



2018 – 2020 Biennial Review of Albany State University’s Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program

as required by the Drug Free Communities and Schools Act of 1989 and 1213 Higher Education Act and section 5145 of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (implementing regulation Part 86 Drug-Free Schools and Campuses)

Report prepared by:
Kimberly Carter, Director of Equity and Compliance
Chelsea McMillan, Coordinator for Student Support
Dr. Stephanie Harris-Jolly, Director of Counseling and Student Accessibility Services
Dr. Terry Lindsay, Vice President for Student Affairs

DAAPP Committee Members

Dr. Terry Lindsay, Vice President for Student Affairs

Kimberly Carter, Equity and Compliance Director/Title IX Coordinator

Angelnique A. Jordan, Associate Dean for Student Support and Director for Student Conduct

Chelsea McMillan, Coordinator for Student Support

Chief Gregory Elder, ASU Police Department

Lt. LaShawnda Ethridge, Emergency Management Coordinator/Clery Coordinator

Dr. Vicki Phillips, Director of Student Health Services

Dr. Stephanie Harris-Jolly, Director of Counseling and Student Health Services

Table of Contents

Statement On Drug Free Campuses	4
Annual Policy Notification Annual Policy Notifications	5
Standards Of Conduct	6
Associated Local, State, And Federal Laws And Sanctions	7
Prevention And Education Programs	8
Counseling, Treatment, Rehabilitation, And Re Entry Programs	10
Health Risks Of Alcohol And Drug Use	11
Quantitative Assessment	12
Qualitative Assessment	14
Trends Since Previous Biennial Review	16
Recommended Changes For Next Biennial Review	17

**ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY
STATEMENT ON DRUG FREE CAMPUSES**

In accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, Albany State University (ASU) creates and distributes this document to all students and employees to inform them of ASU's comprehensive program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol. The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 requires that each college and university receiving federal financial assistance provides annual information on drug and alcohol use to promote healthy lifestyles and to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by all students and employees. The Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) prevention program must include, at minimum, the following:

1. Annual Distribution of a document to all students and employees that includes:
 - a) Standards of conduct prohibiting unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.
 - b) A description of the local, State, and Federal laws which provide sanctions against unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol.
 - c) A description of health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol.
 - d) A description of the treatment resources available to students and employees.
 - e) A clear statement that the college or university will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees (consistent with local, State, and Federal law).
 - f) A description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion, or termination of employment and referral for prosecution. A sanction may include the requirement that the offender complete an appropriate treatment program.

2. Completion of the Biennial review by the University of its Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program that includes the following objectives:
 - a) Evaluation of the effectiveness of AOD policies and programs.
 - b) Verification that the disciplinary sanctions described in the document are consistently enforced.
 - c) Recommendations for the program and policy changes as needed.

A copy of the biennial review must remain on file and be available for inspection by the U.S Department of Education.

Albany State University is committed to maintaining an environment that supports the health and wellbeing of its community members, while discouraging the illicit use of drugs and alcohol. The university demonstrates this commitment through the intent of the document is to meet the legal requirements of conducting a biennial review and summarize the various activities and programs that occur on the Albany State University campuses as they relate to drug and alcohol prevention during the (2018-2019) and (2019-2020) academic years.

ANNUAL POLICY NOTIFICATION

An annual notification will be sent to all students and employees. The notification will include:

1. Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees;
2. A description of appropriate legal sanctions for violation of local, state, or federal laws for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
3. A description of the health risks associated with the abuse of illicit drugs or alcohol use.
4. A list of drug and alcohol programs (counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, and re-entry) that are available to employees or students;
5. A clear statement that the university will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees for violations of the standards of conduct and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

It is the goal and policy of Albany State University to provide a drug-free environment for all university students and employees. To achieve this goal and to comply with federal law, ASU prohibits the unlawful sale, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, and use of controlled substances on ASU property or as part of any of its activities.

