



Biennial Review of Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Program

for 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 Academic Years

West Texas A&M University

A. Written Policy

The 1989 amendments to the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act, as articulated in Part 86 of the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations, require that an institution of higher education must certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.

West Texas A&M University, a member of the Texas A&M University System, follows A&M System Policy 34.02 Drug and Alcohol Abuse, approved February 27, 1995 (MO 44-95), revised September 26, 1997 (MO 181-97), revised September 23, 1999 (MO 225-99), revised January 22, 2009 (MO 029-2009), reviewed April 3, 2012 and established its own Statement of Rules and Procedures concerning Alcoholic Beverages and Illicit Drugs.

B. Distribution of the Policy and Related Information

1. Students receive the written policy and related information through:

- i. **The Student Handbook** (A&M System reference 13.02.99W1) is published annually by the Division of Student Affairs and includes rules and procedures for students. In the 2021-2022 edition, WTAMU Student Rule 2.12 Alcohol Beverages - Prohibited, 4.1 Alcohol Containers and 2.22 Illegal Substances – Prohibited describe the rules surrounding alcohol and other drugs. 2.8.E Conduct Outcomes/Findings details the actions the university will take if the rules or procedures regarding alcohol and controlled substances are violated.

Each year, the Handbook is reviewed and updated as necessary by the Student Handbook Committee, a University standing committee. Membership includes the Vice President for Student Affairs (chair), two faculty seats (appointed by Faculty Senate), three staff seats (representatives from the Office of Community Standards, Residential Living Office and University Police Department), and 8 student seats (appointed by Student Government).

The committee receives suggestions for changes from all aspects of the campus through a formal process. All faculty members, department heads, student senators, and presidents of campus organizations have access to the current Student Handbook and response forms to make suggestions for alterations. The committee reviews and evaluates all submissions and makes final recommendations for changes to the president/CEO of the university. All changes to the written policy for alcohol and other drugs are made through this process.

- ii. **The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act** was created in 1990 and renamed the Jeanne Clery Act in 1991. It requires colleges and universities to disclose their security policies, keep a public crime log, publish an annual crime report and provide timely warnings to students and campus employees about



crime posing an immediate or ongoing threat to students and campus employees. The law also ensures certain basic rights for victims of sexual assault and requires the U.S. Department of Education to collect and disseminate campus crime statistics. Several amendments to the Clery Act over the years have added additional policy statements and required training in prevention and awareness of criminal offenses such as sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, and domestic violence. The annually published Campus Security and Fire Safety Report, is a means of compiling and distributing information concerning campus crimes and residential fire safety, safety checklists, emergency phone numbers, residential fire safety, safety checklists, emergency phone numbers, policy statements, descriptions of emergency campus services and information about non-stranger rape and the abuse of alcohol and other drugs. The report is compiled in the summer of each year and coordinated by the Clery Coordinator. The report is reviewed by the Assistant Vice President for Risk Management/Compliance, Chief of the University Police Department, the Vice President of Research and Compliance and the Vice President for Student Affairs. A Drug-Free Campus section is prepared, in full, as part of the Campus Security and Fire Safety Report.

Both the Campus Security and Fire Safety Report and the Student Handbook are available online at www.wtamu.edu/reports. Hard copies of either are available upon request in the Office of Student Affairs. An electronic copy of the Student Handbook is provided to students and is also available on the University's website. All students, faculty and staff receive an email notice prior to October 1st to announce the availability of the latest online Campus Security and Fire Safety Report. This information is available to prospective students at the following link: <https://www.wtamu.edu/about/campus/campus-safety-and-security.html>, or by request at the University Police Department.

