



# BIENNIAL REVIEW OF The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

September 2024

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# THE DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

## Compliance Requirements

In response to former President Bush's national drug control strategy, Congress passed legislation to require schools, colleges, and universities to implement and enforce drug prevention programs and policies as a condition of eligibility to receive federal financial assistance. On December 12, 1989, President Bush signed the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Amendments) Public Law 101-226.

Oklahoma City University (OCU) is required to provide at a minimum:

**Section 22 of the Amendments, amends provisions for the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require that, as a condition of receiving funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program after Oct. 1, 1990, a university or college must submit certification that it has adopted and implemented a drug prevention program.**

### 1. An annual distribution in writing to each student of the following:

REQUIREMENT	LOCATION IN OCU WEBPAGE
A. Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by employees and students on its property or as part of its activities.	Section II of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy: <a href="https://www.okcu.edu/current/student-affairs/student-conduct/alcohol-and-other-drugs">https://www.okcu.edu/current/student-affairs/student-conduct/alcohol-and-other-drugs</a>
B. A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol.	Section IV of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy
C. A description of health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol.	Section V of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy
D. A description of available drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, or re-entry programs.	Section VI of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy
E. A clear statement of the Conduct Outcomes that OCU will impose on students and employees. <sup>1</sup>	Section III of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy

### 2. A biennial review by the University of its program to:

- A. Determine the effectiveness, implement needed changes, and
- B. Ensure that Conduct Outcomes are consistently enforced.

<sup>1</sup> The current document addresses only policies and procedures applicable to Oklahoma City University Students. Policies prohibiting drug and alcohol use for current employees are in the University Staff Handbook (7.01, 7.02): <https://okc-university.files.svdcn.com/production/Faculty-and-staff/OCUStaffHandbook.pdf?dm=1702281129>

## A. BIENNIAL REVIEW 2022-2024

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Oklahoma City University (OCU) complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, which requires institutions of higher education to design and implement alcohol and drug prevention programs on their campuses to receive federal funds. The Act also directs OCU to conduct a Biennial Review of its Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Programs. In this review, the university evaluates the program’s effectiveness and ensures consistent enforcement of the conduct outcomes outlined in its Alcohol and Other Drugs policy..

### DETERMINING THE PROGRAM’S EFFECTIVENESS

#### 1. Philosophy of the University concerning Alcohol and Other Drugs

OCU, a faith-based university grounded in the traditions of the United Methodist Church, goes beyond legal requirements. The university’s rigorous curriculum fosters the intellectual, moral, and spiritual development of students, preparing them to become effective leaders in service to their communities. Oklahoma City University addresses alcohol and drug abuse with compassion, providing direct, firm, and supportive guidance. The university implements proactive programs to educate both students and employee.

#### 2. Expectations Regarding Alcohol and Drugs

<b>Students</b>	Oklahoma City University does not allow possession, use, <sup>2</sup> distribution, or sale of alcohol and drugs on campus, at university-sponsored events, or off-campus. Students found responsible for violating the policy will be subject to Conduct Outcomes. The rules, regulations, and related conduct outcomes governing these expectations are available in the <i>University Alcohol and other Drugs Policy</i> .
<b>Employees</b>	The Human Resources Department has established policies regarding drug and alcohol use for employees, in accordance with federal regulations. Please refer to policies 7.01 and 7.02 contained in the online <i>OCU Staff Handbook</i> . Every new employee also receives information on the Drug Free Schools Act through employee orientation sessions.

#### 3. Prevention

The campus prevention program emphasizes preventive education and early intervention. The program avoids common red flags in prevention that have the specific or tertiary effect of instilling fear of alcohol and drugs. The goal is to create a non-threatening environment where students are encouraged to engage in meaningful discussions, prompt reflection, and an increased understanding of alcohol and drug related values, beliefs, and behavior. Any student experiencing substance abuse problems is encouraged, voluntarily and on a confidential basis, to report the problem to student counseling or any other trusted staff member. Included in this definition are health professionals, University Housing staff, Campus Police, and the Dean of Students Office. In alignment

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<sup>2</sup> In this document, and for the purposes of the OCU Prevention Program, the word use means the use, abuse, of drug or alcohol by students but they are not dependent on the substance. Addiction is the use of drugs and alcohol with a dependency on them regardless of consequences.

with the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Prevention Model, OCU’s efforts are threefold: Universal, Selective, and Indicated prevention.