ASU students, faculty, staff, and visitors are advised to become familiar with federal, state and local laws regarding alcohol and other drugs. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors on any ASU owned or property must: 1) abide by ASU policies regarding alcohol abuse and illicit drugs; 2) abide by local, state and federal laws regarding alcohol, drugs, and controlled substances; and 3) act to reduce the risks associated with the use and abuse of these substances. ASU students and employees are subject to all applicable drug and alcohol policies including, but not limited to:

- Board of Regents 4.6: [Discipline of Students](#)
- Board of Regents 8.3.9.1: [Discipline and Removal of Faculty Members](#)
- Student Code of Conduct: AY [17-18](#), AY [18-19](#), AY [19-20](#)
- Employee Handbook: [ASU Employee Handbook](#)

Possession or consumption of alcohol, tobacco, and illegal drugs in university housing is prohibited. Pursuant to federal law, cannabis (marijuana) use is prohibited on ASU property and in university housing.

The ASU Police Department actively enforces laws pertaining to underage drinking, public consumption of alcohol, the furnishing of alcohol to underage individuals, and other alcohol laws at all ASU locations.

ASSOCIATED LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL LAWS AND SANCTIONS

LOCAL LAWS

Dougherty County and the City of Albany do not have local sanctions pertaining to the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol. The law enforcement agencies arrest and prosecute under sanctions of the laws of Georgia and the government of the United States.

STATE LAWS

The Official Code of Georgia provides the following penalties for violations of alcohol and drug abuse laws.

Possession of Alcohol by persons under 21 years of age: \$300 fine and/or 30 days imprisonment. (O.C.G.A. 3-3-23.1)

Furnishing Alcohol to persons under 21 years of age: \$1,000 fine and/or 12 months imprisonment. (O.C.G.A. 3-3-23)

Driving under the Influence of alcohol or drugs: (1st offense) \$1,000 fine and/ or 12 months imprisonment and loss of license for one year.

Misdemeanor Drug Possession: \$1,000 fine and/or 12 months imprisonment. (O.C.G.A. 16-13-30)

Felony Drug Possession: up to 15 years imprisonment. (16-13-32.4)

Trafficking in Drugs: up to 30 years imprisonment. (16-13-31)

FEDERAL LAWS

18 U.S.C. 922(g)

Ineligible to receive or purchase firearms.

Revocation of Federal licenses and benefits (pilot license, public housing tenancy, etc.)

21 U.S.C. 844 (a)

1st conviction: Up to one-year imprisonment and fined at least \$1,000.

After one prior conviction, up to two years and fined up to at least \$2,500.

After two or more prior drug convictions, up to three years and fined at least \$5,000.

Special severe sentencing provisions for crack cocaine.

A civil fine of up to \$10,000 per violation.

21 U.S.C. 853(a) (2) and 881 (c) (7)

Forfeiture of personal and real property, as well as vehicles, boats, aircraft or any other conveyance used for transportation to possess or facilitate possession of a controlled substance, if that offense is punishable by more than one-year imprisonment.

Denial of federal benefits (student loans, grants, contracts, professional and commercial licenses) for up to one year for the first offense and up to five years for subsequent offenses.

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Within the reporting period, Albany State University offered a number of events, services and programs on campus in support of its goals of maintaining a drug and alcohol-free campus. Among the prevention and intervention strategies implemented by Albany State University were the following:

AlcoholEdu by Everfi

ASU continued to offer educational modules related to alcohol use and abuse using the EverFi platform. The modules are designed to assess and increase awareness of the students' knowledge of the effects of alcohol use, behavioral patterns, bystander intervention as well as healthy and responsible decision making. AlcoholEDU is a part of the University's mandatory Freshman Orientation course curriculum.

TIPS (Training for Intervention Procedures)

TIPS for the University is a 2.5-hour classroom program designed to teach students to prevent intoxication, drunk driving and underage drinking among their peers. This program applies to students in residence halls, fraternities and sororities, athletics, or any student organization. All sessions are taught by certified TIPS trainers, using video and printed materials to facilitate discussion of the course content. The program content includes:

- ✓ **How Alcohol Affects Your Peers**
Explains how alcohol works, signs of intoxication, and factors that affect the intoxication rate.
- ✓ **Legal Information**
Presents the legal liability students, their organizations and schools face for alcohol-related incidents. Introduces strategies for responding to alcohol-related situations and creating a responsible environment.
- ✓ **SKILLS TRAINING Evaluating Cues**
Participants apply TIPS concepts to determine intoxication levels for students portrayed on video.
- ✓ **Evaluating Responses**
Participants apply TIPS concepts and strategies to determine the effectiveness with which a student responds to an alcohol-related situation with a peer as portrayed on video.
- ✓ **PRACTICE / REHEARSAL**
Students demonstrate their ability to use the information and skills learned in the program by creating realistic alcohol-related situations for their peers to handle. They receive immediate feedback on their effectiveness from the trainer and the other participants.