2. **Employees** receive the written policy and related information through:
 - i. **Employee Orientation Meetings**, which are conducted by the Office of Human Resources for all new employees at the time of employment. Each new employee is provided with the Texas A&M University System Policy 34.02 Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs, the West Texas A&M University policy for an Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace, information which addresses employer responsibilities and penalties for noncompliance, and a list of local assistance centers for those with problems involving alcohol and/or other drugs. Employees must indicate in writing that these documents have been received and further, that they will read the same. A printed copy of the Campus Security and Fire Safety Report link is provided in the Orientation packet.
 - ii. **The Campus Security and Fire Safety Report** is available online at www.wtamu.edu/reports. Hard copies are available upon request in the Office of Student Affairs. All faculty and staff receive an email notice prior to October 1st to announce the availability of the latest online Campus Security and Fire



Safety Report. This information is made available to employees without email addresses and to prospective employees through a link on the Employment Opportunities page of the Human Resources website. Hard copies are available upon request in the Office of Student Affairs and from the University Police Department.

3. Methods of AOD Education

- i. **Residence Hall Staff and Programs.** A Community Advisor (CA), formerly known as Resident Assistant (RA), is a student employed by Residential Living who lives on campus and acts as a resource for students on their floor, wing or unit within their Residence Hall. These individuals are student leaders chosen to assist the residents, serving as a resource, mentor, friend, role model, and community leader. Community Advisors assist residents in adjusting to campus life and play a key role in creating an environment for students that is conducive to academic, personal, and social growth. CA's develop social, educational and cultural activities for their residents that encourage involvement in the hall and on campus. They also enforce and educate students on University rules and regulations within the Residence Halls. There is approximately one CA for every 30-40 residents.

The CA staff receive training on prevention programs, recognition of AOD abuse behavior and on referral of students to the Student Counseling Services office on campus. Training programs for Cas are evaluated each semester and revised as necessary.

The CA staff provides multiple programs each semester in the Residence Halls. Staff members attempt to provide programs that will not only create interaction in the community, but will address the various social issues facing students. CA's are required to provide at least one educational program per Residential Living's education model, and are required to collaborate with UPD, Faculty, and/or staff on their programming. Some of the AOD activities within the hall include narcotics programs and programs that address alcohol use/abuse. Each semester, the CA staff addresses alcohol use and consequences during their mandatory floor/unit meetings at the start of each academic semester. The staff also posts signs in each hall concerning alcohol use, including DWI and DUI posters and "No Alcohol Allowed" notices.

The Residence Halls are also involved with the University Police Department in an effort to educate the campus community and to enforce the alcohol/drug regulations. Every incident involving alcohol and/or drugs that occurs in a Residence Hall is immediately reported to the University Police Department.

- ii. **University Curriculum.** Many academic classes at West Texas A&M University now address the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs. The issues of drug



and alcohol use and abuse have been expanded into these courses now offered in Sports and Exercise Science programs of study.

SES 3316 offered in the Spring semester provides a comprehensive overview of the effects of drugs, alcohol and tobacco on physiological, mental and psychological health and well-being with a focus on prevention education for self-responsibility.

SES 1120 Health and Wellness for Life offered in the Fall semester provides awareness of health and wellness factors, such as health promotion, physical fitness basics, nutritional principles, weight management, mental health and stress management, infectious, and chronic diseases, and substance abuse.