Type of Prevention	Target Population	Description
Universal	All students	New students must complete an online education module (on-line screener) prior to the beginning of their first Semesters of enrollment. This provides insight about those students/student groups who are at high risk of engaging in risky behaviors.
		First-year students and transfer students participate in education modules on alcohol and other drug policies, campus safety, sexual and dating violence, and harassment. Sessions are available for parents as well.
		First-year students attend a mandatory educational session during Stars Week (Orientation) each fall.
		University staff and student groups sponsored educational programs that aim to educate students on the use and abuse of alcohol and other controlled substances. For examples of these programs and activities, see “Appendixes”
Selective	Students or groups recommended through online screener	The University may require these students’ attendance to forums and guest speaking engagements centered on substance abuse prevention.
		Additional screenings with a counselor regarding at-risk behaviors may also be required.
Indicated	Students identified through intervention or treatment	Students identified through behavioral intervention, or treatment, will remain on case management status, with recommendations for the ensuing academic school year to be determined by the appropriate staff. Information about the <i>Campus Assessment Response and Education Team (CARE)</i> , including a secure referral form is available on the University’s webpage: <a href="https://www.okcu.edu/current/campus-resources/care-team">https://www.okcu.edu/current/campus-resources/care-team</a>
		This post-intervention encourages students to make healthy choices, follow treatment or counseling recommendations, and help deter future risk behaviors. It also directs those students back to appropriate staff in instances of relapse.
Parent or Guardian	Student's parent, guardians, family, or person responsible for the student	During each Stars 101 (enrollment) events, parents of prospect students attend an educational session at which Student Affairs’ staff discuss alcohol and other drugs on-campus, as well as the student conduct process.
		If needed, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) permits Institutions of Higher Education to notify parents of students who are under the age of 21 about the student violation of the use or possession of alcohol and controlled substances
		Parents of first-year student participate in Parent and Family Information Sessions during Orientation week. Parents receive social media updates on topics such as positive family support, healthy alternatives to stress, and communicating with emerging adults. The focus is to help parents communicate effectively and facilitate healthy life transitions.

#### 4. On-campus Alcohol and Other Drug education efforts include:

- Every first year and incoming transfer student is required to complete a pre-orientation online education module on alcohol and other drugs, by the third week of classes. If not completed by that time, students receive a grade hold in their account until the modules are completed. Students who refuse to complete this educational module, can be charged with a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.
- Every first year student participates in a “Campus Safety and Information Session” during Orientation week. This sessions covers Standards of conduct and awareness regarding Alcohol and Other Drugs
- All screening activities take place in a confidential setting and results are confidential.
- Alcohol education informational pamphlets included in first-year student move-in packets
- Informative poster campaign in residence halls at the beginning of the fall semester
- As of Fall 2016, an alcohol usage survey distributed each academic year
- Social media campaigns
- Alcohol education events by staff and Student Government every term
- Programming for National College Alcohol Awareness Week in October and Alcohol Awareness Month in April
- University Counseling provides educational programming accessible to students.

*See the Appendices section for examples of these efforts.*

#### **Referral to Treatment:**

Students who exhibit addictive behaviors have the option of attending treatment. A free referral to substance abuse treatment is provided to the student whose assessment results indicate a higher level of care. Counseling will refer them to treatment and may provide a list of local facilities.

#### **SANCTIONS AND ENFORCEMENT OF POLICY**

While the major thrust of OCU is drug education and prevention, the University takes take appropriate disciplinary actions on violations to its alcohol and controlled substances policies. This is to foster and provide a drug free environment in which students may grow intellectually and socially. Details on Sanctions, or “Conduct Outcomes” assigned as consequences for violations regarding alcohol and drugs on university property or at university sponsored event, are included in Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy, as well in the Student Code of Conduct.

#### **The Student Conduct Process**

- OCU consistently enforces policies on alcohol and drugs through the Student Conduct process. The Office of the Dean of Students addresses every report of student misconduct. A designated staff from the Office of the Dean of Students holds conduct hearings with students who are in alleged violation of university police. Students found responsible for such violations, receive conduct outcomes.
- Every confirmed violation to the student code of conduct is logged and kept in judicial files as well on the individual student’s file (both confidential and protected under FERPA).
- During official Conduct Hearings, students are made aware of the reasons for being asked to participate in the meeting. Each student is given an opportunity to voice their version of events and is also required to

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- confirm that conduct outcomes have been discussed and agreed to.
- The Office of the Dean of Student is responsible for securing students' completion of conduct outcomes and of imposing further measures, up to and including expulsion, if needed.