✓ **CERTIFICATION EXAM**

As the final step in obtaining their TIPS certification, students complete a certification exam to show their comprehension of the information and their grasp of the skills presented during the program.

“Know the Code Tour”: Golden RAMS in Student Conduct

Offered through a collaboration between the Office of Student Support and Student Conduct, Housing & Residence Life, Student Government Association and the Title IX Office this program addressed alcohol and drug use as well as other “need to know” topics.

eCHECKUP TO GO

Among the many sanctions that may be issued for a drug and/or alcohol offense is eCHECKUP TO GO. The eCHECKUP TO GO (Alcohol and Marijuana) is an evidence-based, personalized online alcohol **intervention** designed by university counseling center psychologists. At ASU, this program is used as a clinical tool to aid the counseling professional in determining the level of awareness, patterns of use and need for resources.

Student Counseling Referrals

Treatment: If a student needs counseling and therapy for a substance abuse problem, the student will be referred to the Counseling and Student Accessibility Services, formerly known as Counseling and Student Disabilities Services. There, the student will have access to licensed professional counselors prepared to assist. Please contact the Counseling and Student Accessibility Services at (229) 500- 2013. The normal hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Monday – Friday for more information. All services are free and strictly confidential

Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

The Office of Human Resource Management provides Employee Assistance Program (EAP) assessment, counseling, and referral services for employees and their families to address a myriad of issues including alcohol and drug abuse.

COUNSELING, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, AND RE ENTRY PROGRAMS

Albany Area:

Agape Recovery Residence	212 W Residence Ave	229-446-1953
Aspire	601 W 11 th Ave	229-430-4140
Graceway Recovery	412 W Tift Ave	229-446-7800
Cordele Area:		
Middle Flint Behavioral Healthcare	415 N Jackson St Americus, GA	229-931-6988
Addiction Recovery Services	5977 Whitesville Rd Columbus, GA	706-594-4735
Southeast Georgia Treatment Center	816 Professional Center Eastman, GA	478-374-0390
Waycross Area		
Treatment Center of Waycross	1766 Memorial Dr Waycross, GA	912-285-2658
Saint Illa Center	3455 Harris Rd Waycross, GA	912-449-7200
Cairo Area:		
Archbold Northside Center	401 Albany Rd Thomasville, GA	800-238-8661
Turning Point	3015 Veterans Pkwy S Moultrie, GA	800-342-1075
Greenleaf	2209 Pineview Dr Valdosta, GA	855-336-9914

**Faculty and Staff Resource:
Employee Assistance Program**

KEPRO	www.eaphelplink.com Company Code: USGcares	844-243-4440
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HEALTH RISKS OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE

Abuse and dependence upon alcohol and other psychoactive drugs are classified as organic mental disorders by the American Psychiatric Association and the World Health Organization. As such, they are associated with distressing psychological, behavioral, and biological symptoms; impairment in one or more important areas of functioning; or significantly increased risk of suffering, death, pain, or important loss of freedom.

Alcohol

Alcohol consumption causes a number of changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely, increasing the likelihood that the driver will be involved in an accident. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increases the probability of a variety of aggressive acts, including spouse and child abuse, occurring. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely affecting a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses can cause respiratory depression and death. If combined with other depressants of the central nervous system, much lower doses of alcohol may produce these effects. Repeated use of alcohol can lead to dependence. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions. Alcohol withdrawal can be life threatening. Long-term consumption of large quantities of alcohol, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver. Women who drink alcohol during pregnancy may give birth to infants with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder. These infants are impacted by a number of physical, neurological, and mental conditions which can range in severity, though commonly includes irreversible physical abnormalities and mental retardation. In addition, research indicates that children of alcoholic parents are at a greater risk than others of becoming alcoholics.