- iii. **Student Counseling Services.** The Office of Student Counseling Services is available to assist students who are dealing with alcohol/drug issues. Students have up to 10 free sessions that can be used for personal counseling. Qualified mental health professionals (LP, LCSW, LPC) are available to assist students with issues that underlie addition/abuse. The Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI) assessment tool is used to gain a more accurate view of a potential problem when a student is referred by another department and can also be requested by any student concerned about their use of substances. This tool is used to guide a beneficial and individualized treatment plan. The provider may also offer community referral resources for inpatient or outpatient care, if necessary. There are local resources that exist to provide on-going support for those in recovery in the Amarillo and Canyon areas.
- iv. **Medical Services.** Student Medical Services often screen patients for alcohol use and abuse. This is conducted through a history form and through the process of doctor-patient interaction. If a problem is revealed, the patient is referred to Student Counseling Services, 12-Step recovery groups, and, if needed, inpatient treatment.
- v. **Athletics.** The Department of Intercollegiate Athletics takes an active role in education regarding the prevention of drug and/or alcohol use and/or abuse by its student athletes. Initially, all recruits who take official visits are provided with a list of NCAA Banned Drug Classes including stimulants, anabolic agents, diuretics, street drugs, and peptide hormones and analogues. Additionally, all student-athletes area provided with this list when they sign the NCAA Drug Testing Consent Form, which is required to practice and/or participate in intercollegiate athletics. The form provides each student athlete with NCAA rules and regulations regarding drug testing and sanctions imposed for positive drug tests. Each student athlete is provided with a Student-Athlete Handbook at the first academic year, and the handbook is also posted online at www.GoBuffsGo.com. The Handbook addresses NCAA, University and Departmental policies regarding drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The NCAA and the athletics department conduct mandatory year-round drug testing of its student-



athletes. This testing is done through the athletic training program. The NCAA tests for performance-enhancing drugs. The athletics department tests for both performance-enhancing and street/recreational drugs. The tests are conducted as a random sampling of all student athletes whose names appear on the official Institutional Squad List. The athletic department has a Safe Harbor instructional drug-testing program. The Safe Harbor program is in place to help student-athletes who have self-identified possible addiction to seek assistance in private. The NCAA offers a CHOICES Grant, for which member institutions may apply, and which provides funding for the development, implementation and evaluation of effective alcohol-education and prevention programs on college campuses.

Specific program content: Effects of various substances on athletic performance, training, and recovery from injury. Strategies designed to increase drug-related knowledge and protective behavioral intentions. Strategies to correct perceptions that “everybody is doing it” regarding the prevalence and acceptability of alcohol and other drug use among student-athletes, standardized education on the NCAA banned substances, and a required NCAA drug education and testing video.

- vi. **University Police Department.** University Police staff provide Alcohol Awareness and Drug Awareness programs each semester upon request for instructional classes, student organizations and residence hall events. The crime prevention programs include sexual assault, dating/domestic violence, stalking awareness and prevention; drug and alcohol awareness; self-defense; and general crime prevention.

During the 2021-2022 academic year, UPD presented 9 Alcohol Awareness programs for approximately 184 attendees. These educational sessions were held in a variety of locations across campus, including the JBK classrooms and inside multiple residence halls. The content included:

- Effects of alcohol use on the body and how to process alcoholic beverages.
- Binge drinking (high intensity drinking) and potential risks that go with binge drinking.
- Safe practices (buddy system, watch your drinks, don’t take drinks from strangers, etc.)
- Signs of alcohol poisoning as well as details about what that looks like, what to do, and when to call for help.
- Consequences of underage drinking including amnesty laws that apply.
- Consequences of drinking and driving, as well as riding with a driver who has been drinking.

During the 2022-2023 academic year, UPD presented 9 Alcohol Awareness Programs and 3 Drug Awareness programs for approximately 257



attendees. These educational sessions were held across campus, including academic buildings and residence halls. The content included all the alcohol related material listed above, and the following drug related information:

- Common drugs and current trends as well as the effects of each drug covered; marijuana (strains, different forms, etc.), MDMA (Ecstasy), methamphetamine and other stimulants, synthetics (K-2, Spice, Bath Salts, etc.), and hallucinogens.
- Consequences of drug use in general and for each of the drugs mentioned in the program.
- Resource information

4. **Campus programs.** The President of West Texas A&M University formed a standing University Committee to review the effectiveness of division AOD programs, coordinate promotional efforts, and encourage collaboration among departments and organizations. It is the charge of the AOD Committee to look at the broader picture of AOD issues (See Membership, Section VII).

In programs dealing with our students, coordinators have used internal and external research and studies for information on trends and issues relating to alcohol and other drug usage among youth. External studies indicate a significant level of alcohol consumption and drug use and dangerous drinking and driving behaviors among college students, as well as high school students. Students are coming to the college campus with established patterns of alcohol and other drug use and abuse.

