

# **University of Arkansas – Fort Smith**

## **2022 Biennial Review**

### **Drug Free Schools and Communities Act**

#### **Introduction**

The University of Arkansas – Fort Smith (UAFS) has in place effective policies and procedures designed to comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Community Act (DFSCA), state laws, governing board policies, and UAFS policies regarding drug and alcohol use. These laws and policies are intended to reduce and prevent the problems associated with the use or misuse of these substances, ultimately creating a safer and healthier environment for the University community.

This biennial review report is divided into the following sections:

1. Biennial Review Process
2. University Policies
3. Annual Notification
4. Educational Programs and Interventions
5. Student Conduct
6. Student Conduct Sanctions
7. Legal Sanctions
8. Health Risks
9. Program Review
10. Resources

Individuals with questions or comments concerning the biennial review may contact the UAFS Associate Vice Chancellor & Dean of Students at the following address:  
Tel. (479) 788-7310

#### **Biennial Review Process**

The Biennial Review Committee met during the Spring 2022 semester to review components essential to the University's drug and alcohol program: policy statements, publications, services, data collection, educational programming, campus life, alternative student activities, and data on student and employee conduct.

The following campus units contributed to this report:

- The Associate Vice Chancellor/Dean of Student (Student Conduct)
- The Counseling Center
- Human Resources
- Assistant Dean of Students – Residential Life
- New Students and Family Programs
- University Police Department

## **University Policies**

### **Student Policy**

The UA Fort Smith Alcohol and Drug Abuse Policy listed in the Student Code of Conduct for 2020-2021 is currently under review by the Code of Conduct Review Committee for the 2020-2021 year. The alcohol and drug policies will be reviewed by this committee, lead by the Dean of Students, annually. The policies are currently stated as follows:

### **UAFS Alcohol Policy**

Student possession and use of alcohol on university properties, including residential housing, and at official university functions held on campus is prohibited. It is the policy of the university that the illegal or abusive use of drugs or alcohol by employees and students is prohibited on university properties or as a part of any university activity whether on or off campus. Irresponsible behavior while under the influence of intoxicants is not to be condoned and may be subject to review and/or action by the appropriate judicial body.

### **UAFS Drug Policy**

Possession, use, or manufacture of illicit drugs is strictly prohibited at the UAFS. Students at UAFS are subject to disciplinary action for violation of federal or state laws

## **Housing and Residential Life Policy**

### **Alcohol**

UAFS, including all residential buildings, prohibits the possession, distribution, manufacture, or use of alcoholic beverages on its property. This includes students who (,)2 ( d(U)(t)2

submit to urine drug testing and/or Breathalyzer alcohol testing to determine usage of drugs and/or alcohol as provided b

## **Employees**

Counseling resources are available to faculty and staff through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provided by United Health Care.

The EAP program includes the following services:

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## **Greek Life**

Greek Life provides educational and values based programming to promote substance abuse awareness and prevention each year to all who are in fraternity and sorority life.

## **Student Conduct**

The following is a summary of student alcohol and other drug violations for 2020 – 2021 and 2021 – 2022 academic years.

<b>2020 – 2021</b>	<b>Not Responsible</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Did Not Appear</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alcohol Violations	4	19	0	23
Drug Violations	2	2	0	4
<b>2021 – 2022</b>	<b>Not Responsible</b>	<b>Responsible</b>	<b>Did Not Appear</b>	<b>Total</b>
Alcohol Violations	0	35	0	35
Drug Violations	0	7	0	7

The University Police Department conducted the [Annual Security Report](#) published annually in October, which displays the effectiveness of alcohol and drug prevention efforts.

## **Student Conduct Sanctions**

Any student found in violation of these procedures will immediately be placed on probation and shall be subject to additional disciplinary actions which may include dismissal from UAFS.

The vice chancellor for Student Affairs or the dean of student will make information available to students about the dangers of drug abuse, the availability of couns(i)6 (c)4 ( Tw -9.89 TJ-

Specific degree programs may have additional policies related to prevention and management of substance abuse. Students enrolled in these degree programs are

## **Public Intoxication**

A person commits the offense of “Public Intoxication” if

1. He appears in a public place manifestly under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance to the degree that he is likely to endanger himself or other persons or property, or
2. He unreasonably annoys persons in his vicinity. Public intoxications is a Class C misdemeanor, and can result in up to 30 days in jail and a fine of up to \$500.

## **Possession of Alcohol by a Minor**

It is illegal for a person under the age of 21 to possess alcohol. Penalties include a fine of up to \$500 along with a 60-day license suspension.

## **Knowingly Furnishing to a Minor**

A person commits the offense of “knowingly furnishing to a minor” if, being an adult, he knowingly purchases for or provided alcohol beverages to a minor. Such an offense is a Class C misdemeanor, and can result in

- First Offense: You will be fined not less than \$200 and not more than \$500.
- Second Offense and subsequent offenses: You will be charged with committing a Class A misdemeanor crime.



- b. The resulting sanction(s) affects the student's ability to live on campus or attend the University (e.g. housing removal/relocation, suspension, or eviction.)

## **Health Risks**

Alcohol and drug use is prohibited at UAFS, not only for legal issues, but due to health risks associated with use.

Information about the health risks of drug use and abuse can be accessed through the following web site: <http://www.drugabuse.gov>.

Information regarding the online judicial educator program can be accessed through the following web site: <http://judicialeducator2.com/>. This program is used through Housing and Residential Life as an educational sanction for students violating the on-campus alcohol policy.

## **Program Review**

### **Program Strengths**

The strengths of our Alcohol and Other Drug Program are as follows:

- The university has clear, concise, and well-published Alcohol and Drug policies for students and employees.
- The Student Handbook, Code of Conduct, and these policies, which are included as a part of those documents are reviewed annually by a diverse group of faculty, staff, and students.
- UAFS does an excellent job maintaining conduct records and providing a consistent and fair conduct process.
- The university provides several programs and activities throughout the academic year to increase awareness and prevention of alcohol and drug abuse.
- Positive relationships exist between key campus units including the University Police Department, the Dean of Students Office, Residential Life, Greek Life and Campus and Community Event.
- Programs for students are centered around education, utilizing resources and make responsible choices.

### **Weaknesses**

- Limited data points exist to accurately measure the effectiveness of this program.

### **Program Recommendations**

- Identify a measurement tool or tools that allow the institution to gain a baseline understanding of our program's effectiveness.
- Continue to expand our awareness and prevention programs offering face-to-face as well as virtual and on-demand programming.

- Assess our student conduct process and sanctions to learn directly from students how we can improve the conduct process and have a better understanding of the effectiveness of our Judicial Educator program.
- Continue to maintain positive relationships between key campus units.
- Expand our knowledge of community resources and work to make those resources more accessible to our campus community.

**Conclusions**

The university is meeting its obligations under the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. The University of Arkansas – Fort Smith recognizes its responsibility to provide a healthy environment in which students may learn and prepare themselves to be fully functioning and productive individuals. We are committed creating an healthy and safe educational environment for our students, faculty and staff.

**Resources**

On Campus Resources	Phone Number	Website
Counseling Clinic	479-788-7398	<a href="https://uafs.edu/student-life/health-and-wellness/counselling-center.php">https://uafs.edu/student-life/health-and-wellness/counselling-center.php</a>

- [UAFS Faculty & Staff Handbook](#)
- [UAFS Student Handbook](#)
- [UAFS Residential Life Handbook](#)