Drugs

Drug use can have a wide range of short-term, long-term, direct, and indirect effects. Short-term effects can range from changes in appetite, wakefulness, heart rate, blood pressure, and/or mood to heart attack, stroke, psychosis, overdose, and even death. These health effects may occur after just one use. Longer-term effects can include heart or lung disease, cancer, mental illness, HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, and others. Long-term drug use can also lead to addiction. Drug addiction is a brain disorder. Not everyone who uses drugs will become addicted, but for some, drug use can change how certain brain circuits' work. These brain changes interfere with how people experience normal pleasures in life and can make it much more difficult for someone to stop taking the drug even when it's having negative effects on their life and they want to quit. Drug use can also have indirect effects on both the people who are taking drugs and on those around them. This can include affecting a person's nutrition; sleep; decision-making and impulsivity; and risk for trauma, violence, injury, and communicable diseases. Drug use can also affect babies born to women who use drugs while pregnant. Broader negative outcomes may be seen in education level, employment, housing, relationships, and criminal justice involvement.

National Institute on Drug Abuse: [College – Age & Young Adults](#)

QUANTITATIVE ASSESSMENT

	AY 2016-2017	AY 2017-2018	AY 2018-2019	AY 2019-2020
# of employee services via referrals from Human Resources	1	0	1	1
# of disciplinary sanctions via Human Resources	0	0	1	0
# of disciplinary sanctions imposed by Human Resources	1	0	1	1
# of on campus services utilized via Counseling & Accessibility Services	33	27	59*	39
# of drug and alcohol related incidents and fatalities occurring on campus, or as a part of an institution's activities, that are reported to campus officials	Drug- 31 Alcohol - 8	Drug- 18 Alcohol - 7	Drug- 46 Alcohol - 19	Drug- 16 Alcohol - 2
# and type of sanctions imposed as a result of such incidents and fatalities	<u>Citations:</u> Drugs- 18 Alcohol- 8 <u>Arrests:</u> 1 Drugs	<u>Citations:</u> Drugs- 1 Alcohol - 12 <u>Arrests:</u> Drugs- 28 Alcohol -10	<u>Citations:</u> Drugs- 3 Alcohol - 12 <u>Arrests:</u> Drugs- 61 Alcohol - 19	<u>Citations:</u> Drugs- 19 Alcohol - 2 <u>Arrests:</u> Alcohol – 1
# of student violations via Student Conduct Officers	25 Alcohol Referrals 12 Drug Referrals	48 Alcohol Referrals 51 Drug Referrals	63 Alcohol Referrals 113 Drug Referrals	20 Alcohol Referrals 58 Drug Referrals
# of student disciplinary sanctions imposed via Student Judiciary	16 students for alcohol and 11 students for drugs were found in-violation. A combination of the below sanctions were used dependent upon the severity	33 students for alcohol and 42 students for drugs were found in-violation. A combination of the below sanctions were used dependent upon the severity	47 students for alcohol and 93 students for drugs were found in-violation. A combination of the below sanctions were used dependent upon the	7 students for alcohol and 34 students for drugs were found in-violation. A combination of the below sanctions were used dependent upon the severity and frequency in

	<p>and frequency in each case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disciplinary Probation b. TIPS (Alcohol) c. eCheckup TOGO (Alcohol) + Assessment Fee d. eCheckup TOGO (Drugs) + Assessment Fee e. Professional Counseling f. Community Service g. Parental Notice (Underage) h. Suspension i. Loss of Housing Privileges j. Fine k. Loss of Leadership Position and/or Eligibility 	<p>and frequency in each case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disciplinary Probation b. TIPS (Alcohol) c. eCheckup TOGO (Alcohol) + Assessment Fee d. eCheckup TOGO (Drugs) + Assessment Fee e. Professional Counseling f. Parental Notice (Underage) g. Suspension h. Loss of Housing Privileges i. Fine j. Loss of Leadership Position and/or Eligibility 	<p>severity and frequency in each case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disciplinary Probation b. TIPS (Alcohol) c. eCheckup TOGO (Alcohol) + Assessment Fee d. eCheckup TOGO (Drugs) + Assessment Fee e. Professional Counseling f. Parental Notice (Underage) g. Suspension h. Loss of Housing Privileges i. Fine j. Loss of Leadership Position and/or Eligibility 	<p>each case:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Disciplinary Probation b. TIPS (Alcohol) c. eCheckup TOGO (Alcohol) + Assessment Fee d. eCheckup TOGO (Drugs) + Assessment Fee e. Professional Counseling f. Parental Notice (Underage) g. Suspension h. Loss of Housing Privileges i. Fine Loss of Leadership Position and/or Eligibility
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QUALITATIVE ASSESSMENT

