



Columbus State University

Biennial Review

Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force 2022-2023 and 2023-2024

October 2024

Prepared by:

The Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force
of
Columbus State University

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Background Information and Scope of the Problem

The alcohol and drug culture commonly associated with collegiate life is still largely popularized and engaged in by many college students. This culture is also widely promoted by popular media throughout the United States. This self-perpetuating “party” college culture and student lifestyle is one that can cause major problems on a college campus. A study by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism indicated that the consumption of alcohol by college students between the ages of 18 and 24 contributed to an estimated 1,519 student deaths and 696,000 injuries. Researchers confirmed that 1 in 5 college women experience sexual assault during their time in college. A majority of sexual assaults in college involve alcohol or other substances.¹ According to survey findings included in the study, almost 49 percent of college students ages 18-22 drank alcohol in the month preceding the survey, and almost 2 out of 3 of them engaged in binge drinking during that same timeframe. Approximately 1 in 4 college students reported academic consequences from drinking, including missing class, falling behind in class, doing poorly on exams or papers, and receiving lower grades overall.¹

In addition to the high risk of alcohol abuse by students in higher education, drug abuse is also problematic. Among college students, the past year use of cannabis and hallucinogens have stayed at historically high levels in 2023 among adults aged 19 to 30. Approximately 42% reported cannabis use in the past year according to The Monitoring the Future report².

Whereas vaping and cigarette usage has decreased among college students, the use of hallucinogens (including LSD, psilocybin mushrooms, and other psychedelic substances) has significantly increased by 9%.²

The degree of usage as well as the variety of legal and illicit substances imply the importance of proactive as well as responsive programs and policies which address associated risks to college students.

^[1] National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. (updated September 2024). College Drinking. Retrieved from <http://pubs.niaaa.nih.gov/publications/brochures-and-factsheets/alcohol-facts-and-statistics>

² National Institute on Drug Abuse (2024). Retrieved from <https://nida.nih.gov/news-events/news->

Features of Compliance with Board of Regents Concerning the Alcohol and Other Drug Policy at Columbus State University

Columbus State University is in compliance with the University System of Georgia Board of Regents Policy as stated in Section 4 of the Policy Manual:

4.6.4 Alcohol and Drugs on Campus

In accordance with Georgia laws governing the manufacture, sale, use, distribution, and possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs on college campuses and elsewhere, including the Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990, the Board of Regents encourages its institutions to adopt programs designed to increase awareness of the dangers involved in the use of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, or other illegal or dangerous drugs by University System of Georgia (USG) students and employees. Such programs shall stress individual responsibility related to the use of alcohol and drugs on and off the campus.

To assist in the implementation of such awareness programs and to enhance the enforcement of state laws at USG institutions, each institution shall adopt and disseminate comprehensive rules and regulations consistent with local, state, and federal laws concerning the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs on campus and at institutionally approved events off campus.

Disciplinary sanctions for the violation of such rules and regulations shall be included as a part of each institution's disciplinary code of student conduct. Disciplinary sanctions for students convicted of a felony offense involving the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of marijuana, controlled substances, or other illegal or dangerous drugs shall include the forfeiture of academic credit and the temporary or permanent suspension or expulsion from the institution. All sanctions imposed by the institution shall be subject to review procedures authorized by the Board of Regents' Policy on Application for Discretionary Review.

The rules and regulations adopted by each institution shall also provide for relief from disciplinary sanctions previously imposed against one whose convictions are subsequently overturned on appeal or otherwise.

The following departments are in compliance with the Board of Regents (BOR) concerning the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Policy:

- **Office of the Dean of Students** – Shall be responsible for disciplinary sanctions of students who violate the AOD policies of the university.
- **Counseling Center** – Shall be responsible for the psychological well-being of students and provide counseling/treatment services.
- **University Police** – Shall be responsible for the investigation and enforcement of laws governing the illegal possession of controlled substances on university property.
- **Offices of Student Life & Development, Residence Life, and the Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force** – Shall be responsible for providing drug and alcohol education activities for students in a learning environment.
- **Athletic Department** – Shall be responsible for drug and alcohol awareness workshops to maintain compliance with National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) policies for student athletes.

Columbus State University Student Alcohol Policy <https://policies.columbusstate.edu/>

I. Policy Statement

Columbus State University (CSU) is committed to the welfare of its students, staff, faculty, and the surrounding community. When individuals misuse alcohol, academic performance, health, personal relationships, and safety are compromised. The purpose of this policy is to manage and regulate the use of alcohol at events on campus and other areas under the control of the University whether owned or leased for University purpose.

II. Policy

A. Legal Age

The legal age for possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in accordance with Georgia law is 21 years old. Subsequently, it shall be a violation of this Policy for any member of the University community who is under the legal drinking age to possess or consume alcohol, or for a member of the University community who is of legal age to provide alcohol to another member of the University community who is under 21.

