LAMAR UNIVERSITY
A Member of the Texas State University System

DIVISION OF STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

2012 - 2014

BIENNIAL REVIEW
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS
POLICIES/PROGRAMS

Submitted in compliance with the
Federal Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act

REVISED AND UPDATED
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I. Introduction

A. Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act

In 1989, amendments to the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act were adopted, requiring all institutions of higher education to design and implement an alcohol and illicit drug program campus-wide. Lamar University (LU) and Lamar Institute of Technology (LIT) like other institutions around the nation must attest to the adoption and implementation of a campus program to prevent "the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees" while on campus property or as part of any campus-related/sponsored event. In order to ensure the continuation of any form of federal financial assistance, a biennial review of said program's policies, effectiveness and enforcement must be completed.

As a result of the 1989 amendments, LU and LIT developed both a written policy on alcohol and drugs (AOD) and the process by which such policy is to be distributed and enforced, to all students, faculty and staff. The policy itself is required to include; federal, state and local sanctions for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. It also contains descriptions of health risks associated with said substances, and AOD programs available for students and employees. An explanation of disciplinary sanctions to be imposed upon violators of the policy is also included.

B. Biennial Review 2012 - 2014

In keeping with required mandates, this review includes AOD program elements, applicable university AOD policies, standards of conduct, legal sanctions, health risks, student programs and services, campus and Greek life. In addition, program strengths and weaknesses will be discussed along with recommendations for program improvements for the next review. Copies of the policies distributed to students and employees are included in topic specific appendices at the end of this review.
II. Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Program Elements

A. University AOD Policies

1. Student Conduct: The Student Code of Conduct (Appendix A) is published by the LU Office of Student Engagement and LIT Office of Student Affairs. This code describes the conduct expectations for LU and LIT students respectively. Of particular importance is the regulation that delineates conduct pertaining to alcohol and other drugs. Therefore, “the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance and the abuse of alcohol in the workplace is expressly prohibited.” Each institution's Student Code of Conduct prohibits "possessing and/or using, without authorization according to the university policy, intoxicating beverages in a classroom building, laboratory, auditorium, library building, faculty or administrative office, residence hall or apartment, intercollegiate and intramural athletic facility, or any other public campus area, or being intoxicated in any public area of the campus.”

The student code of conduct is derived directly from the Texas State University System Board of Regents Rules and Regulations (Chapter VI, Section 5.2 and 5.9). Students found in violation of said code of conduct may be suspended or expelled from the University or LIT in accordance with the code's rules and regulations. Violation of federal, state and/or local alcohol and drug laws, may be criminally prosecuted and/or face expulsion.

2. Faculty and Staff Conduct: The Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 is summarized in LU’s written policy (Appendix B) and expressly prohibits the use of controlled substances in the workplace. "LU and LIT is committed to providing safe and healthy work, teaching, and learning environments.” Therefore, "Drug and alcohol abuse will not be tolerated.” All faculty, staff and students may be required to undergo drug testing in accordance with this policy. Violators may be sanctioned through the University or LIT and/or by federal, state or local authorities. LU and LIT also strictly prohibits the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus. Any social events where alcohol may be served must adhere to the regulations found in the Social Events Policies and Procedures (Appendix B, Policy # 2.13).

3. Fraternity and Sorority Conduct: All Greek organizations must also abide by Lamar University's Student Code of Conduct. In addition, Greeks' are governed by the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC). In its Social Policy, the IFC states, “The illegal use, possession, sale or distribution of any controlled substance at a fraternity function shall be strictly prohibited.” (Appendix C). Individual chapters have written policies governing alcohol consumption at Greek sponsored events. Any Greek event (dances, rush or parties) held on campus, (i.e. Setzer Student Center Ballroom) may not serve alcohol. University police officers are hired to oversee such events. Violations of the policy will be handled by the IFC Judicial Board according to policy mandates.
4. Athletic Conduct: Lamar University student athletes are governed by the following: Lamar Student Code of Conduct, Lamar Student-Athlete Handbook, NCAA Athlete Policy and NCAA Banned Drugs 2013-2014 List (Appendix D). In order to participate in Lamar University's Intercollegiate Athletics, all athletes must sign the NCAA Drug-Testing Consent Form (Appendix D). "The use, misuse and/or abuse by a student-athlete of any banned drug, or the failure of a student-athlete to participate in alcohol and drug misuse and/or abuse treatment as required under this policy, is deemed a violation of the student-athletes intercollegiate athletic team rules and may subject the student-athlete to sanctions ...” Additionally, if a student athlete is involved in an alcohol related incident that does not violate federal, state or local laws, but is a violation of University policy, the athlete will be disciplined by the head coach and administrator of that sport. The Department of Athletics may also impose sanctions that include but are not limited to suspension from competition.