## **CONCLUSION OF THE 2022-2024 BIENNIAL REVIEW**

Oklahoma City University **complies** with Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act.

## B. ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS POLICY GOVERNING STUDENTS

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In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, Oklahoma City University prohibits possession, use, and distribution of alcohol and drugs on university-owned, or controlled property, or at university sponsored events. Any student found to be in violation of this policy is subject to university discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the University. Criminal charges may also be filed with the Oklahoma County District Attorney if violations are applicable for prosecution.

### Section I - Distribution of the Alcohol and other Drugs Policy to Students

Oklahoma City University distributes the Alcohol and other Drugs policy to students through the following means and with the following frequency:

Types of Communication	Frequency and Mode
Application for Enrollment	Upon submitting application for admission to the University, students provide an electronic signature acknowledging reading and understanding of policy
Email from Dean of Students	The Dean shares a message via OCU email at the beginning of each semester with these policies
Housing Contract	Upon arriving to University Housing, all student residents are required to sign this contract
Annual Security and Fire Report	Published every October, according to federal regulations. Includes Policy and summary data of alcohol and drug violations on campus

### Section II - Standard of Conduct

Oklahoma City University is intended to be a safe environment free from alcohol and other drugs.

- The university recognizes that the use of alcohol and illegal drugs diminishes the strength and vitality of human resources and the integrity of the institution. It is the intent of the University to educate students about the risks associated with drugs and alcohol along with skills to help maintain a safe student experience.
- For these reasons, and in compliance with the Drug-free Schools and Communities Act, **Oklahoma City University strictly forbids the use and/or distribution of alcohol and/or other drugs on campus.** Any student found using or distributing alcohol and/or other drugs on campus, in on-campus housing, or during campus-sponsored activities will face disciplinary action by the administration, including but not limited to a mandatory drug assessment, referral for counseling, and/or treatment as recommended by a University- approved counselor or counseling service, and/or suspension or expulsion.

### Medical Marijuana in the State of Oklahoma

- The State of Oklahoma passed the Oklahoma Marijuana Act allowing the use of medical marijuana. However, at Oklahoma City University, no person may possess or use marijuana, in any form, or be under the influence of marijuana on any university property or at any off-campus university event, even with a



valid medical marijuana patient license.

- A positive test result for marijuana will not be used as the sole reason to refuse admission into the university if the applicant possesses a valid medical marijuana license issued by the Oklahoma State Department of Health

### **Drug and Alcohol Dependency Testing**

- The University may require any student who is reasonably suspected of drug use to undergo drug testing. Any drug tests required will be conducted by a state certified laboratory during or immediately following regular working or classroom hours. The tests will be paid for by the University. Any student who requests a retest of a sample in order to challenge the results of a positive test is required to pay all costs of additional tests.
- The University may also require a drug and alcohol dependency evaluation with either an in-house or contracted program that provides substance abuse counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation. A “Release-Of-Information” form provided by the University must be signed by the student prior to any referral for testing or counseling. Students receiving Conduct Outcomes requiring treatment may use any other certified program. In any case, a student must provide proof of treatment before consideration is given to his or her reinstatement.

### **Section III - Applicable University Sanctions**

Students found responsible for drug and alcohol related offenses are subject to campus disciplinary action that provides for Outcomes of varying severity. Sanctions, or Conduct Outcomes, are to fit the violation and increase according to severity. Oklahoma City University will impose Conduct Outcomes on students (consistent with local, State, and Federal law) to those found in violation of this Alcohol and other Drugs Policy. The following is a non-exhaustive list of possible Conduct Outcomes for students as described in the OCU Student Code of Conduct

- Warning: A notice in writing to the student that the student is violating or has violated institutional regulations; a copy of the notice shall be placed in the student’s discipline file.
- Probation: A written reprimand for violation of specified regulations. Probation is for a designated period of time and includes the probability of more severe Conduct Outcomes if the student is found to be violating any institutional regulation(s) during the probationary period.
- Loss of Privileges: Denial of specified privileges for a designated period of time.
- Fines: Previously established and published fines may be imposed.
- Alcohol & Other Drug Fee: Administrative fees associated with alcohol and/or drug violations.
- Alcohol and/or Drug Assessment: In-person assessment conducted by Licensed Counselors in the University Counseling Center.
- Restitution: Compensation for loss, damage or injury. This may take the form of appropriate service and/or monetary or material replacement.
- Discretionary Outcomes: Community service, educational assignments, service to the University, or other related discretionary assignments/outcomes.
- University Housing Suspension: Separation of the student from University Housing for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission may be specified.
- University Housing Expulsion: Permanent separation of the student from University Housing.
- University Suspension: Separation of the student from Oklahoma City University for a definite period of time, after which the student is eligible to return. Conditions for readmission will be specified.