B. Residence Halls

Columbus State University abides by Georgia law concerning the sale, possession, consumption, brewing, and/or use of alcohol. For communities that are primarily reserved for first-year students, these units and surrounding areas are alcohol-free, which extends to and includes any guest who visits these areas. Use of alcohol containers for decorative purposes is strictly prohibited, as empty bottles may be considered evidence of consumption. In communities that are primarily reserved for upperclassmen students, alcoholic beverages may only be consumed by members of legal drinking age in the privacy of their bedroom. No alcohol is permitted in common areas, which include kitchens and refrigerators. Residence Life staff and the CSU University police reserve the right to request verification of the ages of any guest. The host resident(s) will be held

accountable for their guest(s)'s action. Such items as kegs, "drinking fountains," or other community containers are not allowed at any time, in individuals' apartments, common areas, and in or around housing facilities and buildings. Those of legal age who choose to drink are encouraged to do so safely, responsibly and in moderation. It is imperative that residents understand their individual rights and responsibilities if they choose to consume alcohol or host gatherings that involve the consumption of alcohol on the grounds of university housing. If a resident is found acting in a hostile or threatening manner, University police will be called. It is also the responsibility of all residents to understand the alcohol policy of Columbus State University as it applies to the entire campus.

C. On Campus

The use, distribution, sale, brewing, consumption, or possession of alcohol at any campus event is strictly prohibited unless approved in writing ahead of time by the President, Provost, Chief Operating Officer, or VP Student Affairs.

D. Student Travel

This policy applies to students who travel on university-official business. Students who travel in an official capacity are expected to abide by the rules set forth in this policy, except students participating in a Study Abroad program. Participants in Study Abroad programs are bound by the legal drinking age of the respective countries in which they are traveling, but in all other Campus events include but are not limited to: CSU athletic events and events sponsored by individual students or recognized student groups, clubs, or organizations. respects this policy applies. Cases of excessive drinking, as determined by the Faculty Site Director who facilitates the Study Abroad program, may result in an automatic first offense warning. Further, sanctions while students are traveling abroad may be determined by the Center for Global Engagement and/or the Dean of Students Office.

E. Violations

Violations of the alcohol policy or rules set by University Housing are governed by the Columbus State University Student Handbook and the Residence Life Community Handbook. Any violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary actions as set forth in the Columbus State University Handbook (section D, article 1: Non-academic Misconduct: Alcoholic Beverages) and the Columbus State University Residence Life Community Handbook.

F. Faculty and Staff CSU recognizes that from time-to-time faculty and staff may wish to hold events on campus that include the distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages and that may include students. Such events are allowable under CSU's policy on alcohol providing that:

1. The event organizer notifies University Support Services at least a week in advance;

2. A faculty or staff member must assume direct responsibility for ensuring compliance with CSU's Alcohol Policy. This person must be present throughout the entire event and must serve as the contact between the staff of the event facility and the event caterer;
3. The event is approved by the Vice President or Dean of the sponsoring department;
4. For an event co-sponsored by a CSU department and a non-CSU entity, all co-sponsors are jointly and individually responsible for ensuring compliance with CSU's Alcohol Policy;
5. CSU's official caterer, Aramark Corporation, be hired to obtain and serve the alcohol and to cater any food to be offered;
6. If alcoholic beverages are donated, Aramark must be hired to serve those beverages. Donated alcohol may only be donated by an alcohol beverage distributor. All other alcohol must be purchased and served by Aramark.
 - a. By City ordinance, donated alcohol may be donated only to qualified non-profit organizations.
 - b. There may be City and State laws and regulations concerning donated alcohol.
 - c. It is each event organizer's responsibility to check with the City and State well in advance to comply with all City and State laws and regulations.
7. Non-alcoholic beverages will be available continuously for the event.
8. CSU reserves the right to restrict or deny the use of any of its buildings or outdoor spaces to faculty and staff wishing to hold an event based upon the group's desire to serve alcoholic beverages at the event. The following may also factor into any event restrictions or denials.
 - a. No events may be held in CSU Student Housing except the first floor of the Rankin Building and The Yancey Building (One Arsenal).
 - b. If the event includes under-age attendees.
 - c. If the event does not have a CSU police officer present during its duration.

