



# Biennial Review 2016–2018

---

## INTRODUCTION

The Drug-Free School and Campuses Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires institutions of higher education, including the University of Georgia (UGA), to certify they have adopted and implemented programs to prevent the abuse of alcohol and/or “the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs both by students and employees” on campus property or as a part of any campus activity. Institutions are required to have an alcohol and other drug (AOD) policy and distribute this policy annually to all students, faculty, and staff. More specifically, this policy must outline a university’s prevention, education, and intervention efforts, along with consequences for policy violations. In addition, members of the community must also be made aware of possible health risks associated with the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, along with resources available for assistance due to problem use and abuse.

The law further requires institutions of higher education to review AOD programs to determine their effectiveness and implement any needed changes, as well as ensure that sanctions for violating the institution’s rules regarding the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs are consistently enforced.

This Biennial Review report reflects ongoing efforts at the University of Georgia related to compliance with the Drug-Free School and Campuses Regulations.

## THE BIENNIAL REVIEW PROCESS AT UGA

At the University of Georgia, the Division of Student Affairs coordinates the Biennial Review process on behalf of the University.

As recommended in the previous 2014–2016 Biennial Review, in spring 2017, Student Affairs charged a new UGA Standing Biennial Review Team.

This Review Team met regularly in 2017 and 2018 and discussed the goals, evaluations, and recommendations from the previous Biennial Review. The Review Team also considered

existing campus data, including the National College Health Assessment. In addition, the group collected new information from more than 50 campus partner offices, including UGA’s schools and colleges, through an online form and subsequent interpersonal follow-up.

From this information, the Review Team compiled this Biennial Review report. The group’s discussion of new potential opportunities related to UGA’s AOD program helped to shape the Recommendations included within.

This Biennial Review considered the academic years of 2016–2017 and 2017–2018. Members of the UGA Standing Biennial Review Team include:

- Eric Atkinson, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs
- Sige Burden, Senior Director of Faculty and Staff Relations, Human Resources
- Marshall Chalmers, Associate General Counsel
- Adam Fouche, Captain, UGA Police
- Alison Bracewell McCullick, Director of Community Relations
- Liz Prince, Director of Health Promotion and The Fontaine Center, University Health Center
- Matthew Waller, Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs (Chair)

## OVERALL FINDINGS

From the information considered, the Review Team determined that the University of Georgia is in compliance with the federal Drug-Free School and Campuses Regulations.

The University of Georgia affirms its commitment to a high impact, comprehensive public health approach in addressing the impact of alcohol and other drugs on the campus community. This approach includes a continuum of education, prevention, early intervention and recovery support programs.

[The University of Georgia Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs](#) addresses the required content outlined in federal regulations. The policy is distributed to every student, faculty, and staff member at least annually.

---

University schools and colleges, campus units, student organizations, and other affiliated groups collectively provide an AOD program for education, prevention, early intervention, and recovery support. Consideration of relevant data and reporting by campus partners, including the UGA Standing Biennial Review Team and senior leaders, helps to determine the effectiveness of the program and implement any needed changes. Dedicated campus units, including UGA Police, the Office of Student Conduct, and Human Resources, ensure that AOD sanctions are consistently enforced.

The University regularly completes an AOD Biennial Review per federal requirements. Biennial Review reports are available online and by request to UGA Student Affairs.

## AOD POLICIES AND PUBLICATIONS

[The University of Georgia Policy on Alcohol and Other Drugs](#) outlines the University's prevention, education, and intervention efforts, along with consequences for policy violations by students, faculty, and staff. The policy provides information on possible legal and health risks associated with the use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, along with resources available for assistance due to problem use and abuse.

Annually in early fall, the University distributes the AOD policy and program electronically to all students, faculty, and staff as part of the [Safe and Secure Annual Fire Safety and Security Report](#). All members of the UGA community are encouraged to review the information in this report, and it is continuously available online.

In addition, a broad range of University schools and colleges, campus departments, student organizations and other affiliated groups distribute the policy and related AOD resources to stakeholders in a variety of ways. The policy is appended to the mandatory online alcohol and interpersonal violence prevention course required for all incoming first year and transfer students. Policy information is referenced in parent and student orientation materials and included in campus housing handbooks that each student living on campus is asked to review before they move into the residence halls. Many student organizations provide members with handbooks, links, or training that includes

information about the policy. Finally, numerous campus partners utilize websites, electronic communications, department meetings, staff orientations, postings on bulletin boards, and other training opportunities to share the policy and related information.