- Expulsion: Permanent separation of the student from Oklahoma City University.
- Revocation of Admission and/or Degree: Admission to or a degree awarded from the University may be revoked for fraud, misrepresentation, or other violation of University standards in obtaining a degree, or for other serious violations committed by a student prior to graduation.
- Withholding Degree: The University may withhold awarding a degree otherwise earned until the completion of the process set forth in the Student Code, including the completion of all Conduct Outcomes imposed, if any.

**In assigning Conduct Outcomes, the Student Conduct Officer will consider:**

- The facts of the case, as presented
- The type and severity of the misconduct
- Mitigating factors
- Impact of the misconduct
- Respondent’s conduct history including probation status
- Demeanor towards involved University employees; if applicable
- The respondent’s willingness and/or ability to accept responsibility
- Precedent, if applicable

With those considerations, the following sanction charts may serve as a guide for sanctioning policy violations:

**Alcohol Violations and Corresponding Conduct Outcomes**

	<b>Alcohol contact and no behavior issues</b>	<b>Alcohol contact and/or public intoxication and/or behavior issues</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Violation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oklahoma City University Police (OCU PD) ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AoD \$100 fee (may be deferred)</li> <li>• Warning letter</li> <li>• Online alcohol module</li> <li>• Educational essay (if needed)</li> <li>• Online OCU alcohol assessment (if needed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCU PD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AoD \$100 fee (may be deferred)</li> <li>• Parental notification if under 21 (if needed)</li> <li>• Online OCU alcohol assessment</li> <li>• Educational essay (should reflect the violation and behavior of student)</li> <li>• Conduct probation</li> </ul>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Violation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCU PD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AoD fee</li> <li>• Parental notification (if needed)</li> <li>• Referral for alcohol/drug assessment via OCU Counseling Center at own cost (if needed)</li> <li>• Community service</li> <li>• Conduct probation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCU PD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AoD fee</li> <li>• Parental notification (if needed)</li> <li>• Referral for alcohol/drug assessment via OCU Counseling Center at own cost</li> <li>• Community service</li> <li>• Conduct probation</li> </ul>

<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Violation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCU PD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AoD \$300 fee</li> <li>• Completion of outside substance use assessment and any recommended treatment program, at own cost</li> <li>• Parental notification</li> <li>• Removal from OCU Housing (if needed)</li> <li>• Suspension/removal from OCU (if needed)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCU PD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AoD \$300 fee</li> <li>• Completion of outside substance use assessment and any recommended treatment program, at own cost</li> <li>• Parental notification</li> <li>• Removal from University Housing (if needed)</li> <li>• Suspension/removal from OCU (if needed)</li> </ul>
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### Drug Violations and Corresponding Conduct Outcomes

	<b>Drug contact and no behavior issues (less than 2 ounces/56.7 grams)</b>	<b>Drug contact (more than 2 ounces/56.7 grams) and/or behavior issues</b>
<b>1st Violation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCUPD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AOD \$100 fee (may be deferred)</li> <li>• Maximum of 25 hours of community service</li> <li>• Online marijuana education module (if applicable)</li> <li>• Conduct probation (if applicable)</li> <li>• Online OCU substance assessment</li> <li>• Referral for drug assessment via OCU Counseling Center at own cost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCUPD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AOD \$100 fee</li> <li>• Parental notification (if needed)</li> <li>• 25 hours of community service</li> <li>• Online marijuana education module (if applicable)</li> <li>• Conduct probation</li> <li>• Referral for drug assessment via OCU Counseling Center at own cost</li> <li>• Suspension from OCU housing</li> </ul>
<b>2nd Violation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCUPD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AOD fee</li> <li>• Parental notification</li> <li>• Referral for drug assessment via OCU Counseling Center at own cost</li> <li>• Community service</li> <li>• Conduct probation</li> <li>• A Chance to Change Workshops (if applicable)</li> <li>• Drug Court attendance &amp; reflection essay (if applicable)</li> <li>• Removal from OCU housing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCUPD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AOD fee</li> <li>• Parental notification</li> <li>• Referral for drug assessment via OCU Counseling Center at own cost</li> <li>• Conduct probation</li> <li>• Removal from OCU housing</li> <li>• A Chance to Change Workshops or Drug Court attendance &amp; reflection essay (if applicable)</li> <li>• Suspension/Expulsion</li> </ul>
<b>3rd Violation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCUPD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AOD fee</li> <li>• Completion of outside substance use assessment and any recommended treatment program, at own cost</li> <li>• Parental notification</li> <li>• Removal from OCU Housing</li> <li>• Suspension/Expulsion from OCU</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OCUPD ticket &amp; \$100 fine</li> <li>• AOD fee</li> <li>• Suspension/Expulsion from OCU</li> </ul>