G. Non-CSU Events

CSU allows the general public to hold events in CSU buildings and on CSU grounds, which sometimes include the distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages and may include students and other under-age attendees. Such events are subject to the following CSU policies:

1. The event organizer must seek permission from University Support Services at least two weeks in advance to receive permission for any CSU space utilization with the exceptions of the Cunningham and Elizabeth Turner Bradley buildings which manage their own reservations;
2. The event sponsor must hire CSU's official caterer, Aramark Corporation, to acquire and serve alcoholic beverages, all non-alcoholic beverages and food.
3. If alcoholic beverages are donated, Aramark must be hired to serve those beverages. Donated alcohol may only be donated by an alcohol beverage distributor. All other alcohol must be purchased and served by Aramark.
 - a. By City ordinance, donated alcohol may be donated only to qualified non-profit organizations.
 - b. There may be City and State laws and regulations concerning donated alcohol.
 - c. It is each event organizer's responsibility to check with the City and State well in advance to comply with all City and State laws and regulations.
4. CSU reserves the right to require the event organizer to hire campus security.
5. Students and other under-age persons may attend but may not be served alcoholic beverages.
6. All events where alcohol is served must have enough non-alcoholic beverages and food offerings (heavy appetizers or a meal) for the event's duration. DocuSign Envelope ID: C4686C2C-B1F1-4FCB-81B7-B3C99D93D528
7. CSU reserves the right to restrict or deny the use of any of its buildings or outdoor spaces to non-CSU groups based upon a group's desire to serve alcoholic beverages at the event. The following may also factor into any event restrictions or denials.
 - a. No events may be held in CSU Student Housing except the first floor of the Rankin Building and The Yancey Building (One Arsenal) in space approved by CSU. As above, both must be approved by University Support Services.
 - b. If the event includes under-age attendees.
 - c. If the event does not have a CSU police officer present during its duration.

Features of the Alcohol and Drug Education Program at Columbus State University

1. Pro-active Education and Prevention Initiatives

- Require all incoming students to take the online AlcoholEdu educational course
- Provide prevention education programming efforts targeting all students throughout the academic year
- Provide resource information on the Alcohol and Drug Education website and on the Resource page of the AlcoholEdu course
- Target the leaders of fraternities and sororities and solicit their help in conducting programming on this issue
- Provide Parent Orientation sessions in which University Police and Dean of Students address alcohol and drug issues
- Provide relevant activities throughout the academic year

Pro-active Initiatives by the Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force include the following:

Fall 2022 and Spring 2023

- **Is It Worth It?** Poster Campaign on the “true costs” of marijuana
- **Red Flag event-** Remembering all college students in Georgia who have passed away as a result of an alcohol related incident with a red flag in the front lawn of Schuster Student Success Center.
- **Safe Spring Break Week** sponsored by The Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force Coordinated efforts with Residence Life, SAVE Task Force, Counseling Center, Recreation Center, Sexual Assault Support Center, and UPD to provide an interactive experience for students with materials and resources to help them have a safe spring break. Sand Volleyball Tournament, Teen Challenge Panel, Clocktower Fair, and Traffic Stop with Pamphlets
- **Boos or Booze -** Alcohol Awareness Event

Fall 2023 and Spring 2024

- **Red Flag event-** Remembering all college students in Georgia who died as a result of an alcohol related incident with a red flag in the front lawn of Schuster Student Success Center
- **Is It Worth It? -** Poster Campaign on the “true costs” of marijuana
- **Drug Take Back at the Student Health Center** – A collection box for expired prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications
- **Fresh Check Day-** Mental Health awareness and resources including alcohol related aspects
- **Safe Spring Break Event:** sponsored by The Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force Coordinated efforts with Residence Life, SAVE Task Force, Counseling Center, Recreation Center, Sexual Assault Support Center, and UPD to provide an interactive experience for students with materials and resources to help them have a safe spring break.

Pro-active Initiatives by the Office of the Dean of Students, Ongoing Each Semester: Alternative Justice for Alcohol and Marijuana (AJAM)

Each semester, CSU utilizes the Alternative Justice for Alcohol and Marijuana (AJAM) program with the purpose to offer educational and personal growth opportunities to students found in violation of the University’s alcohol and drug policy. The objective of the program is to reduce alcohol and marijuana usage and promote healthy choices. Instructors provide information for making healthy choices and developing coping skills for risk reductions. Information about alcohol and drugs, and related risks are embedded within a broader frame of lifestyle behaviors in this cognitive behavioral approach for students at Columbus State. Elements of the program are listed below:

- **Course Offerings:** Three class courses are coordinated through the Office of the Dean of Students and held on the last Friday of every month consisting of:
 - **Risky Behaviors and Decision-Making Course**
 - **Instructor:** University Counseling Center Interns
 - **The Law and Legal Consequences**
 - **Instructor:** Lt. Youngblood, University Police Department
 - **Residence Life**
 - **Instructor:** Graduate Assistant from Residence Life

Vector AlcoholEdu and Prevention for Sexual Violence, Ongoing Each Semester

Each semester CSU continues to require incoming students to complete Vector AlcoholEdu along with all Vector Prevention for Sexual Violence.