5. University Housing Conduct: The Department of University Housing updated its written guidelines regarding the use/misuse of alcoholic beverages in the residence halls during the last biennium. The Cardinal Village Apartments Additional Lease Agreement Provisions (Appendix E) states that "Possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages or any other substance in Cardinal Village is prohibited at all times." It also states that, "The use, sale or distribution of illicit drugs will not be tolerated. Residents or guests caught using or soliciting drugs will be turned over to criminal or university authorities. Residents or guests caught or suspected of using drugs will face disciplinary action including the possibility of eviction. Contraband inspection services utilizing contraband detection canines will be conducted on an unannounced basis. Communal areas, individual rooms and automobiles shall be subject to inspection." (Appendix E).
B. Student Programs and Services

The following is a list and short description of undergraduate courses that directly or indirectly discuss the topics of alcohol and drug use/abuse.

1. University and LIT Classes

Family and Consumer Science Department

FCSC 1377 - Intimate Relationships/Marriage & Family - A study of the individual and the family. Individual development, interpersonal relationships, sexuality tasks of marriage, work and parenting skills in relation to the family life cycle.

FCSC 3340 – Human Development 1-Focusing on Adolescence. Adolescent development in contemporary society. Emphasis is in understanding the world in which adolescents live and it affects their behavior and social relationships.

FCSC 4326 - Family Violence -Interpersonal violence throughout the life cycle. Includes viewpoints of law enforcement and treatment strategies.

Health and Kinesiology Department

HLTH 1370 - Health and Wellness - Designed to increase student awareness of fitness, health concepts and lifestyle modification.

HLTH 3370 - Contemporary Issues - Deals with problems associated with current health issues, which are related to individual and social adjustment in society. Special emphasis will be given to substance abuse, stress management, and problems related to aging.

HLTH 3372 - Drug Use and Abuse - Deals with individual and social problems associated with alcohol and drug use.

Psychology Department

PSYC 3330 - Psychology of Social Interaction - Investigates the psychological basis of interpersonal behavior. Emphasis is on the study of individual experience and behavior in relation to the social environment, and how individual behavior both affects and is affected by social interaction.

Criminal Justice Department

CRIJ 3311 - Crime and Criminals - Deals with American crime problems in historical perspective; social and public policy factors affecting crime, impact and crime trends; liberal and conservative views of the crime problem and policy implications; crime prevention.
Sociology Department

**SOCI 1306** - Social Problems - Attributes of society and of persons which are subject to disapproval; the causes, extent and consequences of problems; programs and prospects for their resolution.

**SOCI 3330** - Urban Sociology - Studies of city growth and urbanization in the US and the world, the urban ecological structure and process, urban sprawl, education, crime.

**SOCI 3380** - Criminology - The nature and significance of criminality, etiology of illegal behavior

**SOCI 3390** - Juvenile Delinquency - Studies the nature, incidence and explanations for juvenile delinquency in American society; agencies and programs for prevention and control of juvenile delinquency.

**Lamar 1101** - University Success Seminar - This course is required for all incoming students. It is a one-credit hour, cross disciplinary, interactive course that will meet twice per week. A segment of the curriculum will cover alcohol and drugs, and students will be provided the links to the screening tools on-line. (Appendix F-1).

**Lamar Institute of Technology**

**DORI Class** - This is a required class for all first year students at LIT that includes a component addressing alcohol/drug use. (Appendix F-2). This biennium presentations were made to a total of 457 students.