West Texas A&M University currently uses, and is in the process of assessing 3rd Millennium Classroom's alcohol and marijuana classes for our first offenders. The programs, Alcohol Wise, AlcoholEDU, Marijuana Wise and Marijuana 101, are personalized, evidence-based online prevention interventions for Alcohol and Marijuana.

During the review process, it was noted that the West Texas A&M University could be doing more to mitigate the dangers of alcohol abuse with our student body. As a result, Counseling Services implemented a self-reported audit program called Alcohol Use Disorders Identification. Additionally, they conduct an alcohol screening assessment through Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory (SASSI).

Over the next year, we will be looking to find collaborative efforts with offices throughout the University to promote alcohol and drug awareness through regular educational content and events. These programs will bolster efforts of the university to educate students on alcohol and other drug awareness.

All regulations (policies) are evaluated on an annual basis, while most programs are evaluated continually. Changes are made as necessary to meet the federal, state, local, and university requirements.



Various entities across campus hosted programs intended to educate students and staff regarding Alcohol and Other Drugs. The following programs were held on campus during the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 academic years:

9/14/2021 | Fresh Check Day
10/24/2021 | No Excuse for Drug Abuse Advertising
11/9/2021 | ASA Alcohol Awareness
11/18/2021 | Great American Smoke Out (Exhibitor Table)
1/24/2022 | Health and Wellness EXPO (Fair)
2/27/2022 | Safe Spring Break Exhibitor Tables
9/22/2022 | Fresh Check Day
10/24/2022 | NO Excuse for Drug Abuse (Fair)
11/14/2022 | BADD Brothers Against Drunk Driving
11/17/2022 | Great American Smokeout (Exhibitor Table)
1/26/2023 | Sigma Nu Alcohol Awareness
1/31/2023 | Wellness Fair (Fair)
2/14/2023 | Active Minds Promotion (Exhibitor Table)
3/6/2023 | Safe Spring Break (Exhibitor Table)

5. **Enforcement of Disciplinary Sanctions.** To ensure consistent enforcement of disciplinary sanctions, the Office of Community Standards trains Area Coordinators on the Residential Living staff to serve as Conduct Officers for incidents that occur within their Residential communities. This training takes place at the beginning of each Fall semester.
 - i. **Sanctions are outlined in the Student Handbook.** The Student Handbook requires students found Responsible for alcohol violations to complete a probationary period, usually a semester in length, and an educational sanction in response to the prohibited behavior. Second time offenders are required to complete a University-designated online alcohol awareness program, which includes a \$50 registration fee. Other common sanctions in response to Alcohol violations are to attend at least one assessment interview with a counselor from Student Counseling Services, that may require testing to determine substance abuse/potential addiction. Students who continue to violate the Alcohol policy may be suspended from the University for a minimum of one semester or may pursue enrollment in and successful completion of an alcohol rehabilitation program approved by the Office of Community Standards.
 - ii. **Online Alcohol/Marijuana Awareness/Abuse Class.** The Office of Community Standards may also assign an online Alcohol/Marijuana Awareness/Abuse Class to any student receiving a second offense of alcohol or marijuana violation on campus. These courses are available through Get Inclusive and 3rd Millennium Classrooms. Each course addresses common issues associated with alcohol and drug abuse, as well as providing education to the student about responsible



drinking and the potential dangers involved in alcohol and drug use. Any student receiving this penalty will contact the Office of Community Standards to obtain the procedure for taking one of these courses, and will provide a certificate of completion to be placed in their Conduct file.

Below you can see the decrease in repeat offenders that resulted from the increased sanctions for AOD cases from 2020-2021 to 2021-2022. There was an increase in Alcohol Beverage use from 2021-2022 to 2022-2023, however the percentage of repeat offenders is still lower than that of 2020-2021.

