

# Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Campus Regulations



2018-2020 Biennial Review

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## UT Tyler's AOD Program mission and vision

The mission of the alcohol and other drugs (AOD) program is to create an institution-wide team of professionals; charged with implementing and evaluating efforts to reduce the impact of alcohol and substance use on the UT Tyler community.

Our vision is to become a campus free of the perils and associated health risks of problem drinking and substance use.

### **STATEMENT OF AOD PROGRAM'S GOALS 2018-2020 ACADEMIC YEARS**

1. Hire and train a Student Development Specialist to begin overseeing the campus' Basics intervention program and the Center for Students in Recovery.
2. Review evaluate and improve processes to prevent substance use on campus and among students, faculty and staff.
3. Disseminate information about the risks associated with alcohol and substance use to the campus community.
4. Offer a reasonable level of care for those affected by their own or someone else's substance use through counseling and referral.
5. To create a collegiate recovery community and recruit members from among the campus, and larger community.
6. Identify programming and prevention efforts which 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
7. To increase collaborations between departments on campus related to alcohol and other drug use.

8. Develop a more robust evaluation program for the prevention and screening efforts of the University

## **DESCRIPTION OF AOD PROGRAM'S ELEMENTS IN THE FIVE AREAS OF ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS**

### **1. Alcohol-Free Options**

All social programs geared toward students on the UT Tyler campus are alcohol-free. These programs include dances, movies on the lawn, live music, gaming tournaments and comedy shows. Two weeks every year (Homecoming and Patriot Days) are devoted to various on-campus activities that are alcohol-free. The University Center and Patriot Zone (game room) have extended hours. The recreational sports program provides opportunities for exercise, outdoor adventures, intramural team sports, and wellness information. The recreational sports facility (the Patriot Center) is open extended hours throughout the year. UT Tyler sponsors intercollegiate teams in 15 sports: baseball, men's and women's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's golf, men's and women's soccer, softball, men's and women's tennis, men's and women's track and field, and volleyball. All sporting events are alcohol-free.

### **2. Normative Environment**

“UT Tyler offers innovative undergraduate and graduate programs to help students pursue their dreams and achieve their goals. Students can choose from over 80 undergraduate and graduate degrees programs at UT Tyler. In addition, to our innovative offerings, the University is committed to service learning and community service. Whether it is through the use of technology, instruction, curriculum, or partnerships with area businesses and organizations the University provides students with real, relevant and meaningful educational experiences. Many opportunities exist to apply the knowledge acquired in classes to real world situations.” (Office of Academic Affairs). The university offers core courses Monday-Friday, including exams, projects, and learning opportunities that require class attendance and academic responsibility.

Alcohol consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages on UT Tyler property is strictly prohibited except for two campus housing locations: Victory Village, and Liberty Landing. At these two facilities, residents may possess and consume alcohol within their own apartment, provided that all residents assigned to the apartment are 21 or over. The prohibition of alcohol includes the following actions as well: parties: Using a suite (or allowing others to use it) for parties at which alcoholic beverages are present may result in contract termination. and students who violate this policy may be cited or arrested by campus police and referred for disciplinary action through university judicial affairs. There is a zero-tolerance policy for illegal substances found in an on-campus residence, and violators of the policy face eviction from university housing. Programs on substance use and misperceptions of drinking norms are provided in residence halls throughout the year.

Freshmen participate in a program during freshmen orientation regarding the alcohol and other drug policy, the expectations of the university regarding substance use, and normative messages. Throughout the year, orientation leaders, resident assistants, fraternity and sorority members, athletes, and student organizations are offered seminars regarding the alcohol and other drug policy, legal and health consequences of substance use and abuse, and campus normative messages.