2. **Student Health Center Services**

Multi-disciplined licensed professionals are responsible for the assessment of health-related and mental health-related conditions that may affect student behaviors on campus. They provide the planning, implementation and evaluation of health education and promotional programming. Under the purview of the now Division of Student Engagement, these professionals strive to provide numerous, varied types of programs, awareness events related to alcohol and drug use, handouts and brochures. (Appendix G). They continue to work closely with the Division and the Judicial Officer. Beginning in May of this year (2012) the Student Health Center became aligned with the Division of Finance and Operations, and reported to the Vice President of that Division until June, 2014 and officially moved back under the Division of Student Engagement to which they currently report. Focus on alcohol and drug awareness, education and intervention will continue with the same diligence as in prior bienniums.

In 2012 and 2014 formal presentations on alcohol abuse were offered to all incoming freshman and transfer students by SHC professional staff during orientation sessions. For all sessions in those years, a total of 2738 students watched a 30 minute Power Point presentation entitled "Alcohol: The Facts Served Straight Up" (Appendix H). For 2012 sessions, a two-page hand out, “Information All Students Should Know” (Appendix I) was included in 1,613 freshman packets. This information specifically details the health risks of alcohol and other drugs, Lamar penalties, counseling treatment, and State and Federal penalties. Other requested alcohol and drug programs were conducted throughout the year at various locations on campus and in residence halls. Multiple brochures, pamphlets, posters and videos are available as part of a resource library for student use at the Student Health Center.

The Health Center employs two licensed counselors who are certified Training for Intervention Procedures (TIPS) trainers. They have trained and certified a total of 71 students during this biennium. They also participated in the "National Alcohol Screening Day" event, a two-day activity usually held in April every year. For 2012 and 2014 the Counseling Department a total of 423 students voluntarily participated in Alcohol Awareness screening via paper screening tools that was handed out during various campus events.

Counselors also provide confidential individual assessment and counseling services. If students are found to have serious drug and/or alcohol problems, they are referred to other community resources for more intensive treatment.
The Health Educator has presented numerous alcohol and drug awareness programs over the past two years. A list of programs includes: A campus Health Fair (information on alcohol and drugs was dispersed), "Mocktail Party", "Cardinal Cabana" (regarding alcohol and drug use prior to spring break), "Distracted Driving", and new student orientations for the past three summers. Approximately 1500 students were served in the programs and a total of 1579 students attended orientations. (Appendix K).

3. Office of Housing Services

Immediately prior to the beginning of each fall semester, all Cardinal Village Community Leaders (CL’s) must attend and fully participate in an extensive orientation and training program. In addition to presentations by Lamar University Police Department (LUPD), other law enforcement, community agencies, and Student Health Center staff, there are specific activities designed to focus on alcohol and drug issues. The most significant of the alcohol and drug focus is the Training for Intervention Procedures, (TIPS) Training Program. This biennium a total of 71 CLs were certified or recertified, from August 2012 - August 2014. Throughout the academic semesters, Housing staff and CLs plan and conduct other educational programs concerning alcohol and drug awareness, often in conjunction with professionals from other university departments.

4. Lamar Police Services

The University police department is the law enforcement arm of student services. Officers are all licensed law enforcement personnel who perform as a full functioning police department under the direction of the campus Police Chief. Students may be arrested and charged with violations of local, state and/or federal laws regarding the use/misuse of drugs and alcohol. Police officers are also utilized to issue citations to students for disorderly conduct, public intoxication or "minor in possession" (MIP) of alcohol. Arrests for these disturbances may be made if the responding officer deems this action necessary. LUPD publishes and distributes a “Safety and Fire Report” (Appendix L) that provides students with relevant safety tips. The report shares information about: Alcoholic Beverages; Illicit Drugs; How to Help an Intoxicated Friend; High Risks of Alcohol, and Health Risks of Other Drugs. They also gather, and publish crime statistics both in the report and on the Lamar website. A copy of the most recent report can be found in Appendix L.

