.D0.01 *Alcoholic Beverages on University Property*](#)

[34.02.01.D1 *Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs*](#)

Texas A&M University-Central Texas Student Rules

[6.4.3 *Alcohol*](#)

[6.4.4 *Drugs*](#)

Federal Laws

[Federal Trafficking Penalties for Schedules I, II, III, IV, V](#) (See pages 30 and 31 in the U.S. Department of Justice Drug Enforcement Administration Research Guide.

Summary

Texas A&M University-Central Texas provides effective programs students, faculty, and staff to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distributions of illicit drugs and alcohol and the related health and safety risks. Summarized below are key strengths and challenges. Also, included is a recommendation related to strengthening the effective

Strengths

- System policies and regulations, University rules and SAPs, Student Rules, departmental procedures, and notifications are provided to students and employees (faculty and staff) for guidance on alcohol and other drug abuse and related conduct/disciplinary actions.
- Guidelines for students and employees are clear and comprehensive.
- AOD-related assessments are provided for students to learn more about use and impact on their life.
- TAMUCT continues to maintain and support a culture of reporting through existing referral systems (e.g., peer referrals; student and employee self-reporting; and community incident referrals).
- Education and awareness training is available for students and employees.
- Risk management tools and training are available for student organizations through Student & Civic Engagement.
- Assessments are available to students through SWACC.

Challenges

- As the university continues to expand distance education opportunities for our students, identifying and communicating the available community resources for referrals is an on-going challenge.
- The global pandemic and resulting increase in remote learning and working environments is a challenge to identify specific needs and provide resources.
- Funding for AOD-specific work is impacted by the competing demands on significantly limited financial resources.

Recommendations

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

- Through collaboration with key personnel from the campus and other locations
 - Identify and review programs and services to identify gaps and/or opportunities, emerging trends, and any resource needs.
 - Improve the promotion of AOD services.
 - Establish partnerships between stakeholder groups to improve educational offerings and referrals.

Appendix A: Example Notification

January 2019

Dear Student,

Texas A&M University – Central Texas is committed to the elimination of alcohol abuse and illicit drug use. Alcohol abuse and illicit drug use disrupt the environment of personal growth all universities seek to develop. We must all help prevent alcohol abuse and illicit drug use from negatively affecting our living and learning environment.

This summary provides basic information on University guidelines, legal sanctions, and health risks associated with alcohol and other drug abuse. Also included is information on intervention, assessments, counseling, and referrals through campus programs.

You are receiving this document in accordance with the Federal Government requirements of the Drug Free Schools and Community Act Amendments of 1989 and the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. In order for Texas A&M University-Central Texas to receive federal funding of any kind, including financial aid resources, all students must receive a copy of this policy. Please consider this saving this email as it contains valuable information that may be of assistance to you or a friend.

If you are interested in resources or understanding how alcohol affects you individually, we encourage you to access our online platform, [eCheckup](#). Interested in how cannabis use affects you?

Best wishes for success this academic year!

Paul York

Associate Dean of Student Affairs and Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Health Risks Associated with the Use of Illicit Drugs and the Abuse of Alcohol

Alcohol abuse is a prime contributor to suicide, homicide, motor vehicle deaths, and other unintended deaths. Excessive alcohol consumption leads to more than 100,000 deaths annually in the United States. Alcohol abuse can lead to alcohol dependence, premature death through overdose, alcohol-related stroke, and complications involving the brain, heart, liver, and many other body organs. Alcohol abuse also causes liver disease, gastritis, and anemia, as well as cancers of the esophagus and larynx.

The abuse of illicit drugs can result in a wide range of health problems. In general, illicit drug use can result in drug addiction, death by overdose, death from withdrawals, seizure, heart problems, infections (e.g., HIV/AIDS, hepatitis), liver disease, and chronic brain dysfunction.

Alcohol used in any amount by a pregnant woman can cause birth defects and permanent brain damage to the child. Drug use by a pregnant woman may cause addiction or health complications in her unborn child.

Alcohol abuse interferes with psychological functions, causes interpersonal difficulties, and is involved in most cases of child abuse. Substance abuse disrupts work, reduces motivation, causes legal and financial problems, and social and family problems. Other problems associated with alcohol and drug use include the following psychological dysfunctions: dependency, memory loss, hallucinations, paranoia, and psychosis.

For additional health risks associated with alcohol and drug abuse:

Department of Justice, *Drugs of Abuse*, www.dea.gov/documents/2017/06/15/drugs-abuse
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, *Alcohol's Effect on the Body*, www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health/alcohols-effects-body
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, *Fact Sheets - Alcohol Use and Your Health*, www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/alcohol-use.htm
Visit the National Institute on Drug Abuse, www.drugabuse.gov/

For information located here at Texas A&M University-Central Texas about health risks associated with drug abuse, contact the [Student Wellness & Counseling Center](#).