Program Achievements

- I. Group Counseling Sessions
 - A. Pilot program during AY2018-2019 in the Counseling and Student Accessibility Services Department for students who had been sanctioned to counseling sessions due to Alcohol and/or Drugs.
 - B. Counseling and Student Accessibility Services conducted groups of 15 for four sessions each.
 - C. External group facilitators who had history of alcohol/drug use were invited to engage with student participants.
 - i. Following the start of the COVID-19 pandemic during Spring Semester 2020, the Group Counseling sessions have been placed on moratorium.
- II. Consistent Programming from the Office of Student Support and Student Conduct
 - A. In the Office of Student Support and Student Conduct early efforts are taken to educate and offer preventive tools to deter the behavior relating to Alcohol and Other Drugs. Some of the steps taken annually includes speaking with students during New Student Orientation and during Week of Welcome. Moreover, the Know the Code Tour occurred in the residence halls and allowed for an in-depth discussion to educate students about the conduct process and their rights as students.
- III. Alcohol and Other Drug Sanctioning Guideline
 - A. Ensures consistency and fairness with sanctioning among students who are referred to the Office of Student Support and Student Conduct for alcohol and drug violations.
 - i. Sanctions may be altered based on the severity of the incident, the impact upon the community, and/or the student's disciplinary history.
 - ii. The sanctioning [guideline](#) is published in the Student Code of Conduct and also on the Office of Student Support and Student Conduct [website](#).
 - B. Provides a combination of intervention tools—such as eCheckup To Go Alcohol/Drugs and counseling referrals—to address alcohol and drug use. There has been a low frequency of students receiving repeat violations for drugs and alcohol.
- IV. Community Policing by Albany State University Police Department
 - A. Alcohol and drug awareness programs
 - i. Safety tips on alcohol, drugs, and other connected crimes (e.g., DUI, sexual assault)
 - ii. Conducted self-defense courses and discussed how to deal with issues that may require self-defense.
 - iii. Resident Hall staff training for responding to incidents involving student drug and/or alcohol use.
- V. Employee Assistance Program: OneUSG Initiative
 - A. Employees are offered services through the university's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). As part of the OneUSG initiative, all University System of Georgia institutions began utilizing the services on one EAP vendor in 2018. The EAP offers a wide range of services to employees—counseling and concierge for adult and child care, etc.
 - B. Services are offered free of charge to all university employees and anyone who lives in the employee's household.
 - C. Employees are not required to report utilizing EAP services; and, the Health Insurance

Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) prohibits EAP providers from reporting services utilized by employees to employers.

TRENDS SINCE PREVIOUS BIENNIAL REVIEW

At Albany State University, key areas provided qualitative assessments and identified trends that became apparent since the previous biennial review. These assessments revealed that drug violations far exceeded alcohol violations. Specifically, students' possession and consumption of alcohol tends to occur in social environments with their peers. Furthermore, alcohol use in social environments have been correlated with other violations such as sexual misconduct. Conversely, students have shown to use alcohol as a form of coping with external stressors. In terms of drugs, during the AY2018-2019, drug violations—primarily possession and/or use of marijuana—increased on campus. Moreover, the quantity of drugs in students' possession also increased, thus implicating that students' intent to distribute drugs on-campus is becoming more prevalent.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES FOR NEXT BIENNIAL REVIEW

Albany State University is committed to providing a safe environment for all constituents of its community. Likewise, the University expects all constituents of the University community to make responsible decisions about the use of alcohol. The use of alcohol is prohibited on all campuses of Albany State University. Moreover, drug use and abuse is a major concern across college campuses in today's time. Albany State University continuously promotes and requires an alcohol and drug-free campus. Therefore, the Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program committee members have recommended the following changes for the next biennial review:

- Provide more diverse programming and implement creative strategies to increase student turnout.
- Increase police presence and surveillance, specifically in the residence halls, as a deterrent for alcohol and drug possession and/or use on campus.