Pro-active Initiatives by Residence Life include the following:

- Residence Life required attendance by every resident at a Safety Meeting at the beginning of the academic year. Rules and regulations that pertain to safety, including drugs and alcohol, and the consequences of non-compliance were discussed. This meeting was also used as a pro-active educational session about the dangers of alcohol and drugs and to offer advice to students on how to make better decisions as they start their college experience.
- All Resident Assistants received training on recognition, intervention and referral for alcohol/drug abuse by University Police. R.A.'s were trained in first aid and CPR/AED in order to be better prepared for emergencies of all types, including incidents involving alcohol and drugs. Staff also helped to enforce alcohol and other drug policies and laws by reporting illegal activity to the Office of the Dean of Students or to University Police.
- The Residence Life Staff provided students with alcohol and drug prevention educational opportunities. Resident Assistants were required to offer several hours of programming for their residents.

Pro-active Initiatives by other departments in Student Affairs:

The Counseling Center

- The Counseling Center hired a full-time counselor with expertise in Alcohol and Drug Education to help coordinate educational programming with the Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force, to coordinate classroom presentations, and to assist with the Alternative Justice for Alcohol and Marijuana Program.
- The Counseling Center uses a questionnaire that students fill out as they work through the program. The goal of the questionnaire is to ensure that the students are not just "clicking through" the scenarios. It requires them to engage with the material and apply it to their own lives.
- Students referred to the Counseling Center for problematic usage of drugs and/or alcohol are seen in individual therapy sessions in order to work through the causes of their use of these substances and to generate healthier behaviors.
- Pamphlets such as "Drinking and Driving," "Alcohol and Advertising," and "Problems of Alcoholism in the Family," are displayed and available to students.

Student Health Center

- Pamphlets and materials on drug and alcohol prevention are provided in the Wellness Resource Center in the Student Health Center. Many of the materials are available in English and Spanish.

- Bulletin boards and posters promoting national health topics related to alcohol and drugs are displayed in the Student Health Center.
- Alcohol and drug use are routinely discussed with all women's health patients during their private pre-conference.
- The Health History Form that each student completes asks about alcohol and drug use. Students are referred to the University Counseling Center and/or other community resources as needed.

University Police

- Provides educational programming for the campus and supported all Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force events
- Enforces alcohol and drug abuse laws and upheld related campus policies
- Responds to alcohol and other drug complaints
- Intervenes when necessary, issues citations when appropriate, and handles incapacitation emergencies.

Human Resources

- The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is designed to help employees, employee family members and supervisors deal with personal issues that affect job performance, including alcohol and drug abuse. Information on the EAP is in the Employee Handbook on the Human Resources website.

2. Review and Revision of University Policies

The Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force Committee and the Office of the Dean of Students review policies annually and make recommendations for alterations as necessary. The administration of Columbus State University reserves the right to modify the policies as indicated in this Biennial Review.

3. Use of Research Protocol

During the 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 academic years, Columbus State University utilized AlcoholEdu to provide an online preventative education and to survey students (See the AlcoholEdu Impact Report on the Office of the Dean of Student's website).

Campus Distribution Policy

In order to ensure that faculty, staff, and students have access to the institution's Alcohol and Drug Policy, information was disseminated in a variety of ways as follows:

- The Faculty Handbook was posted on the CSU website.
- At New Faculty Orientation, the website was identified by demonstrating the URL and Chief Academic Officers responded to questions on selected policies.
- Human Resources reviewed related policies with new faculty at New Faculty Human Resources orientation.
- The Student Handbook was posted on the CSU website.
- Copies of the Student Handbook were distributed throughout the campus.
- The Employee Handbook was posted on MyCSU under University Resources, and all policies were reviewed with new employees as part of the new employee orientation.
- Information on alcohol and drug abuse was included in the Campus Crime Statistical Reports generated by University Police.
- The Residence Life Handbook, which is regularly updated, outlined alcohol/drug abuse policies. The handbook was posted on the Residence Life website.
- The Counseling Center, Student Health Center, Residence Life and University Police distributed thousands of Alcohol/Drug Abuse prevention/education materials each year. Flyers, brochures and posters were designed to encourage reduction in abuse and to advertise campus resources and services. All of the areas mentioned had highly visible brochure racks with prevention literature displayed.

Strengths and Weaknesses of Columbus State University's Alcohol and Drug Education Program

Strengths:

- The Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force took a proactive approach in education as evidenced by many programs, activities, and dedicated funding.
- A campus-wide effort was established with a calendar of events including several major events that incorporated and united many organizations and offices across campus with the focus on alcohol and drug education.
- A tradition has been established of celebrating National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week by displaying flags for the number of alcohol-related deaths in the state.
- The University has developed and maintains a Drug Free Prevention Policy in compliance with the Board of Regents.
- The small campus community allows students easy access to faculty, staff and administration. This interaction permits faculty and staff to more easily identify signs and symptoms of alcohol and drug abuse, making intervention more accessible.
- The Create Care Reporting System, which utilizes the Maxient database, has given the University a way to track, report, and reach out to students who are abusing alcohol and drugs and violating the University's Alcohol and Drug Program.
- The Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force worked with the Office of the Dean of Students to generate more funding to support additional programming by creating a fine system for violators of the Alcohol and Drug policies.
- Through the AlcoholEdu online course and the survey within it, the Task Force was able to collect valuable assessment information and comparisons.
- Through the Alternative Justice for Alcohol and Marijuana Program, The Office of the Dean of Students has created a more educational approach rather than a punitive approach to sanctioning.