Disciplinary Sanctions

A student found responsible for noncompliance with the Texas A&M University-Central Texas Standards of Conduct for alcohol and drug or the laws of the State of Texas has committed a violation of University Code of Student Conduct and is subject to sanctions commensurate with the offenses and any aggravating and mitigating circumstances.

Disciplinary action in cases involving drug related violations by students may result in suspension or expulsion from the University and/or referral for prosecution.

Violation of any state or federal law pertaining to controlled substances which occur off campus and are not associated with a University connected activity may result in disciplinary charges in situations in which the continued presence of the individual on campus is likely to interfere with the educational process and/or the orderly operation of the University.

University disciplinary proceedings will occur in accordance with the procedures outlined in the University Code of Student Conduct. Any disciplinary action imposed by the University may precede, and be in addition to, any penalty imposed by authorities off campus.

Standards of Conduct – University Drug Policy

All members of the University community are expected to abide by state and federal laws pertaining to controlled substances and illegal drugs. More specifically, Texas A&M University-Central Texas Code of Student Conduct prohibits "the act of using, possessing, being under the influence of, manufacturing, or distributing illegal drugs or illegally obtained/possessed controlled substances."

"Controlled substances" refers to those drugs and substances whose possession, sale, or delivery results in criminal sanctions under the Texas Controlled Substances Act, as well as substances which possess a chemical structure similar to that of a controlled substance (e.g., "designer drugs").

According to federal regulations, students convicted for a drug offense that occurred during a period of enrollment while they were receiving Title IV Federal Financial Aid, may lose eligibility for Federal Aid.

Federal Aid includes:

- Federal Pell and SEOG Grants
- Federal Work Study
- Federal Perkins Loan
- Federal Stafford Loan
- Federal Plus Loan
- Graduate Plus Loan

If a student answers 'Yes' to the question on the FAFSA, regarding conviction for possession or sale of illegal drugs they will be sent a worksheet by the federal processing center in order to determine if the conviction affects eligibility for aid. Should the financial aid office be notified that a student has been convicted of sale or possession of illegal drugs, the financial assistance will be suspended immediately. If a conviction was reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record it does not count. Convictions

occurring during periods of non-enrollment do not count. In addition, any conviction received as a juvenile does not count, unless they were tried as an adult.

The period of ineligibility is dependent upon the type of conviction (sale or possession) and if there were previous offenses. The information below demonstrates the periods of ineligibility:

Possession of Illegal Drugs

1st offense- 1 year from date of conviction

2nd offense- 2 years from date of conviction

3+ offenses- Indefinite Period

Sale of Illegal Drugs

1st offense- 2 years from date of conviction

2nd offense- Indefinite period

If the student was convicted of both selling and possessing illegal drugs, the student will be ineligible for the longer period.

Regaining Eligibility

The student may regain eligibility:

- the day after the period of ineligibility ends,
- when they successfully complete a qualified drug rehabilitation program, or
- if the student passes two unannounced drug tests given by a qualified rehabilitation program they may regain eligibility.

Students denied eligibility for an indefinite period can regain it after:

- successfully completing a rehabilitation program as described below,
- passing two unannounced drug tests from such a program, or
- if a conviction is reversed, set aside, or removed from the student's record so that fewer than two convictions for sale or three convictions for possession remain on the record. In such cases, the nature and dates of the remaining convictions will determine when the student regains eligibility.

Qualified Drug Rehabilitation Program

A qualified drug rehabilitation program must include at least two unannounced drug tests and must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- Be qualified to receive funds directly or indirectly from a federal, state, or local government
- Be qualified to receive payment directly or indirectly from a federally or state-licensed insurance company
- Be administered or recognized by a federal, state, or local government agency or court
- Be administered or recognized by a federal or state-licensed hospital, health clinic, or medical doctor.

Additional drug convictions will make the student ineligible for federal aid again. It is the student's responsibility to certify to the school that the student has successfully completed the rehabilitation program. In addition to the eligibility requirements listed above, students who are awarded the Toward EXcellence Access and Success (TEXAS) Grant must certify annually, prior to the disbursement of funds, that they have not been convicted of a felony or crime involving a controlled substance.