Charge	Academic Year	First Time Responsible	Second Time Responsible	% of Repeat Offenders
Alcohol Containers	2020-2021	75	5	6%
	2021-2022	66	0	0%
	2022-2023	10	0	0%
Alcohol Beverages – Being under the influence	2020-2021	14	0	0%
	2021-2022	30	0	0%
	2022-2023	15	0	0%
Alcohol Beverages – Use/poss/sale/	2020-2021	65	4	6.1%
	2021-2022	66	1	1.5%
	2022-2023	52	3	5.7%
Illegal Substances – Use/poss/sale/	2020-2021	11	1	9%
	2021-2022	2	0	0%
	2022-2023	4	0	0%
Illegal Substances – Possession of drug paraphernalia	2020-2021	6	0	0%
	2021-2022	3	0	0%
	2022-2023	2	0	0%

- 6. **Reporting.** The University Police Department reports AOD incidents according to the Uniform Crime Reporting standards. Their records are reconciled with those maintained by the Office of Community Standards. The data is prepared in calendar years, not academic years. The data that follows shows arrests and referrals, and are broken down by “On-Campus”, by “Non-Campus Buildings/Property”, and by “Contiguous Public Property”.

Offense	Year	On Campus	Non-Campus	Public Property	Total	Residential Facilities*
Liquor Law Arrest	2020	39	0	8	47	37
	2021	18	0	19	37	16
	2022	48	0	4	52	47
Drug Law Arrests	2020	9	0	16	25	7
	2021	8	0	13	21	1
	2022	5	2	11	18	4



Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2020	52	0	1	53	51
	2021	38	0	1	39	37
	2022	46	3	0	49	43
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2020	24	0	3	27	23
	2021	11	0	0	11	9
	2022	1	0	0	1	1

*Note: Residential Facility Statistics are a subset of the "on campus" category, i.e. counted in both categories.

7. **Mission and Membership of Alcohol and Other Drugs Committee**

Mission: The Alcohol and Other Drugs Committee reviews the effectiveness and implementation of needed changes to the alcohol and other drugs program and ensures that the disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct are enforced consistently.

Membership: The standing University Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Committee has representation from faculty, staff, and students as follows:

- 2 Co-Chairs (appointed by the Office of Student Affairs)
- 4 Faculty with staggered terms (appointed by Faculty Senate)
- 4 Students (appointed by Student Government)
 - PULSE Member
 - Interfraternity Council Member
 - Panhellenic Council Member
 - Residence Hall Association Member
- Clery Coordinator
- Director of Athletics
- Student Counseling Services staff
- Director of Student Medical Services
- Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs
- Office of Community Standards staff
- Assistant Director of Rec Sports
- Residential Living staff
- Director of Personnel Services
- Ex-officio Member

For more information on the Biennial Review and any of its accompanying documentation, please contact:

The Office of Student Affairs
West Texas A&M University
WTAMU Box 60775
Canyon, TX

List of Attachments to Original File



[2022-2023 Student Handbook](#)

[2022-2023 Residence Hall Handbook](#)

[Student Athlete Handbook](#)

[Athletic Department Substance Abuse and Education Program \(located within Student Athlete Handbook\)](#)

[List of Local Centers for Alcohol and/or Other Drug Addictions](#)

Life Challenge of Amarillo

6500 Hope Road

Amarillo, Tx 79124

806-352-0385 (by appointment)

Amarillo Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

803 S Rusk

Amarillo, Tx 79106

806-374-6688

Amarillo Alcoholic Women's Recovery Center, Inc. (The Haven)

1308 S Buchanan

Amarillo, Tx 79101

806-374-5654

Northwest Texas Healthcare System

1501 S Coulter

Amarillo, Tx 79106

806-354-1000

The Pavilion

Northwest Texas Healthcare System

7201 Evans Blvd.

Amarillo, Tx 79106

1-800-537-2585

TAMU System Policy 34.02.01 Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs:

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

[WTAMU Police for Alcohol and Drug-Free Workplace Rule](#)