## Other Considerations:

- Conduct Outcomes, for subsequent violations up to and including expulsion are at the discretion of the Dean of Students or their designee.
- Severe violations of the substance abuse policy, such as possession with intent to distribute, purchasing for a minor, destruction of property, or assault and battery while under the influence of substance use may subject the student to interim restriction, University suspension, expulsion and/or arrest.
- Any student who self-refers and is found to be addicted to any substance may not be suspended or expelled unless the behavior becomes a threat to the personal safety of themselves, or those around them. The University upholds a *Medical Amnesty Policy* which applies to any Students needing and seeking medical assistance during an alcohol or other drug-related emergency will not face formal conduct action by the Dean of Students Office for the mere possession or use of alcohol or drugs.
- If a student is determined to be under the influence and exhibits aggressive behavior or is deemed to be harmful to themselves or others, they may be transported to an inebriation alternative center as an alternative to county jail. If at any time during their visit they are uncompliant, they will automatically be transported to county jail.
- Students who violate the University's Student Code of Conduct and present symptoms of drug and/or alcohol use/abuse can be referred to the Counseling Center for screening, as part of their Conduct Outcomes.
- The University may take disciplinary action against a student who refuses to undergo drug and alcohol testing. The University will take no disciplinary action against a student, except for temporary suspension, until the first test result has been confirmed by an additional test. Any student has the right to an explanation, in confidence, of the test results and may obtain all information and records related to testing. Information related to drug and alcohol tests will be kept confidential and apart from other student records.
- The University reserves the right to notify parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of students under the age of 21 about incidents related to alcohol and other drugs, as it is permitted by The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

## Oklahoma City University School of Law's Exceptions to Alcohol Policy

The Oklahoma City University School of Law does allow alcohol for limited purposes and events on its downtown Oklahoma City campus, administratively regulated and at the discretion of the Law School Dean.

## Section IV – Legal Sanctions

### State of Oklahoma

Oklahoma law (§37-241.): Any person who willfully furnishes alcohol to a minor will be guilty of a misdemeanor for a first violation and shall be punished by a fine of not more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), or imprisoned in the county jail for not more than one (1) year, or by both such fine and imprisonment. Oklahoma Law (§37-246): Any minor in possession shall be guilty, upon conviction, of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) or ordered to perform community service not to exceed thirty (30) hours, or both such fine and community service. In addition, if the person has an Oklahoma driver license issued by the

Department of Public Safety, that license shall be revoked for the period of time provided in Section 6-107.1 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes. If the person does not have an Oklahoma driver license, the person shall be ineligible to obtain an Oklahoma driver license for the period of time provided in Section 6-107.1 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes. Social host laws were passed and implemented in 2011. HB 1211 states that No person shall knowingly and willfully permit any individual under twenty-one (21) years of age ...to possess or consume any alcoholic beverage... any low-point beer... any controlled dangerous substance... or any combination thereof. HB 1211 has a sliding scale from a misdemeanor conviction and fines for first-time offenders of \$500 or less to a felony conviction, fines up to \$2,500 and jail time of up to five years for repeat offenders. Also, any convicted Social Host can be convicted of a felony; pay the top fines and serve jail time in addition to those already assessed if “great bodily injury or the death of a person” occurs.

### Federal Laws

The Federal Uniform Drinking Age Act of 1984 sets the minimum legal drinking age to 21 and every State abides by that standard. For more details about Federal Trafficking Penalties please visit: US department of Education, Federal Student Aid <https://ifap.ed.gov/regcomps/attachments/86a.pdf> .