Standards of Conduct – University Alcohol Policy

Individuals must be at least 21 years old to purchase alcoholic beverages. Possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages is restricted. Texas A&M University-Central Texas Code of Student Conduct states

that "alcohol use, possession, manufacturing, or distribution of alcoholic beverages (except as expressly authorized by University regulations), is prohibited on Texas A&M University-Central Texas premises and University sponsored events." University sponsored events include institution-sponsored on or off campus activities, such as officially sanctioned field trips, student sponsored social activities, activities of a student organization recognized by the institution (such as fraternities or sororities), and institutional-sponsored activities abroad. Student organizations, which sponsor activities where alcohol is served, must have the approval of their (faculty/staff) advisor and abide by established University procedures.

Campus and Community Resources for Support:

- Student Wellness & Counseling Center: 254.501.5955
 - Staff will refer students requiring long-term care to local providers
- ULifeline: www.ulifeline.org/texasamcentraltexas
- Central Texas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse – Killeen

4520 E. Central Texas Expressway 102, Killeen, TX 76543 | ctcada.org
(254)690-4455 | (254)690-3456

Texas A&M University System Drug and Alcohol Abuse Policy (University System Policy 34.02):

The Texas A&M University System strictly prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of illicit drugs or alcohol on system property, and/or while on official duty and/or as part of any system activities.

A&M University Alcohol and Controlled Substance Statement:

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 assessment 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.

Legal Sanctions for Alcohol

A student who violates any of these alcohol or drug laws will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and will be subject to prosecution in accordance with the law. Legal sanctions for

violation of local, state and federal laws may include, but not limited to fines, probation, jail or prison sentences.

Sale to Minors: It is a Class A misdemeanor to sell an alcoholic beverage to an individual under 21 years of age through an act of criminal negligence.

Public Intoxication Statute of Texas: An arrest for Public Intoxication may occur if an individual appears in a public place while intoxicated so much that the person may endanger himself or herself or another person. This is a Class C misdemeanor. Blood Alcohol Concentration testing is not required for Public Intoxication.

Purchase of Alcohol for a Minor; Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor: It is a Class A misdemeanor to purchase or make available an alcoholic beverage to an individual under 21 years of age through an act of criminal negligence. This offense is punishable by a fine of \$4,000 and/or confinement in jail for up to one year. A person's driver's license is automatically suspended for 180 days on final conviction of the offense of Purchasing Alcohol for a Minor or Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor.

Civil Liability for Provision of Alcohol to a Minor: An adult 21 years of age or older is liable for damages proximately caused by the intoxication of a minor under the age of 18 if the adult is not the minor's parent, guardian, or spouse; or an adult in whose custody the minor has been committed by a court; and the adult knowingly served or provided the minor any of the alcoholic beverages that contributed to the minor's intoxication; or allowed the minor to be served or provided any of the alcoholic beverages that contributed to the minor's intoxication on the premises owned or leased by the adult.

Possession of Alcoholic Beverage in Motor Vehicle: It is a Class C misdemeanor to knowingly possess an open container in a passenger area of a motor vehicle that is located on a public highway, regardless of whether the vehicle is being operated or is stopped or parked.

Driving While Intoxicated; Flying or Boating While Intoxicated: It is a Class B misdemeanor to operate a motor vehicle, aircraft, or watercraft in a public place while intoxicated. The minimum term of confinement is 72 hours. An ignition interlock device will have to be installed on the car of a person convicted of driving with a blood alcohol level of .15 or more, if the defendant is to receive probation.

Intoxication Assault: It is a Third-Degree felony to cause serious bodily injury to another by accident or mistake while operating any vehicle (motor, aircraft, or watercraft) in a public place while intoxicated.

Intoxication Manslaughter: It is a Second-Degree felony to cause death to another by accident or mistake while operating any vehicle (motor, aircraft, watercraft) in a public place while intoxicated.

Administrative License Revocation; Implied Consent: After being arrested for Driving While Intoxicated, failing or refusing the Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) test can result in license revocation. Revocation may NOT be probated and there is a \$125 reinstatement fee. An appeal process is available.

The following penalties apply:

Terms of Offense

Adults

Failure Case

- 90 days with no alcohol or drug related "enforcement contacts" listed on driving record within ten years prior to date of the offense.
- 1 year with one or more alcohol or drug related "enforcement contacts" listed on driving record prior to date of offense within ten years of date of the offense.

Refusal Case

- 180 days with no alcohol or drug related "enforcement contacts" listed on driving record within ten years prior to date of the offense.
- Two years with one or more alcohol or drug related "enforcement contacts" listed on driving record prior to date of offense within ten years of date of the offense.
- If the person who refuses is a resident without a license, an order will be issued denying the issuance of a license to the person for 180 days.