## AOD PROGRAM

The University of Georgia affirms its commitment to a high impact, comprehensive public health approach in addressing the impact of alcohol and other drugs on the campus community. This approach includes a continuum of education, prevention, early intervention and recovery support programs led by a range of University partners. Regular data collection and reporting inform campus AOD efforts.

Following is a representative sample of AOD program-related efforts, including a broad range of University schools and colleges, campus departments, and other affiliated groups. Note this is not intended as a comprehensive list of all AOD programmatic efforts.

### Campus Transit

More than 200 student employees receive AOD education and training annually from staff at the University Health Center / The Fontaine Center. During Employee Safety meetings, conducted twice a year, the AOD policy is communicated to staff. Additionally, Transportation and Parking Services implements the U.S. Department of Transportation AOD testing program for all commercially-licensed employees.

### College of Education

Educational and prevention activities for UGA students include AOD education classes through the College's Counseling and Human Development Services department. These courses educate and help prepare students to become better professionals by providing a foundation and spreading awareness of substance abuse issues and their impact on students. The College also hosts placement meetings and field experience orientations, along with utilizing student program handbooks, to share policies and information related to the Georgia Professional Standards Commission Code of Conduct.

### College of Pharmacy

Through a range of efforts throughout the year,

---

the College's Student Wellness Committee helps to increase student awareness of negative aspects of alcohol and drug abuse.

**Center for Leadership and Service**  
Mandatory training for student staff supports students in addressing a range of situations that could occur during a given program. Each training session focuses on a topic related to student success, including a session dedicated to alcohol.

**Office of the Dean of Students**  
More than ten times a semester, the Office hosts Late Night at UGA/Dawgs After Dark events. These free events for students, including outdoor films, lectures, and recreational opportunities, encourage students to participate in campus activities in the evening as an alternative to going to downtown Athens. These events are hosted by the Center for Student Activities and Involvement and funded by the student activity fee. The target audience is undergraduate students, living on- and off-campus.

**Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication**  
Prior to studying abroad, students receive risk management training. Additionally, Grady student ambassadors receive training related to their roles, including Grady policies and practices on alcohol and events.

**Greek Life**  
New sorority and fraternity chapter presidents receive training on the Greek Life social event guidelines. All new sorority members attend a seminar that includes a national speaker educating members about substance abuse and harm reduction. The Interfraternity Council hosts a series of educational talks about safety, risk management, and medical amnesty, aimed to provide education and a safe space for fraternity leaders (presidents, new member educators, and recruitment chairs) to discuss the realities of drug use and prevention.

**Human Resources**  
The HR-hosted Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides University employees with access to varied AOD and other support programs.

**Recreational Sports**  
Officers of Club Sports teams receive hazing prevention, bystander intervention, and student conduct training, including issues of AOD. Club sport officers learn to understand their

responsibilities as leaders and how to effectively address AOD concerns. Ramseypalooza is a large-scale alternative late-night program hosted during the fall, drawing nearly a thousand students annually.

**School of Law**  
Students receive annual presentations on substance abuse and mental health issues, as well as healthy ways to manage stress, specifically connected to law students and lawyers. These programs help to educate students on the danger of using AOD to manage stress and how to prevent substance abuse issues through healthy coping mechanisms. The School also hosts a mental health awareness day, which includes electronic communications to students, faculty, and staff, social media dialogue, and a session on law student mental health, including substance abuse issues.

**Student Conduct**  
The Mentor Program, a collaboration with The Fontaine Center, matches students with a faculty or staff member who helps the student to clarify academic, career, and personal interests and become more connected and engaged at UGA. In a separate program to improve DUI awareness, students participate in interactive trivia, learning about community standards, including alcohol policies, while competing in a game format.

**University Health Center**  
The Fontaine Center provides a comprehensive range of prevention, early intervention through recovery support programming for UGA students. The Center also partners with stakeholders across campus to deliver AOD resources and education. High impact programs include:

- AlcoholEdu - All incoming University of Georgia first-year and transfer students complete an online module. Through interactive and personalized course content, AlcoholEdu provides detailed information about alcohol and its effects on the body and the mind. Whether they drink or not, the course teaches students AOD risk reduction and active bystander intervention.
- Watch Dawgs Active Bystander Intervention Training Program - Ongoing student, faculty and staff training sessions prepare bystanders for interventions related to AOD, mental

---

health, sexual assault, and violence prevention. The programs aim to increase the odds of a UGA community member intervening to prevent harm, as well as creating a culture of care for well-being.

- BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students) - Open to all students, this confidential, evidence-based program helps students make better alcohol-use decisions and reduce risks for alcohol and other substance-related harm.
- Collegiate Recovery Community - Students recovering from addiction find peer support as well as other recovery support services while navigating their own college experience. Students receive academic and social support and programming, recovery protection, and community accountability.

#### University Housing

Students living on campus have the opportunity to attend numerous AOD-related programs and events, including “So You Think You Can Drink,” on AOD awareness, “Safe and Sound,” on bystander intervention, and the “Alcohol Awareness Trivia Program,” on harm reduction. Residential staff, frequently in partnership with The Fontaine Center, provide ongoing opportunities for dialogue and resource sharing on AOD issues.

#### University Police Department

Community members access ongoing information related to AOD awareness and medical amnesty law, as well as the institution’s Safe and Secure report, through the Department’s website. During campus orientation sessions, incoming students and parents also receive information on making safe and healthy choices regarding AOD.

## AOD ASSESSMENT INITIATIVES

Of the more than fifty campus partners who submitted assessment information for the Biennial Review, most focused evaluation efforts on program efficacy by measuring indicators such as program attendance, student learning, number of incidents since instituting the training, and formal behavior change surveys.

Those who focused on policy review stated that they review their policies annually to ensure alignment with University policies and state law. Partners completing employee assessments checked to ensure the efficacy of training in harm reduction.

The following is a representative sample of AOD assessment-related efforts from a broad range of University schools and colleges, campus departments, and other affiliated groups. Note this is not intended as a comprehensive list of all AOD assessment efforts.

#### Campus Transit

The department uses positive and negative test results from random AOD tests to assess the effectiveness of AOD training and Employee Safety Meetings.

#### College of Education

The College utilizes course evaluations to assess Counseling and Human Development Services courses. Placement meetings and field experience orientations, along with program handbooks, use counts of violations as an assessment measure.

#### College of Pharmacy

The College uses attendance at the Dawgtoberfest booth and student feedback about the event to assess program efficacy.

#### Office of the Dean of Students

On-site surveys and attendance are used to measure effectiveness of Late Night at UGA/Dawgs After Dark events. Over the past two academic years, 47,299 students have participated.

#### Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication

The College assesses program efficacy of the risk management and Grady Ambassador trainings with completion data.

#### Greek Life

The department tracks the relative number of problems/violations during social events as an assessment measure.

#### Human Resources

The department uses a quarterly utilization report to assess the effectiveness of the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

---

### School of Law

The School assesses the efficacy of the Law Student Wellbeing, Healthy Ways to Manage Stress, and Mental Health Awareness Day events through event attendance and informal feedback.

### Student Conduct

The Mentor Program is assessed through exit surveys immediately and six months following completion of the program, in addition to longitudinal data on GPA and persistence. Other programming is assessed through regular surveys.

### University Health Center

- Alcohol Edu - Follow-up surveys immediately after and weeks subsequent to completion of the online course track changes in perception and behavior.
- Watch Dawgs Bystander Intervention Training - Ongoing assessment of program goals indicate behavior change of program participants and willingness to intervene and help others in specific situations.
- BASICS - Students receive a follow up assessment three months after completion of the program that tracks program effectiveness.
- Collegiate Recovery Community - The Health Center is currently working with a faculty researcher on an assessment plan and research project to evaluate the effectiveness of the CRC program.

### University Police Department

The University Police Department reviews stakeholder feedback from website visitors and attendees of Orientation presentations.

assessment and data collection, and guidance in working with audiences including students, faculty, and staff.

- Establish a University-level point(s) of contact or point person/people to represent the campus AOD program. The point(s) of contact would serve several critical functions, in collaboration with campus partners, including UGA's Fontaine Center, Human Resources, and senior leaders:
  - Work to assure awareness and utilization of best practices among campus AOD partners
  - Offer a source of reliable AOD education and training for campus audiences, integrating campus facilitators
  - Facilitate new and existing collaborations and relevant data sharing
  - Serve as a trusted source of campus AOD information, current research, and data for stakeholders
  - Communicate ongoing successes and opportunities to senior leaders and other stakeholders
  - Lead the biennial review process, including oversight of the campus-wide, UGA Standing Biennial Review Team

## **FUTURE RECOMMENDATIONS**

After reviewing the campus policies, program, and assessment initiatives as part of this Biennial Review process, the UGA Standing Biennial Review Team offers the following recommendations:

- Develop and widely circulate a checklist of best practices for campus AOD partners, driven by contemporary research and data. Best practices may include considerations of policy, procedures, training, communication,