The Student Counseling Center and Center for Students in Recovery assists students who are referred or self-referred for problems related to alcohol or other drug abuse in finding a treatment setting in the community which will accommodate their needs. This assistance is available in addition to any initial help provided through these services. Substance abuse and dependence screenings and on-line alcohol educational programs are also available through Student Health and Wellness. A person who wishes to anonymously report a concern about a student may submit a “Student of Concern” electronic report, which will be sent to the Behavioral Intervention Team for review and action as needed. The university contracts services with UT Advantage to provide an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for benefits eligible employees.

### **3. Alcohol Availability**

Smith County is considered a “partly wet” county, meaning that there are one or more parts of the jurisdiction in which a particular type of beverage sale is legal but there are other parts in that jurisdiction where that type of sale is not legal. Because of the partly wet designation, alcohol is easily available throughout Tyler and most of Smith County. In Tyler beer and wine for off-premise consumption sales are legal and these items can be purchased at most convenience and grocery stores.

The purchase, manufacture, distribution, possession, sale, storage or use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited while on campus or on property owned or controlled by the University, including all campus residence buildings, except Liberty Landing and Victory Village. The President of the University may, however, waive this prohibition with respect to any event sponsored by the university.

One recommendation for addressing the concerns about availability of alcohol is the unification of housing policies which would prohibit alcohol from being possessed by anyone residing with any campus housing location. Currently two property that falls under campus housing allows residents who are of age and residing solely with roommates over 21 years old to possess and consume alcohol on their premises. A unified policy would prohibit possession on any UT Tyler owned and or managed property to decrease confusion surrounding the policies and allow for a more

#### **4. Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol**

Any sign, flyer, poster or banner may not be posted by off-campus groups or retailers. All advertising by an on-campus group or individual must be approved by the department of Student Life and Leadership.

Social norms and other pro-health messages are distributed primarily through the Student Counseling Center in the Department of Student Services, the University Health Clinic, the Herrington Patriot Center, Campus Police and the Human Resources Office, through social media, webpages, presentations, posters, brochures, pamphlets, and promotional items.

#### **5. Policy Development and Enforcement**

On-campus functions require registration of the space, and alcohol may not be present without the specific approval of the president. Any approved function must have clearly defined boundaries and must include security personnel to enforce state and local laws and campus regulations. Only licensed alcohol providers authorized by the Texas Alcoholic Beverages Commission may serve alcohol.

Campus police regularly patrol on-campus facilities, including student housing, and enforce laws pertaining to minors in possession of alcohol, providing alcohol to minors, driving under the influence, and other laws and policies related to alcohol and other drugs. Residence Assistants are also responsible for responding to suspicion of alcohol or other drugs and other complaints. Anonymous crime reports may be made through the on-line “Silent Witness” form on the UT Tyler Police Department’s website.

An individual or organization that fails to comply with state laws and regulations and/or UT Tyler or UT System regulations and policies will be subjected to disciplinary sanctions such as probation, suspension, and suspension of rights and privileges from the university in addition to possible legal prosecution. The University of Texas at Tyler has a strict zero tolerance policy regarding the use of illegal drugs. Violators face disciplinary sanctions such as suspension or expulsion for a period of time and suspensions of rights and privileges from the University in addition to prosecution under Federal and Texas laws.

The UT Tyler campus became a Tobacco free campus in August 2016.

<http://www.uttyler.edu/human-resources/wellness/tobacco-cessation/index.php>

## **SUMMARY OF AOD PROGRAM STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES**

### **Strengths**

- During this time, many advances have been made in formulating and implementing policies that are more in line with the needs of our students. This can be seen through changes such as the rebranding of the Judicial Affairs office, as well as the creation of holistic case management focused conduct programs.
- The campus's screening and intervention programs (Basics and Casics) are evidence based and have a track record of success with UT Tyler students. These programs have become the basis for formulating new programs to address evolving concerns.

### **Weaknesses**

- For the first half of this review period there was no fulltime staff person dedicated to the Center for Students in Recovery, and the Basics program was administered under the Student Counseling Center.
- Services that are currently offered to the campus community as it pertains to AOD prevention efforts are either not adequately advertised or in general lack awareness on campus.
- Laws forming the basis of some of our student conduct policies are not quite up to pace with the technology of THC products such as edibles, vapor cartridges, etc.

