

Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations
Edgar 86
Biennial Review
2015–2017

Created by
Asher Morgan, PhD
Alcohol and Other Drug Specialist
Department of Wellness and Health Promotion



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS
STUDENT AFFAIRS

Pat Walker
Health Center

Introduction

The following report was created by the Alcohol and Other Drugs Specialist of the Wellness and Health Promotion Department within the Pat Walker Health Center at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. This report is prepared to meet the requirements of the 1989 amendments to the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act, as articulated in Part 86, the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations. As explained:

In order to certify its compliance with the Part 86 Regulations, an IHE (Institutions of Higher Education) must adopt and implement a drug prevention program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by all students and employees both on school premises and as part of any of its activities. Creating a program that complies with the Regulations requires an IHE to do the following:

- (1) Prepare a written policy on alcohol and other drugs;
- (2) Develop a sound method for distribution of the policy to every student and IHE staff member each year; and
- (3) Prepare a biennial report on the effectiveness of its alcohol and other drug (AOD) programs and the consistency of policy enforcement.

The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations require IHEs to review their AOD programs and policies every two years. The required review has two objectives:

- (1) To determine the effectiveness of, and to implement any needed changes to, the AOD program; and (2) to ensure that disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct are enforced consistently. Because the Regulations do not specify what a biennial review should include or how it should be conducted, schools have considerable leeway in determining how to conduct and what to include in their biennial review.

In practice, biennial reviews range from 2 to almost 30 pages. The more thorough biennial reviews include: (1) descriptions of the AOD program elements; (2) a statement of AOD program goals and a discussion of goal achievement; (3) summaries of AOD program strengths and weaknesses; (4) procedures for distributing AOD policy to students and employees; (5) copies of the policies distributed to students and employees; and (6) recommendations for revising AOD programs.

The University of Arkansas has a comprehensive written policy on alcohol and other drugs, as well as a strategy for distributing this policy to staff and students. It is in compliance with part 1 and 2 of Part 86 Regulations. This report represents the Biennial Review of Alcohol and Drug Prevention Programs at the University of Arkansas as required by the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations. In this report, student alcohol and other drug surveys are evaluated to help measure policy and program effectiveness. In addition, the prevention initiatives the University has implemented to minimize alcohol and other drug problems are summarized.

I – Descriptions of the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Program Services

The University of Arkansas offers several places where students can go to seek help for alcohol and other drug issues including but not limited to: the Substance Education and Alcohol Resources (SEAR) office within the Department of Wellness and Health Promotion, Counseling and Psychological Services, the Office of Student Standards and Conduct, and the U of A Cares Program within the Dean of Students office. Students are provided with compassion and confidential services which include individual counseling, individual and group brief interventions, case management, referral to the community, and self-help programs.

Prevention programs are provided campus wide each semester to various student groups including first-year students, and students living in residence halls. All students benefit from mass social media marketing campaigns and general wellness outreach programs and presentations.

Students who violate the campus policy regarding alcohol and other drugs (AOD) are referred to the University Police Department, the Office of Student Standards and Conduct, or the SEAR office, depending on the circumstances of their violation. All student violators receive education. If a student commits a major offense they are referred off-campus to complete an AOD assessment and receive counseling and/or treatment if appropriate.

II – Statement of AOD Program Goals and a Discussion of Goal Achievement

The goals of the prevention and intervention programs are to improve student health and indirectly improve student success as demonstrated by an increase in student retention rates and overall academic performance. These programs seek to reduce high-risk drinking and illicit drug use and their associated negative consequences. Achievement of these goals is measured by a variety of sources including the National Collegiate Health Assessment, Alcohol Edu for Students, and data from the Office of Student Standards and Conduct.

III – Summaries of AOD Program Strengths and Weaknesses

Strengths

- The key strength of the University of Arkansas' prevention efforts are the collaborative relationships that have occurred between numerous departments and personnel on campus.
- In the 2016-2017 academic year the University of Arkansas Campus Alcohol Task Force was re-created and began work on areas of concern as identified by campus data.
- Creation of a relationship with academic departments to train students in certain fields of study intervention techniques.

Weaknesses

- While it is also a strength, there are a few collaborative relationships with key departments across campus that have not been able to be fostered despite efforts and data to suggest that such a relationship should exist.
- A lack of community participation on the Alcohol Task Force, the group is composed solely of stakeholders from the institution.
- Inadequate staffing to provide both prevention, intervention programming and recovery services to a campus with 27,000 students. During the 2015-16 academic year prevention

programming ceased due to the case load of students requiring intervention services as a result of violating the university policy regarding alcohol and other drugs. Currently have less than one FTE dedicated to intervention programming with mandated students, a graduate intern working 24 hours per week and then approximately 30-40% of the duties of the FTE dedicated to substance abuse.

