

Biennial Review of The University of West Alabama's

DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Biennial Review Committee

I. Introduction

A. In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (EDGAR Part 86) UWA's Biennial Review Committee is responsible for achieving the following objectives:

1. To determine the effectiveness of the university's alcohol and other drug prevention program.
2. To implement any changes to the university's alcohol and other drug prevention program.
3. To ensure that the university has enforced the disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct consistently.

B. Committee meeting dates 6/8/20 and 7/13/20.

C. Primary Resources

1. *Complying with the Drug-Free Schools and Campus Regulations: A Guide for University and College Administrators.*

II. Description of the university alcohol and other drug program elements.

A. Alcohol-Free Options

1. There is a multitude of alcohol free activities offered on the campus of UWA each year, sponsors include: Residence Life, Student Government Association, Campus Activities Board, College of Liberal Arts, International Programs, Admissions, Development, Athletics, Greek Life, Wellness Center, and Human Resources.
2. Student participation in volunteer and philanthropic opportunities are encouraged and publicized through campus-wide emails, and social media campaigns by the Public Relations office.
3. The university has a Student Recreation Center and a Wellness & Fitness Center that are utilized by hundreds of students annually. These facilities are open during the evening hours and on weekends.
4. Student Activities offers intramural sports and outdoor recreation opportunities throughout the year.
5. The campus features hiking trails, a disc golf course, tennis courts, softball fields, multi-purpose fields, and a lake that are available for student use.

B. Normative Environment

1. The university academic schedule includes the offering of courses during evening hours Monday through Thursday.
2. Class attendance is encouraged and most faculty impose an academic penalty on students for unexcused absences.
3. All university residence halls are substance free by policy.
4. Counseling Services provides training for faculty, staff, and students on how to identify and intervene with students suspected of mental health issues.
5. Students have the opportunity to serve as peer mentors through the student led A-Team.
6. Pro-health messages are publicized by various departments including Student Life, Wellness Center, Intramural Sports, Counseling Services, and UWA Cares.
7. Substance abuse messages are given every year during UWA 101 courses.
8. Alcohol awareness seminars are given every year by Student Life and Athletics.
9. Counseling Services promotes the use of an alcohol education module.
10. Representatives from the Title IX office present on sexual assault prevention and include a link between alcohol and drug use and sexual assault.
11. Students found in violation of the Code of Student Conduct in cases of alcohol or other drug abuse cases are required to complete Judicial Educator modules.
12. Resident Assistants in residence halls hold annual meeting to go over policies which includes those related to the prohibitions of alcohol and other drugs.

C. Alcohol Availability

1. The University Alcohol Policy restricts the use of alcohol on campus.
2. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through any funds from a student organization.
3. The use of kegs and common alcohol containers is prohibited on campus.
4. Alcohol is not served at any athletic venue on campus, with the exception of the Tiger Room at Tiger Stadium.
5. All recruitment activities held by Greek organizations are required to be alcohol free.

D. Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol

1. The on-campus promotion of alcohol at an event or otherwise is prohibited.

E. Policy Enforcement

1. University Police enforce penalties for alcohol use and/or possession by minors, sale of alcohol to minors, buying alcohol for minors, possession of fake IDs, and penalties related to drug use, possession, manufacture, and distribution.
2. Resident Assistants complete health and safety room inspections monthly and report the discovery of any alcohol and/or drug to the professional staff.
3. Each case referred to the SLC regarding allegations of misuse of alcohol and/or other drugs is fully investigated. The committee is tasked to uphold the UWA Student Code of Conduct. The SLC membership includes: Assistant Director of Housing, Director of Student Life, Director of Counseling, Registrar, Chief of Campus Police, SGA President, faculty members and 2 additional appointed students.
4. The Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board performs compliance checks on alcohol retailers in the area to enforce state law prohibiting sales to minors.

III. Statement of Alcohol and Other Drugs Goal(s)

- A. The primary objective of the University in the area of substance abuse is prevention. Through the presentation of drug, alcohol, and other health-related educational programs, the University hopes to inform the campus community of the problems related to substance abuse.
- B. Although the University does not independently require drug-testing of students involved in campus activities, the University supports and agrees to comply with drug-testing requirements of all applicable athletic associations in which membership is held.
- C. The Nursing Division also has additional requirements related to substance abuse, and detection, including mandatory testing. The University supports these additional policies applicable to nursing students.
- D. For student, faculty, and staff members who recognize that an abuse problem exists, counseling and/or referral service will be made available. It is hoped that all substance abuse problems can be handled at the counseling level; however, it is the responsibility of the individual to seek help prior to disciplinary action or criminal apprehension, or prosecution, as well as conduct himself or herself in accordance with federal, state and local law whether or not on the campus of The University of West Alabama.

IV. Summary of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Strengths and Weaknesses

- A. A major strength of the policy is the collaboration from those across campus in the heightened awareness and concern of the health of our students. Departments including Student Affairs, Office of the Provost, Title IX Office, Human Resources, Student Life, University Police, Counseling Services, and Housing and Residence Life collaborate to ensure that our students have a strong and consistent policy to abide by.

- B. The Student Life Committee was audited to be broken into two committees the Student Conduct Committee and the Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Prevention Committee.
 - C. The implementation of new software that tracks sanctions to ensure that sanctions are applied consistently across the campus.
 - D. The development of a student led organization, The A-Team, to promote alcohol prevention awareness, and to offer alcohol free programming.
- V. Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy Content and Distribution
- A. The Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy includes a policy statement, relevant state and federal laws, descriptions of substance abuse counseling and referral options, disciplinary sanctions for students, faculty, staff, and a description of alcohol and other illegal drugs and their corresponding health risks.
 - B. A link to the university's Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy is distributed via e-mail to every enrolled student every semester. Additionally, this policy is included in the student handbook (*The Tiger Paw*), as well as the faculty/staff handbook. Hard copies of the policy have been made available to the students in the office of the Vice-President of Student Affairs.
- VI. Recommendations for Revisions to Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy
- A. Full reconsideration of all current policies for the 2022 cycle so that we can ensure that all things are considered completely.