### **Opportunities**

- Involvement with the local recovery community through a Recovery Oriented System of Care
- Increased social media presence of health and wellness departments, serving to combat stigma and raise awareness of peer groups and sober activities
- Additional efforts to work directly with students to examine their own substance use behaviors

### **Threats**

- A significant amount of funding for these efforts was achieved through grants which expire in this timeframe.
- Stigma from the larger community makes these efforts seen as less relevant and less necessary on campus.

## **AOD POLICY**

### **Policy Contents**

In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, the following information is part of the alcohol and other drug policy distributed to employees and students each semester:

- A description of the health risks associated with alcohol abuse and the use of illegal drugs.
- A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal laws.
- A description of treatment, counseling, rehabilitation programs available at the University.
- A statement of the University's disciplinary measures regarding alcohol and illegal drug use by students and employees.
- Other policy information

### **Policy Distribution**

#### **Students**

In order for all students to receive a copy of The Alcohol and Drug Abuse policy for students, the Alcohol and Drug Abuse policy for students was sent by student e-mail to all currently enrolled students each semester. The policy is included on the Student Health and Wellness, Student Rights and Responsibilities, and Campus Police websites. Faculty are required to include the Student Rights and Responsibilities website on all syllabi. Student Conduct and Discipline policies may be found in the UT Tyler catalog, the Handbook of Operating Procedures, and the Student Handbook. Additional policies related to students living on-campus and athletes are given to the students in these respective areas.

#### **Personnel**

The Office of Human Resources provides newly hired full-time and part-time employees with a Drug Free Workplace Policy Statement and a Drug and Alcohol Policy Brochure as part of their



initial orientation. A signed acknowledgment form ensures that new employees are familiar with the provisions of the policy. The university contracts services with UT Advantage to provide an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for benefits eligible employees. In addition, brochures and cards with contact information and services are available in the Office of Human Resources to remind employees that counseling through the EAP is available to them and their family members at no charge. When requested, the Office of Human resources provides assistance by explaining alcohol and drug abuse treatment provisions covered by university insurance. (See Appendix B)

All benefits eligible employees are also required to complete computerized training modules every 2 years, one of which is a Drug Free Workplace module. This training module consists of campus drug and alcohol policies, campus disciplinary action, and where to find more information.

## **Recommendations for revision of the AOD program**

Student Conduct policy.

The Basics and on track programs represent an area of significant opportunity for improvement. The process of candidate selection, the specific curricula, the timeline for events, and other factors have changed over time and will continue to be refined further.

Center for Students in Recovery

This area has significant room for improvement both in the processes and services that the department provides, as well as greater integration into the East Texas and UT Tyler communities.

Prevention and intervention

The campus currently employs a Basics program for student conduct violations involving alcohol, and Casics for infractions involving cannabis. These are two programs which could benefit greatly from increased availability to additional student groups.

## **APPENDIX A: Recovery and Prevention Education Services Programming- select events**

Communication class	presentation	2/15/2019
Communication class	presentation	2/18/2019
Substance program	planning meeting	2/20/2019
Suicide awareness walk	Tabling	3/27/2019
opiod crisis panel	Panel discussion event	4/3/2019
CSR Luncheon	luncheon	4/6/2019
Drug free schools act	meeting	4/10/2019
H& K wellness expo	Tabling	4/11/2019
Stress management	res life program	4/15/2019
Stress management	res life program	4/16/2019
Greek life AOD meeting	meeting	4/23/2019
Classroom presentation	presentation	6/11/2019
Orientation	Tabling	6/13/2019
Orientation	Tabling	6/20/2019
Pat chats	presentation	6/20/2019
Pat chats	presentation	6/20/2019
Classroom presentation	presentation	7/2/2019
Orientation- Org Fair	Tabling	7/11/2019
Orientation	Tabling	7/18/2019
Nursing BSN orientation	Tabling	8/15/2019
RA Training	Tabling	8/16/2019
Greek life AOD meeting	meeting	8/19/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	8/23/2019
Swoop station	student related	8/23/2019
Open recovery	student related	8/28/2019
Student meeting- Rowan	Conduct related	8/29/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	8/30/2019
Open recovery	student related	9/4/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	9/6/2019
Greek life AOD meeting	meeting	9/9/2019
Open recovery	student related	9/11/2019
Classroom presentation	presentation	9/11/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	9/13/2019
Open recovery	student related	9/18/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	9/20/2019
Open recovery	student related	9/25/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	9/27/2019
Conduct consultation	student related	9/27/2019