IV – Accomplishments

- Beginning in the Spring of 2016, a dedicated space was created for the Razorback Recovery Community.
- Continuous comprehensive educational efforts focused on the Razorback Medical Attention and Alternative Resolution Policy including presentations and dissemination of materials (PUBS Cards) which highlighted the signs of alcohol poisoning and what to do in those situations.
- Developed relationship with the School of Social Work to have graduate interns facilitate intervention programming.

University of Arkansas' Comprehensive Efforts to Reduce Alcohol and Other Drugs Misuse

Substance Education and Alcohol Resources office

- Conduct alcohol and other drug education programs and presentations in residence halls, classrooms, and in fraternities and sororities upon request.
- Inform policy and programming efforts by serving on university alcohol and drug committees.
- Implement and analyze alcohol and drug surveys.
- Coordinate campus-wide, multidisciplinary programs to reduce the prevalence of alcohol and other drug problems.
- Coordinate the individual and group intervention programs with students who violate the university policy for alcohol and other drugs.
- Coordinate Razorback Recovery Community.
- Provide online alcohol and drug education programs – eCHECKUP for alcohol, eCHECKUP for marijuana, Alcohol Edu for Sanctions, Alcohol Edu for Students

Office of Student Standards and Conduct

- Meet with students who have violated university policy or Arkansas state law on the possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and/or drugs.
- Adjudicate violations.
- Refer students to appropriate programs and/or departments for individual or group intervention sessions.
- Help create policy regarding drug and alcohol issues.

Counseling and Psychological Services

- Coordinate counseling center services for students with alcohol and/or drug problems as well as for students who are affected by substance misuse or abuse by parents, relatives, or friends.

University Housing

- Substance Education and Alcohol Resources office provides AOD education and training to all resident assistants (RAs) at fall RA training.
- Collaborative relationship with the Office of Student Standards and Conduct regarding on-campus violations of the policy regarding alcohol and other drugs.

University Police

- Alcohol and drug information is provided at various events across campus that UAPD attends throughout the school year.
- Provide safe transport after dark program.
- Enforcing all laws.

Human Resources

- UARK's Alcohol Policy can be found in Section 4.5.E of the Faculty Handbook on the UARK Office of the Provost website:
<https://provost.uark.edu/faculty-handbook/4-general-policies-procedures-services/5/e.php>
- UARK's Smoking/Tobacco Policy can be found in Section 4.5.F of the Faculty Handbook on the UARK Office of the Provost website:
<https://provost.uark.edu/faculty-handbook/4-general-policies-procedures-services/5/f.php>

- UARK's Drug-Free Workplace Policy can be found in Section 4.5.G of the Faculty Handbook on the UARK Office of the Provost website:
<https://provost.uark.edu/faculty-handbook/4-general-policies-procedures-services/5/g.php>

Division of Student Affairs

- UARK's Code of Student Life – Student Standards of Conduct relating to alcohol and other drugs (15-19) can be found on the Division of Student Affairs Student Handbook website, Section 1B:
<http://handbook.uark.edu/code-of-student-life/student-conduct/student-standards.php>
- UARK's Student Organization Responsibilities for Alcohol and Other Drugs policy can be found on the Division of Student Affairs Student Handbook website, Section 3I:
<http://handbook.uark.edu/code-of-student-life/student-organizations/alcohol-and-drugs.php>

Recommendations for Revising Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Efforts

The Substance Education and Alcohol Resources office minimally needs one more full-time staff member to coordinate programming for the campus. The SEAR office as well as the University of Arkansas Campus Alcohol Task Force will continue to work towards supporting and expanding the efforts and accomplishments included in this report. The Task Force will look to expanding to include community stakeholders. Overall, University officials should continue to work within the campus, local community, and the state on issues that related to alcohol and drug use. Furthermore, special emphasis should be given to high-risk groups such as members of Greek Life, first year students, athletes, and students who violate the alcohol and drug policy. With the legalization of medical marijuana in the state of Arkansas, university officials should begin to increase initiatives to address marijuana prevalence as well as increase educational efforts regarding misuse and abuse.

Procedures of Distributing AOD policy to Students and Employees

All of the above listed websites are available for anyone to view at any time. The links are published in a Newswire article, which is sent via email to every student, faculty, and staff member, at the start of the fall and spring semester, and once during the summer.