

Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations Edgar 86 Biennial Review 2023–2024

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UNIVERSITY OF
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STUDENT AFFAIRS

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Introduction

The following report was created by the SEAR (Substance Education, Assessment, & Recovery) Program within Medical Services at 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:

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 specify what a biennial review should include or how it should be conducted. Therefore, disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct should be 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 perform the review and what to include in their biennial report.

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, Assessment, & Recovery (SEAR) Program within Medical Services, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), the Office of Student Accountability (OSA), and the U of A Cares Program within the Dean of Students office. Students are provided with compassionate 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, Greek Life, Registered Student Organizations (RSOs) campus-wide each semester to various student groups, and students living in residence halls. All students benefit from mass social media marketing campaigns, 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 (UAPD), the Office of Student Accountability (OSA), or the SEAR program, depending on the circumstances of their violation. All student violators receive education. Students who commit a major offense are referred off-campus to complete an AOD assessment and receive counseling or treatment if appropriate.

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

The prevention and intervention programs aim to improve student health and indirectly improve student success, as demonstrated by increased 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 through various sources including the National Collegiate Health Assessment, Alcohol Edu for Students, and data from the Office of Student Accountability (OSA).

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.
- The SEAR program has a licensed therapist to oversee the individual and AOD consult sessions and supervises clinical interns from the public health, social work, and counseling departments.
- The Peer Recovery Specialist oversees the collegiate recovery program: Razorback Recovery Community (RRC).
- The SEAR program has hired a Prevention/Education Coordinator to specifically oversee prevention and outreach efforts across the campus community.
- Created the SEAR Ambassadors' Departmental Student Organization (DSO) to help spread prevention education and outreach across the campus community through student ambassadors and peer champions.

Weaknesses

- The Division of Student Affairs is transitioning to shared services, and programmatic and administrative changes are occurring division-wide, impacting communication and current projects.

IV – Accomplishments

- Launch the One Pill Can Kill Campaign Initiative with the Office of the Attorney General.
 - Distributed approximately 350 Narcan kits in the student training event.
- Hosted the first ever Spring Carnival event reaching 450 students and providing education about prevention and assistive resources and services on campus and in the Fayetteville community.
- Advocate and receive funding for a full-time staff member to oversee prevention and outreach efforts.
- Collaborate with the Matt Adams Foundation to provide monthly recurring Narcan trainings
- Razorback Recovery continued the Woo Pig Sober Tailgate tradition.
- Work with the Associated Student Government (ASG) and RSOs on campus to get free cup covers on-campus and widely distributed.

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, with student organizations, 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.
- Develop programming for ROAR, assist in the implementation, and help with building cross campus relationships.
- The University of Arkansas Alcohol and Other Drug Policy, as well as the Alternative Resolution Policy and Campus Resources, may be found in the resources section of the SEAR website at <https://health.uark.edu/sear/index.php>
- Information about Razorback Recovery may be found at <https://health.uark.edu/sear/razorback-recovery.php>

Office of Student Accountability

- 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.

- Provide online alcohol and drug education programs – eCHECKUP for alcohol, eCHECKUP for marijuana, Alcohol Edu for Sanctions, Alcohol Edu for Students.

Counseling and Psychological Services

- Coordinate counseling center services for students with alcohol and/or drug problems and for students affected by substance misuse or abuse by parents, relatives, or friends.
- Assist with the implementation of Razorback Recovery.

Associated Student Government

- Pushed to get cup covers on campus for students.
- Educated students and staff about campus resources and laws surrounding substance use.

University Housing

- Collaborative relationship with the Office of Student Accountability 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:
https://handbook.uark.edu/23-24_Code_of_Student_Life_9.15.23.pdf
- 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:
https://handbook.uark.edu/23-24_Code_of_Student_Life_9.15.23.pdf

Recommendations for Revising Alcohol and Other Drugs Prevention Efforts

- The Substance Education, Assessment, and Recovery (SEAR) office will look to support the hired full-time staff member to coordinate prevention and education programming for the campus.
- The SEAR office will continue to work towards supporting and expanding the efforts and accomplishments included in this report.

- The SEAR office plans to survey students through partnering with the Psychology and Social Work faculty advisors to understand their perceptions, behaviors, and the prevalence of substance use on campus to understand social norms surrounding alcohol and other drugs.
- ROAR will look to expanding to include community stakeholders and a larger presence within groups on campus. Overall, University officials should continue to work within the campus, local community, and the state on issues that related to alcohol and drug use.
- Work with the Admissions Office to include mandatory sessions on substance abuse awareness and healthy decision-making during freshman orientation.
- Special emphasis should be given to high-risk groups such as members of Greek Life, first year students, 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, abuse, and explaining the medical component.

Procedures of Distributing AOD policy to Students and Employees

All the above listed websites are available for anyone to view at any time. The links are published in a Arkansas News 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.