Minors

- Minors are subjected to the same length of suspension as adults for refusing a blood or breath test.
- Failure of a blood or breath test by a minor, however, is a 60-day license suspension with no "enforcement contacts," a 120 day license suspension with one prior "enforcement contact" or a 180-day license suspension with two or more "enforcement contacts." Keep in mind that any detectable amount of alcohol for a minor is a failure. Even if a minor refuses a breath or blood test, but alcohol is detected by other means, the minor is subjected to failure suspension periods rather than the refusal suspension periods.

Alcohol and a Minor

Consumption of Alcohol by a Minor; Possession of Alcohol by a Minor: It is a misdemeanor for minors to consume or possess alcoholic beverages except in the visible presence of the minor's adult parent, guardian, or spouse.

Purchase of Alcohol by a Minor; Attempt to Purchase Alcohol: It is a misdemeanor for individuals under 21 years of age to attempt purchasing alcoholic beverages. "Attempt" implies acting beyond mere preparation.

Misrepresentation of Age by a Minor: It is a misdemeanor to falsely state or to present false documents indicating an individual is 21 years of age or older to a person selling or serving alcoholic beverages.

Punishment for the Above Alcohol-Related Offense by a Minor

For a minor without two previous alcohol-related offenses, these are Class C misdemeanors. Punishment includes 8 to 12 hours community service and denial or suspension of the minor's driver's license or permit for 30 days. Attendance at an Alcohol Awareness Course is also required.

If a minor has at least two prior alcohol-related convictions, the offense is punishable by a fine of \$250 to \$2,000; and/or confinement in jail for up to 180 days. Punishment includes 20 to 40 hours of community service.

The minor's driver's license or permit will be denied or suspended: 60 days for a 2nd alcohol-related conviction; 180 days for subsequent convictions.

Attendance at Alcohol Awareness Course; License suspension

On first conviction of an alcohol-related offense, the court shall require the minor to attend an alcohol awareness course approved by the Texas Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission. If under 18 years of age, a parent or guardian may be required to attend the course with the defendant. The defendant must present evidence of completion of the course and community service within 90 days of the date of final conviction. If the required evidence is presented within the prescribed period, the fine may be reduced up to half the original amount. Failure to comply results in denial or suspension of driver's license or permit for up to six months.

Driving under the Influence of Alcohol by a Minor

A minor commits an offense if the minor operates a motor vehicle in a public place while having any detectable amount of alcohol in the minor's system. For a minor without previous alcohol-related offenses, these are Class C misdemeanors. Punishment includes 20 to 40 hours of community service and denial or suspension of driver's license or permit for 60 days. If a minor has at least two prior alcohol-related convictions, the offense is punishable by a fine of \$500 to \$2,000; and/or confinement in jail for up to 180 days. Punishment includes 40 to 60 hours community service. The minor's driver's license or permit will be denied or suspended: 120 days for 2nd alcohol-related conviction; 180 days for subsequent convictions.

The minor is not eligible for deferred adjudication.

Legal Charges & Penalties

Charges- Fines- Imprisonment

Felony

Second Degree - up to \$10,000 - 2 to 20 years

Third Degree - up to \$10,000 - 2 to 10 years

State Jail Felony - up to \$10,000 - 180 days to 2 years

Federal trafficking penalties for Schedules I, II, III, IV, and V

www.dea.gov/drug-scheduling

Misdemeanor

Class A-up to \$4,000- up to 1 year

Class B-up to \$2,000- up to 180 days

Class C-up to \$500- none

Please let us know if you have any questions related to the prevention of alcohol and other drugs abuse.

Creating responsible Warriors,

Paul E. York

Associate Dean of Student Affairs and

Deputy Title IX Coordinator

Warrior Hall, 105

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

1002 Leadership Place | Killeen, TX 76549

(O): 254-519-5721 | (F) 254-519-8601

www.TAMUCT.edu

Pronouns: He/Him/His

Learner | Input | Intellection | Context | Analytical

Appendix B: 21st Birthday Postcard



Have a fun and safe celebration if you choose to drink by following a few strategies:

1

Make a plan. Plan a safe way to get home before you take that first sip.

2

Eat a healthy meal before you drink. Snack throughout the evening.

3

Never accept a drink from someone else or leave your drink unattended.

4

Stay in groups, and don't leave anyone behind.

5

Never mix alcohol with prescription, retail, or illicit drugs.

6

Don't feel pressure to play drinking games or drink more than you'd like. It's YOUR birthday. DO YOU!

84%

Warriors report making responsible choices about alcohol*

WHEN IN DOUBT, CALL 911.



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS

1001 Leadership Place, Killeen, TX 76549

(254) 519-5909 ★ www.tamuct.edu

studentaffairs@tamuct.edu

Learn more about our alcohol and drug abuse prevention program here:



tamuct.edu/student-affairs