Weaknesses:

- One of the weaknesses noted was the lack of student involvement in the alcohol and drug education programming development. The Task Force will continue to try get an SGA representative. Also, Student Conduct Graduate Assistant will be joining the Task Force beginning Fall 2024 semester.
- The social media presence for the Task Force is not very significant.
- Programming by the Task Force has not focused enough on the dangers and risks of marijuana, which is a major issue facing college campuses.

Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force Goals 2024-2026

- Include THC and edibles to the educational programming
- Move Alternative Justice for Alcohol and Marijuana (AJAM) back to an in-person class instead of virtual to encourage more interactive participation in the class.
- Increase the educational activities and awareness of the dangers of marijuana and opioids
- Collaborate with the Well-Being Committee in programming efforts
- Update and Task Force website
- Reintroduce the on-line “Don’t Cancel Your Class” educational program, which would allow faculty to schedule A&D educational programming when they are unavailable to teach their class.

SUMMARY

Columbus State University, through the Division of Student Affairs, has a clear mission statement and strategic planning goals dedicated to alcohol and drug abuse prevention. A philosophy of wellness and the principles of wellness and prevention are emphasized, Appendix A contains Columbus State University’s Clery Statistics, Appendix B describes the institution’s Alcohol and Other Drug Policy, Appendix C includes the Compliance Checklist. Also, see AlcoholEdu Impact Report provided on the Office of the Dean of Student’s website.

Appendix A

CLERY CRIME STATISTICS

Each year, the Columbus State University Police Department prepares a statistical disclosure of crimes reported to have occurred within the Clery geography of the University. For the purposes of this report, crime statistics from all sources are recorded in the calendar year in which the crime was reported, not necessarily in the year in which the crime occurred. These statistics reflect crimes that were reported to the Columbus State University Police Department or any other campus security authority. In addition to crimes reported to campus authorities, written notices are submitted to local law enforcement agencies on an annual basis to request crime statistics from their agencies that are reported to have occurred within the Clery geography of the University. These statistics reflect the reportable crimes brought to the attention of University officials when the victim of a crime elects to or is unable to make such a report. There are five general categories of crime statistics for compliance with the Clery Act: select criminal offenses; hate crimes; arrests and referrals for alcohol, drug and weapons offenses; Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) offenses; and unfounded crimes. The statistics for each category will be presented following the definitions of these crimes for the purposes of this report.

Definitions

Under the Clery Act, these statistical disclosures are compiled using a variety of federal crime definitions. Many of these definitions are derived from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program, which includes the Summary Reporting System (SRS) and the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). Other definitions are based on guidelines from the United States Department of Education and applicable federal laws, such as the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). For these reasons, the definitions that are presented in this report may, or may not, reflect similar crime definitions as found in laws of the State of Georgia.

Criminal Offenses

Aggravated Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Arson: Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft or personal property of another.

Burglary: The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

Manslaughter by Negligence: The killing of another person through gross negligence.

Motor Vehicle Theft: The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter: The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Robbery: The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Sexual Assault (Sex Offenses): Any sexual act directed against another person, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent. Includes the following four crimes:

- 1.) Rape: The penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus, with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This definition includes the rape of both males and females.
- 2.) Fondling: The touching of the private body parts of another person for the purpose of sexual gratification, without the consent of the victim, including instances where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her age or because of his/her temporary or permanent mental incapacity.
- 3.) Incest: Sexual intercourse between persons who are related to each other within the degrees wherein marriage is prohibited by law.
- 4.) Statutory Rape: Sexual intercourse with a person who is under the statutory age of consent.

Hate Crimes

Bias: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, disability or gender identity.

Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property: To willfully or maliciously destroy, damage, deface or otherwise injure real or personal property without the consent of the owner or the person having custody or control of it.

Disability: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their physical or mental impairments, whether such disability is temporary or permanent, congenital or acquired by heredity, accident, injury, advanced age or illness.

Ethnicity: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people whose members identify with each other, through a common heritage, often consisting of a common language, common culture (often including a shared religion) and/or ideology that stresses common ancestry.

Gender: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender, e.g., male or female.

Gender Identity: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a person or group of persons based on their actual or perceived gender identity, e.g., bias against transgender or non-conforming individuals.

Hate Crime: A criminal offense that manifests evidence that the victim was intentionally selected because of the perpetrator's bias against the victim. Hate crimes include the previous definitions of Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter, Manslaughter by Negligence, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Motor Vehicle Theft and Arson, in addition to the added definitions of Larceny-Theft, Simple Assault, Intimidation and Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property.

Intimidation: To unlawfully place another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words and/or other conduct, but without displaying a weapon or subjecting the victim to an actual physical attack.