- Further information on Oklahoma State laws regarding Alcohol is found at the Oklahoma State Legislature web page: <http://www.oklegislature.gov/>
- The US Drug Enforcement Administration provides detailed information on the many laws governing controlled dangerous substances. More information available on at web page: <https://www.dea.gov/index.shtml>

### Notification to State and Federal Authorities

The University may refer individuals to applicable local, state, or federal law enforcement authorities for prosecution. Any student who is convicted under a criminal drug statute for a violation occurring in any campus owned or leased facility must notify the University within five working days of the conviction. Within ten working days, Oklahoma City University is required to notify the Department of Education of the disciplinary action. Within thirty days, the University will take appropriate disciplinary action. Any questions concerning this policy may be directed to the Vice President for Student Affairs.

### Federal Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Violations - Section 484(r) of the Higher Education Act):

Conviction for an offense under any federal or state law involving the possession or sale of illegal drugs that occurred during a period of enrollment when a student was receiving federal financial aid (grant, loan, or work assistance under Title IV), can affect the student’s eligibility for federal student aid for a period of time:

Occurrence	Sanction
First offense	For one year from the date of conviction for possession or for two years from the date of conviction for sale of illegal drugs
Second offense	For two years from the date of conviction for possession of illegal drugs or for an indefinite period for sale of illegal drugs
Third offense (and subsequent)	For an indefinite period for the possession and/or sale of illegal drugs

Students convicted of both possession and sale will be ineligible for the longer of the two periods. A student whose eligibility is suspended as a result of penalties under section 484(r) of the Higher Education Act will be provided written notice of the loss of eligibility and advised of the ways in which eligibility can be regained. The student may resume eligibility prior to the end of the ineligibility period by completing a qualified drug rehabilitation program that includes two unannounced drug tests.

### Effect of Drug Law Violations on Financial Aid

A student who is convicted of a state or federal offense involving the possession or sale of an illegal drug that occurred while the student is enrolled in school and receiving Title IV aid is not eligible for Title IV funds. A borrower’s eligibility is based on the student’s self-certification on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Students with eligibility issues as determined by the Department of Education are notified via their Student Aid Report and are directed to contact the Department of Education for a year-specific Worksheet to determine eligibility for federal student aid. Convictions that are reversed, set aside, or removed from the student’s record, or a determination arising from a juvenile court proceeding do not affect eligibility and do not need to be reported by the student.

### Section V - Health Risks

Whether the drug of choice is alcohol, marijuana, a prescription drug or cocaine, the habit can lead to a change in habits. Some people may believe that drugs are harmless or even helpful. The truth is that drugs can have very serious, long-term physical and emotional health effects. If drugs are mixed, the impact is even more detrimental. The following is a partial list of drugs and some of the consequences of their use.

The use of alcohol or drugs may lead to abuse or addiction, causing psychological and/or physical dependence. They also can present a danger to the campus community when someone is performing a task under the influence or distributing to others. Further information about these and other substances is available at the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism website and at the US Drug Enforcement Administration website.

Only some of the known health risks are covered, and not all legal or illegal drugs are included:

SUBSTANCE	EFFECT
Alcohol	Most commonly abused substance among college students. It produces short-term effects that include behavioral changes, impairment of judgment and coordination, greater likelihood of aggressive acts, respiratory depression, irreversible physical and mental abnormalities in newborns (fetal alcohol syndrome) and death. Long-term effects include damage to the liver, heart and brain; ulcers; gastritis; malnutrition; delirium tremens; and cancer.
Marijuana	Addictive drug, although many still believe that it is harmless. It impairs short-term memory comprehension, concentration, reaction time, and motivation. It may also cause paranoia and psychosis. Marijuana smoke contains more cancer-causing agents than tobacco smoke. The way marijuana is smoked enhances the risk of contracting lung disease and cancer.

<b>Cocaine and Crack</b>	While cocaine and crack can speed up performance, their effect is short-lived. Some lasting risks are short attention span, irritability and depression, seizure and heart attack.
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>	Often used to reduce stress. However, these are not safe, unless taken as directed. If abused, they can lead to sluggishness or hyperactivity, impaired reflexes, addiction, and brain damage.
<b>Other drugs</b>	PCP, LSD, heroin, mescaline, and morphine, have a wide variety of negative health effects from hallucinations and mental confusion to convulsions and death.
<b>Tobacco (Nicotine)</b>	Oklahoma’s leading cause of preventable death killing 5,800 Oklahomans each year; more than alcohol, auto accidents, AIDS, suicides, murders, and illegal drugs combined. Secondhand smoke exposure kills an estimated 700 Oklahomans each year.

***Lasting consequences***

The use of alcohol or drugs may lead to abuse or addiction, causing psychological and/or physical dependence. They also can present a danger to the campus community when someone is performing a task under the influence or distributing to others.