5. Setzer Student Center Services

The Setzer Student Center provides the place and opportunity for students to come together to attend activities, relax, dine or just socialize. The Center sponsors movie nights, dances, mixers, information sharing, organizational meetings, educational enhancing workshops and other social events. All activities in the student center must comply with university policy that prohibits drug or alcohol possession or use on campus. The Setzer Center has a specific policy regulating the posting of any flyer,
It says, "No names of alcoholic beverages can be on a banner or flyer. The brand name of an alcohol product cannot be used in advertising outside of the licensed facility. This includes advertising of events that are sponsored by an alcohol distributor, such as a dart contest or sports event."

6. Freshman Orientation Programming

Summer orientation sessions for in-coming freshman and transfer students for 2012-2014 included professionals from the Student Health Center presenting a Power Point presentation on alcohol use and abuse. (Appendix H). For student orientation in the summer of 2014, all new students were given a packet of required documents, including one that addresses alcohol and drug use on campus, "Information That All Students Should Know." (Appendix I). Risks, penalties, and treatment referrals are also explained.

A Week of Welcome, sponsored by the Student Engagement Office, Setzer Student Center and Student Life, Housing and Dining Services is held the weekend prior to the start of each fall semester. This week of activities is designed to involve students, parents, faculty and staff in alcohol and drug free events to provide a warm welcome and smooth transition for those returning to campus.

7. Judicial Officer

In May of 2012, a new position was created to more closely monitor activities of students who reside in campus housing, as well as all students who come to campus. The new title is Sr. Associate VP for Residence Life, and one of the main duties of this position is to serve as the chief judicial officer. The Judicial Officer proxies the Behavioral Assessment and Intervention Team (BAIT) meetings held every month. He also reviews police reports of questionable activities on campus weekly as well as direct complaints from all faculty and staff. He reports directly to the VP of Student Engagement.
C. Legal Sanctions

Lamar University and LIT adhere to all local, state and federal laws regarding the use/misuse of drugs and alcohol. A description of these legal actions is published in the LUPD Safety and Fire Report, the Human Resource Policy and Procedure Manual, the Lamar University Student Handbook that can be located on-line at www.lamar.edu, and Lamar Institute of Technology handbook at www.lit.edu on the Texas State University System website, and in the new student orientation packets under "Information All Students Should Know." (Appendix I).

Students who are found to be in violation of university policy regarding alcohol or drugs are often referred by the judicial officer to the Health Center Counselors for an evaluation of their conduct. Counselors review the violation, have the student watch a topic specific educational DVD, administer a pre- and post-test (Appendix M) over video material and provide additional information, brochures etc. as needed. Names of the DVDs are: The Extreme Dangers of Binge Drinking; Addiction and The Human Brain; Think Twice: Marijuana and Cancer; and Uppers and Downers: The Facts About Stimulants and Depressants. This series was purchased from the Human Relations Media in New York and came with a pre- and post-test for each DVD. The student brings a Sanction Form with them to be signed by the Counselor, and it is up to the student to return it to their respective judicial officer within the time given (Appendix M). Students who do not complete their entire sanction requirement within the time frame may be restricted from registering for the next semester's classes until completed. Other sanctions may also be required, in addition to the above evaluation and educational awareness, and include, but may not be limited to the following: arrest, jail and other legal procedures (including probation), housing fines, restriction from campus activities, damage restitution, community service, research paper, campus conduct probation, and/or removal from campus housing.

D. Standards of Conduct

In addition to laws concerning drugs and alcohol, Standards of Conduct for all students are set forth by the Board of Regents of the Texas State University System. Section 5.2 of Chapter VI of the regulations provides for disciplinary action of students who violate the code of conduct. Section 5.9 of Chapter VI addresses the length and severity of said disciplinary action. All employees of Lamar University and LIT must comply with standards set forth in Section 2.4 of Chapter V which states, "a system employee who, by a preponderance of the evidence under these Rules and Regulations is found to have illegally possessed used, sold, or distributed any drug narcotic, or controlled substance, whether the infraction is found to have occurred on or off campus shall be subject to termination, suspension or other discipline as determined by the chief executive of the System component or his/her designee." (Appendix A & B).