Larceny/Theft: The unlawful taking, carrying, leading or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Constructive possession is the condition in which a person does not have physical custody or possession but is in a position to exercise dominion or control over a thing.

National Origin: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of people based on their actual or perceived country of birth.

Race: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who possess common physical characteristics, e.g., color of skin, eyes, and/or hair; facial features, etc., genetically transmitted by descent and heredity which distinguish them as a distinct division of humankind, e.g., Asians, blacks or African Americans, whites.

Religion: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons who share the same religious beliefs regarding the origin and purpose of the universe and the existence or nonexistence of a supreme being, e.g., Catholics, Jews, Protestants, atheists.

Sexual Orientation: A preformed negative opinion or attitude toward a group of persons based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation.

Simple Assault: An unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury involving apparent broken bones, loss of teeth, possible internal injury, severe laceration or loss of consciousness.

Arrests and Referrals

Arrest: Persons processed by arrest, citation or summons.

Drug Law Violations: The violation of laws and ordinances prohibiting the production, distribution, and/or use of certain controlled substances and the equipment or devices utilized in their preparation and/or use. The unlawful cultivation, manufacture, distribution, sale, purchase, use, possession, transportation or importation of any controlled drug or narcotic substance. Arrests for violations of state and local laws, specifically those relating to the unlawful possession, sale, use, growing, manufacturing and making of narcotic drugs.

Liquor Law Violations: The violation of state and local laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession or use of alcoholic beverages, not including driving under the influence and drunkenness.

Referral: The referral of any person to any campus official who initiates a disciplinary action of which a record is established and which may result in the imposition of a sanction.

Weapons Law Violations: The violation of laws or ordinances prohibiting the manufacture, sale, purchase, transportation, possession, concealment, or use of firearms, cutting instruments, explosives, incendiary devices, or other deadly weapons. This classification encompasses weapons offenses that are regulatory in nature.

VAWA Crimes

Dating Violence: Violence committed by a person who is or has been in a social relationship of a romantic or intimate nature with the victim. The existence of such a relationship shall be determined based on the reporting party's statement and with

consideration of the length of the relationship, the type of the relationship, and the frequency of interaction between the persons involved in the relationship. Dating violence includes, but is not limited to, sexual or physical abuse or the threat of such abuse.

Domestic Violence: A felony or misdemeanor crime of violence committed:

- By a current or former spouse or intimate partner of the victim;
- By a person with whom the victim shares a child in common;
- By a person who is cohabitating with, or has cohabitated with, the victim as a spouse or intimate partner;
- By a person similarly situated to a spouse of the victim under domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred;
- By any other person against an adult or youth victim who is protected from that person's acts under the domestic or family violence laws of the jurisdiction in which the crime of violence occurred.

Stalking: Engaging in a course of conduct directed at a specific person that would cause a reasonable person to:

- Fear for the person's safety or the safety of others; or
- Suffer substantial emotional distress.

Unfounded Crimes

Unfounded: A crime found by sworn or commissioned law enforcement personnel to be false or baseless after a formal determination has been made through an investigation.

Note: *All crimes/incidents reported to have occurred in on-campus residential areas will be reflected in both the "On Campus" and "On Campus Residential" categories.*

2021-2023 Crime Statistics as Reported in the [Columbus State University 2024 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report](#)

Main Campus Reported Criminal Offenses

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>On Campus</u>	<u>On Campus Residential Sub-Group</u>	<u>Non-Campus</u>	<u>Public Property</u>
Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	1	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Rape	2021	5	4	0	0
	2022	3	3	0	0
	2023	1	1	0	0
Fondling	2021	1	1	0	0
	2022	3	3	0	0
	2023	3	1	0	0
Incest	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2021	0	0	0	2
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2021	10	10	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2021	1	1	0	0
	2022	5	3	0	0
	2023	2	1	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2021	4	0	1	0
	2022	1	0	0	0
	2023	7	0	0	1
Arson	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	1	1	0	0

Main Campus Hate Crimes

• During the 2021 calendar year, there were no reported Hate Crimes on the Main Campus.
• During the 2022 calendar year, there were no reported Hate Crimes on the Main Campus.
• During the 2023 calendar year, there were no reported Hate Crimes on the Main Campus.

Main Campus Arrests

Offense	Year	On Campus	On Campus Residential Sub-Group	Non-Campus	Public Property
Drug Law Violations	2021	33	33	0	3
	2022	73	54	0	5
	2023	33	25	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	2021	3	2	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	3
	2023	0	0	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	2021	2	1	0	1
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	1

Main Campus Disciplinary Referrals

Offense	Year	On Campus	On Campus Residential Sub-Group	Non-Campus	Public Property
Drug Law Violations	2021	33	33	0	3
	2022	73	54	0	5
	2023	33	25	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	2021	20	20	0	0
	2022	56	56	0	0
	2023	22	21	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	1	0	9
	2023	1	1	0	0

Main Campus VAWA Offenses

Offense	Year	On Campus	Campus Residential Sub-Group	Non-Campus	Public Property
Domestic Violence	2021	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2021	5	5	0	0
	2022	5	4	0	0
	2023	3	3	0	0

Stalking	2021	3	0	0	0
	2022	8	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0

Beginning with the 2015 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, the Columbus State University Police Department was required to report the number of Clery crimes that were unfounded. Unfounded means that law enforcement authorities investigated the incident and the complaint to be false or baseless.