**Section VI – Resources**

Oklahoma City University provides drug and alcohol abuse education, awareness programs, and counseling through the University Counseling Center. Current campus drug and alcohol policies related to University students are available in the Oklahoma City University [Student Handbook](#) and [Student Code of Conduct](#). Current campus drug and alcohol policies related to University employees are available in the [Campus Drug and Alcohol Policy for University Employees](#) document.

**Office of the Dean of Students**

The Office of the Dean of Students address issues surrounding the use and misuse of alcohol by students. This office holds social and educational events each semester in an attempt to raise students’ awareness of the consequences and dangers of alcohol consumption.

**On Campus Resources**

Oklahoma City University recognizes its responsibility to help educate students concerning alcohol and other drug use, abuse, and addiction. The University offers lectures, courses, workshops, and prevention programs. The University Counseling Center, Campus Health Clinic and the Dean of Students Office provide education on resources, including research around use, abuse and addiction. Mandatory online training modules are required for all new students. The Office of Student Development will conduct programs and institutional surveys pertaining to the use/abuse/perceptions of drugs and alcohol. University Counseling will also offer referrals to outside agencies and alternate treatment options.

**Off-Campus Resources**

While Oklahoma City University strives to help members of the campus community learn about alcohol and other drugs, we realize that sometimes students may wish to seek off-campus help. Following is a sample list of resources:

Resource	Phone	Location
Reach out Hotline - <i>Mental Health and Substance Abuse</i>	1-800-522-9054	
Oklahoma Alcoholics Anonymous	405-524-1100	
Oklahoma Narcotics Anonymous	405-524-7068	
Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline	800-QUITNOW	
Oklahoma County Crisis	405-522-8100	1200 N.E. 13 <sup>th</sup> , OKC, OK. 73152
Intervention Center - <i>You Are Not Alone Network</i>	1-800-522-9054	
A Chance to Change - <i>Help with addiction and behavioral disorders</i>	405-840-9000	5228 Classen Circle, OKC
Catalyst Behavioral Services - <i>Inpatient and Outpatient</i>	405-232-9804	3033 N. Walnut Ave., OKC
Jordan's Crossing, Inc. - <i>Rehabilitation, Inpatient &amp; Outpatient; Inpatient females only</i>	405-604-9644	301 SW 74th, OKC
North Care Center - <i>Mental Health Center</i>	405-858-2700	4436 NW 50th, OKC
Quapaw Counseling Services	405-672-3033	1301 SE 59th Street, OKC
The Resource Center - <i>Medical Detox</i>	405-525-2525	1215 NW 25th Street, OKC
Specialized Outpatient Services, Inc.	405-810-1766	5208 N. Classen Circle, OKC
Total Life Counseling	405-840-7040	3000 United Founders Bvd. Suite 239, OKC
Valley Hope - <i>Outpatient</i>	405-946-7337	6110 NW 63rd Street, OKC
Norman Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center	405-573-6624	

**Additional Resources available at** <https://www.okcu.edu/current/campus-resources/counseling-services/resources>



## APPENDIXES

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### A. DISTRIBUTION OF THE ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS POLICY

#### 1. Admissions Policy

In order to be considered for admission to Oklahoma City University, all students are required to read and acknowledge the Admission's policy:

*[...] Upon application for admissions, students are asked to Oklahoma City University recognizes its responsibilities as an educational institution to promote a productive student environment. This responsibility demands implementation of programs and services which facilitate that effort. Federal law requires the establishment of drug and alcohol prevention programs and the University prohibits the use of illegal drugs and alcohol in or on University owned or operated facilities. In order to meet these responsibilities and federal requirements, the University has established The Alcohol and other Drug Use Policy, which is included in the OCU Student Code of Conduct and can be found in its entirety in the University website ([Please click here to access the policy](#))*

*A student, who is convicted of a state or federal offense involving the possession or sale of an illegal drug that occurred while the student is enrolled in school and receiving Title IV aid, is not eligible for Title IV funds. A borrower's eligibility is based on the student's self-certification on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Convictions that are reversed, set aside or removed from the student's record, or a determination arising from a juvenile court proceeding do not affect eligibility and do not need to be reported by the student.*

#### Acknowledgment

*By submitting an admissions application to Oklahoma City University, I acknowledge the following:  
[...]*

- I have read and been informed about the Oklahoma City University's Alcohol and other Drug Policy [[click here to access the policy](#)] I further understand that the Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students is authorized to require those students who he/she has reasonable grounds to believe are improperly using or possessing controlled substances in violation of the University's Drug Use policy to participate in the drug screening program.*

#### 2. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

This electronic communication is sent to all students at the beginning of the academic year. It is also sent to all new and transfer students that are registered midway through the academic year at the beginning of the Spring term.