Classroom presentation	presentation	10/1/2019
Conduct consultation	meeting	10/16/2019
Individual recovery meeting	student related	10/22/2019
CSR disc golf game	student related	10/23/2019
Meditation group	faculty/staff outreach	10/25/2019
Oct Sober fest	student related	10/25/2019
Trunk or treat vehicle duty	Community-wide event	10/27/2019
Halloween health fair	student related	10/29/2019
Open recovery	student related	10/30/2019
SAE conduct presentation	student related	11/3/2019
Individual conduct related meeting	student related	11/5/2019
Individual conduct related meeting	student related	11/12/2019
Open recovery	student related	11/13/2019
On track meeting	student related	11/19/2019
Classroom presentation	presentation	12/2/2019
Classroom presentation	presentation	12/2/2019
Recovery Confessions	program	12/3/2019
Orientation- Org Fair	student related	1/10/2020

## **APPENDIX B**

### **AOD Policy and Distribution Materials**

1. Alcohol and Other Drug Policy: <http://www.uttyler.edu/wellness/alcoholpolicies.php>
2. UT Tyler Handbook of Operating Procedures: <https://www.uttyler.edu/hop/>
3. Manual of Policies and Procedures for Student Affairs:  
<http://www.uttyler.edu/mopp/documents/8Student%20Conduct%20and%20Discipline.pdf>
4. Residence Life Policies: <http://www.uttyler.edu/mopp/documents/11ResidenceLife.pdf>
5. Employee Assistance Program: <https://www.uth.edu/uteap/employees.htm>
6. Drug-Free Workplace Policy Statement  
<http://www.uttyler.edu/compliance/documents/SOCGuide.pdf> (pg 16)
7. Safety and Security Information Report: <http://www.uttyler.edu/police/forms/annual-security-report.pdf>

## **APPENDIX C**

### **Evaluations**

Campus Crime Statistics: <http://www.uttyler.edu/police/forms/annual-security-report.pdf>

**The University of Texas at Tyler - Main Campus  
 Arrests for Liquor Law, Drug and Weapon Violations**

Offense Type	Year	On Campus	Residential Facilities	Non-Campus Buildings & Property	Public Property	Total
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	2016	22	22	0	0	22
	2017	27	26	0	0	27
	2018	25	22	0	1	26
<b>Drug Violations</b>	2016	0	11	0	0	11
	2017	25	20	0	0	26
	2018	44	39	0	5	49
<b>Weapons Violations</b>	2016	1	0	0	0	1
	2017	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0

**The University of Texas at Tyler – Main Campus  
 Judicial Referrals for Liquor Law, Drug and Weapons Violations**

Offense Type	Year	On Campus	Residential Facilities	Non-Campus Buildings & Property	Public Property	Total
<b>Liquor Law Violations</b>	2016	51	51	0	0	51
	2017	47	44	0	0	47
	2018	47	45	0	0	47
<b>Drug Violations</b>	2016	31	28	0	0	31
	2017	25	24	0	0	25
	2018	14	9	0	0	14
<b>Weapons Violations</b>	2016	1	1	0	0	1
	2017	0	0	0	0	0
	2018	0	0	0	0	0

Listed above are the most relevant campus crime statistics for this period.