Main Campus Unfounded Crimes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2021 calendar year, there were no unfounded criminal offenses on the Main Campus.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2022 calendar year, there was one unfounded criminal offense on the Main Campus. It was identified as a fondling offense, but did not meet the elements of the crime.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2023 calendar year, there was one unfounded criminal offense on the Main Campus in the Residential Sub-Group. It was identified as an aggravated assault offense, but the officers who responded did not find the weapon that was reported to have been used in the assault. Therefore, the crime was deemed unfounded.

RiverPark Campus Reported Criminal Offenses

<u>Crime</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>On Campus</u>	<u>Campus Residential Sub-Group</u>	<u>Non-Campus</u>	<u>Public Property</u>
Murder & Non-Negligent Manslaughter	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Manslaughter by Negligence	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Rape	2021	2	2	0	1
	2022	2	2	0	0
	2023	2	2	0	0
Fondling	2021	0	0	0	1
	2022	1	1	0	0
	2023	2	2	0	0
Incest	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Statutory Rape	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Robbery	2021	0	0	0	6
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	2021	0	0	0	10
	2022	0	0	0	1
	2023	0	0	0	0
Burglary	2021	6	4	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	1	0	0	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	2021	0	0	0	3
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Arson	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0

RiverPark Campus Hate Crimes

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2021 calendar year, there were three (3) reported Hate Crimes on the RiverPark Campus. They have all been categorized as aggravated assault Racially Related Hate Crimes on public property.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2022 calendar year, there was one reported Hate Crime on the RiverPark Campus. It was categorized as a simple assault Sexual Orientation on campus.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the 2023 calendar year, there were no reported Hate Crimes on the RiverPark Campus.

RiverPark Campus Arrests

Offense	Year	On Campus	Campus Residential Sub-Group	Non-Campus	Public Property
Drug Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	1
	2022	2	0	0	6
	2023	1	0	0	4
Liquor Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	1
Weapons Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	3
	2022	0	0	0	2
	2023	1	1	0	4

RiverPark Campus Disciplinary Referrals

Offense	Year	On Campus	Campus Residential Sub-Group	Non-Campus	Public Property
Drug Law Violations	2021	17	17	0	1
	2022	16	10	0	0
	2023	19	16	0	0
Liquor Law Violations	2021	3	3	0	0
	2022	5	5	0	0
	2023	13	13	0	0
Weapons Law Violations	2021	0	0	0	0
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0

RiverPark Campus VAWA Offenses

Offense	Year	On Campus	Campus Residential Sub-Group	Non-Campus	Public Property
Domestic Violence	2021	0	0	0	5
	2022	0	0	0	0
	2023	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence	2021	3	3	0	3
	2022	0	0	0	2
	2023	3	3	0	0
Stalking	2021	3	0	0	0
	2022	2	0	0	1
	2023	2	0	0	0

Appendix B Alcohol Policies in Student and Employee Handbooks

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Source: Columbus State University Student Handbook, 2023-2024 (page 59)

Non-Academic Misconduct

Students found to be in direct social contact where a violation is found to have occurred may be held responsible for the violation. This includes all areas of any apartment, vehicle, or property where the violation occurred.

1. Alcoholic Beverages

The legal age for possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in accordance with Georgia law is 21 years old. Subsequently, it shall be a violation of this Policy for any member of the University community who is under the legal drinking age to possess or consume alcohol, or for a member of the University community who is of legal age to provide alcohol to another member of the University community who is under 21.

Residence Halls:

Residence Halls: As Clearview Hall and Broadway Crossing are primarily reserved for traditional-age first year students (18-19), consumption or possession of alcohol by guests or assigned residents, regardless of legal drinking age, is not permitted at any time in or around the facilities. Possession of alcohol containers for decorative purposes is strictly prohibited, as bottles may be considered evidence of consumption.