From: # Student Affairs <[studentaffairs@okcu.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@okcu.edu)>

Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 8:13 AM

Subject: A Message from the Dean of Students

Student Affairs



Monday, September 11, 2023

OCU Stars,

As we enter our fourth week of the academic year and settle into our day-to-day routines for the semester, I wanted to send a warm and heartfelt welcome to each of you!

[To our new students](#), we are so happy you all have chosen Oklahoma City University to begin one of the most educational and exciting times of your lives. Please know that the Division of Student Affairs offers many resources to aid you in your transition to life here at OCU so that you might be successful in your educational and social endeavors. Do not hesitate to reach out if we can be of assistance to you!

[To our returning students](#), we are thrilled to have you all back on-campus and to be alongside each of you on your academic journeys. Reach out to the resources on-campus and the community you have here should you ever need anything!

Oklahoma City University's Student Code of Conduct, Student Handbook, Alcohol and Other Drug Policy, and the Non-Discrimination Policy establish clear expectations for student behavior that fosters academic and communal integrity. [Students are required to abide by the standards outlined in these University policies](#). As a community, we have the ultimate goal of providing a safe and healthy environment that facilitates student learning and embodies OCU's mission.

Please take the time to review the updated 2023 – 2024 Student Code of Conduct, 2023 – 2024 Student Handbook, the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy, and the Non-Discrimination Policy:

- Student Code of Conduct – [found here](#)
- Student Handbook – [found here](#)
- Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy – [found here](#)
- Non-Discrimination Policy – [found here](#)

Per policy, students may be held accountable for behavior that takes place both on and off campus, [including off-campus social events of both formal and informal nature](#).

The University's [Medical Amnesty Policy](#) explains how students can be free from disciplinary proceedings simply by calling for help for themselves or someone in need of medical assistance due to the usage of alcohol or other drugs.

Stars, be safe and take care of one another!

Best Wishes,

[Dr. Levi J. Harrel-Hallmark](#)  
Dean of Students



OKCU.EDU  
2501 N BLACKWELDER AVE.  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73106

### 3. HOUSING REGISTRATION FORM

As part of the requirements to use /University Housing, all resident students sign/acknowledge a hard copy of the Housing Registration form, which contains the following text:

*Alcohol and Other Drug Use Policy*— Oklahoma City University is to be a safe environment free from alcohol and other drugs. It recognizes that the use of alcohol and illegal drugs diminishes the strength and vitality of human resources and the integrity of the institution. It is the intent of the university to educate and encourage students to abstain from alcohol and other drugs. Any student found using or distributing alcohol and other drugs on campus, in on-campus housing, or during campus sponsored activities can face disciplinary action by the administration. The action may include a drug assessment, referral for counseling, and/or treatment as recommended by a university approved counselor or counseling service. Every OCU student is required, upon admission, to read and acknowledge the Alcohol and other Drug policy found in its entirety here: <https://www.okcu.edu/current/student-affairs/student-conduct/alcohol-and-other-drugs>. Every OCU student is responsible for the contents of this policy

### B. Campus Educational Campaigns



# NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK



## NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK

ACCORDING TO THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON  
ALCOHOL ABUSE & ALCOHOLISM

**About 1,825 college students between the ages of 18 and 24 die from alcohol-related unintentional injuries, including motor-vehicle crashes.**



# STUDENT POSITION

## JOIN THE DEAN OF STUDENTS OFFICE

### *Prevention Programming Intern*

*Assist with student education related to alcohol and other drugs*

### Requirements :

- ▶ Full-Time Undergraduate / Graduate Student
- ▶ First-Generation College Student
- ▶ Passion for Student Education

Compensation Includes:  
\$10 per hour  
10 hours per week

Send Cover Letters & Resumes:  
Dr. Levi J. Harrel-Hallmark  
ljharrel@okcu.edu



## NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ALCOHOL AWARENESS WEEK **October 19 - 21**

*MOCKTAILS W/ CONDUCT*

Wednesday, October 19  
Methodist Hall Theater Room / 6:30 p.m.

 Oklahoma City  
UNIVERSITY  
Student Affairs