Students found in violation of the Code of Conduct of Lamar University have been referred to the Judicial Officer for disciplinary action/sanctions. LIT students are first referred to the Director of Student Services at LIT and then sent to the Student Health Center for educational awareness and intervention as part of their sanction if so deemed necessary. All students in violation are required to
view topic specific DVDs, complete pre- and post-tests, psychological and/or research assignments, and other sanction requirements as deemed appropriate. (Appendix M).

Violation referrals for the biennium are as follows:

FY 2012-2014=56

**E. Health Risks**

Lamar University and LIT student handbooks can now be accessed on-line at [www.lamar.edu](http://www.lamar.edu) and [www.lit.edu](http://www.lit.edu) respectively. They contain general information about alcohol and drug use. More specific information can be found in the Student Code of Conduct for both campuses (Appendix A) also located in the Student Handbook, and the student orientation packet containing "Information All Students Should Know." (Appendix I) The LUPD Safety and Fire Report (Appendix L) and Orientation Power Point presentation (Appendix H) specifically address the health risks of alcohol and other drugs.

**III. Summary**

A. **University Compliance**: Lamar University and LIT are responsible for the publication and distribution of all of its policies. The Student Code of Conduct is printed in the Student Handbook, and for the university, may be located on-line at [www.lamar.edu](http://www.lamar.edu). LIT handbook may be reviewed on-line at [www.lit.edu](http://www.lit.edu). Upon hiring, all faculty and staff receive a copy of the Staff Handbook website address which includes descriptions of the Drug Free Workplace Act and the Employee Code of Conduct. The handbook is reviewed annually and revised as necessary according to university policy. The Department of Human Resources (HR) also posts a copy of the HR Policy and Procedure Manual on its web site. (Policy 2.10 Drug Free Work Place, Appendix B). The HR Department is also responsible for directing employees to *Interface*, the university's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that helps faculty and staff deal with personal drug or alcohol issues. All university departments are required to notify its employees of the availability of the HR Policy and Procedure Manual on line. When visiting Lamar University as a prospective Lamar athlete, students are given a copy of university policies, and again upon official enrollment in the athletic program. Athletes are required to sign a department form that acknowledges receipt of the rules and regulations of both Lamar and the NCAA. (Appendix D).
B. **Federal Compliance:** In order to maintain compliance with federal requirements, a member of the Student Health Center staff compiles and publishes the mandated Biennial Review. This review certifies that Lamar University has adopted and implemented programs designed to address drug and alcohol related issues involving students, faculty and staff. Specifically described and evidenced herein (Appendices A-M), are: written policies on AOD; distribution of said policies; federal, state, local and university sanctions for policy violations; AOD educational programs and services on campus; and description of health related effects of drugs and alcohol. As more information and activities are added they will be included in an updated report for the next biennium.

C. **Conclusions:** There has been a restructuring of the division of Student Engagement that has created the new position of Sr. Associate VP of Residence Life and Judicial Officer. The Judicial Officer, the BAIT members and ultimately the VP for Student Engagement are responsible for enforcing disciplinary sanctions on students found in violation of the aforementioned Code of Conduct. Human Resources is responsible for the discipline of faculty and staff found in violation of the Code of Conduct. This biennium also brought a renewed focus on the part of LUPD to provide intervention and referrals for violators, both on campus in general, and particularly in campus housing as it relates to Title IX, Cleary and SaVE Acts. Working together, the efforts of this combined staff have positively impacted Lamar University and Lamar Institute of Technology campuses.

D. **Recommendations:** Even with the increased number of students reached and programs given during this biennium, there are still areas where more effort can be made. They include, but are not limited to the following:

- Provide TIPS training to as many athletes and Greeks as possible (this may be hampered by their demanding schedules and state mandated budget cuts).
- Present a "Scared Straight" program with on-scene video by the Department of Public Safety.
- Mandate all incoming freshmen and transfer students must complete the interactive, online program “Think About It” that covers alcohol, other drugs and sexual assault.
- Screen all students upon check-in at the Student Health Center with Counseling Center Assessment of Psychological Symptoms (CCAPS) tool for depression, alcohol and drug abuse, and anxiety.