In Columbus Hall, Courtyard, Maryland Circle, Fontaine, Oglethorpe, Yancey at One Arsenal, and Rankin student housing units, alcoholic beverages may be consumed by members and guests of legal drinking age in the privacy of the apartment. Residents who are under the legal drinking age may not host guests who are in possession of alcohol. Unless all assigned residents of the unit are of legal drinking age, alcohol must be stored and secured within the owner's bedroom and may not be stored in areas accessible to all residents of the unit. Residence Life staff and the CSU University Police reserve the right to require verification of the ages of any guest and the host resident(s) will be held accountable for the action of their guest(s). Kegs, "drinking fountains", or other common containers are not allowed at any time in or around the residential facilities. Those of legal age who choose to drink are encouraged to do so safely, responsibly and in moderation. It is imperative that residents understand their individual rights and responsibilities if they choose to consume alcohol or host gatherings that involve the consumption of alcohol on the grounds of University housing. If a resident is found acting in a hostile or threatening manner, University police will be notified. It is the responsibility of all residents to understand the alcohol policy of Columbus State University as it applies to the entire campus.

On campus:

The University does not condone or sanction the use, distribution, sale, brewing, consumption or possession of alcohol at any campus event sponsored by individual students or recognized student groups, clubs, or organizations, or any student event supported by student activity

fees or state funds (this does not pertain to events which may be sponsored by an academic department or unit).

Student Travel:

This Policy on Alcohol applies to students who travel on university-official business. Students who travel in an official capacity are expected to abide by the rules set forth in this policy, with the exception of students' participation in a Study Abroad program. Participants in Study Abroad programs are bound by the legal drinking age of the respective countries in which they are traveling, but in all other respects this policy applies. Cases of excessive drinking, as determined by the Faculty Site Director who facilitates the Study Abroad program, may result in an automatic first offense warning. Further, sanctions while students are traveling abroad may be determined by the Center for International Education and/ or the Dean of Student Affairs. A full version of the Columbus State University Policy on Alcohol can be obtained in the Office of the Dean of Students or on the Alcohol and Drug Education Task Force website.

2. Drugs/Paraphernalia

- The possession of stimulant, depressant, narcotic, or hallucinogenic drugs and other agents having potential for mental or physical abuse, except on a legal prescription, is prohibited, as is the selling, bartering, exchanging, or giving away of such drugs to any person not intended to possess them.
- No student shall possess items normally associated with drug use, sale, or distribution.

Employee Policy and Programs to Prevent Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Source: Columbus State University Employee Handbook, 2024 (page 9)

Policy and Programs to Prevent Drug and Alcohol Abuse

Employee misconduct related to drug or alcohol abuse will not be tolerated. To prevent the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol, the policy of Columbus State University prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities.

Violation of this policy will result in appropriate disciplinary actions.

Employees must notify Columbus State University of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than 5 days after such conviction. Within 30 days, any employee who is convicted of the unlawful manufacture, distribution, sale, use, or possession of marijuana, a controlled substance or other illegal or dangerous drug, or who admits guilt of any such offense in a court proceeding, shall be suspended for not less than two months or dismissed after compliance with procedural requirements. Such employee shall be required as a condition of re-employment following suspension to complete an approved drug treatment and education program.

If prior to arrest for an offense involving a controlled substance, marijuana, or a dangerous drug, an employee notifies his or her immediate supervisor that he or she illegally uses a controlled substance, marijuana, or a dangerous drug and is receiving or agrees to receive treatment

under an approved drug abuse and education program, such employee shall be retained by the institution for up to one year as long as the employee follows the treatment plan. Retention of such employee shall be conditioned upon satisfactory completion of the program and satisfactory work performance. The employee's work activities may be restructured if, in the opinion of the immediate supervisor, it is deemed advisable. The rights herein granted shall be available to a University employee only once during a five-year period and shall not apply to any such employee who has refused to be tested or who has tested positive for a controlled substance, marijuana or a dangerous drug.

Substance Abuse Counseling Services

Columbus State University has partnered with KEPRO to provide employees and their family members with a comprehensive Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Full-time and part-time employees, family, and household members have access to the program. Services are free and confidential, within the bounds of the law. The EAP is available 24/7/365 and provides various services. Contact KEPRO at 844.243.4440 or go to <http://www.powerflexweb.com/1063/login.html> and use the company code USGCARES.

Drug Testing

Safety sensitive employees, such as public safety employees and all health-related employees providing direct patient care (nurses and counselors) and drivers required by law to hold a Commercial Drivers' License, are subject to pre-employment and random drug testing.

Smoke-free and Tobacco-free Policy

Columbus State University is dedicated to maintaining a healthy working and learning environment for employees, students, and visitors. The use of all tobacco and smoke related products is prohibited. Columbus State University is a tobacco free campus.

The intent is not to eliminate individual freedoms, however the use of tobacco products and devices of any kind are strictly prohibited by the Board of Regents (BOR, 9.1.7)

Appendix C

Compliance Checklist

The compliance checklist highlights the legal requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses (DFSCA) Regulations. Completing this checklist will ensure that your campus has a sense of what has been done to satisfy the minimum requirements of the DFSCA. To read the exact letter of the law, please visit the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations on the U.S. Department of Education website.

Completed by: Columbus State University

Title: The Alcohol and Drug Task Force Biennial Review

Department: The Division of Student Affairs

	STUDENTS		FACULTY AND STAFF	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
1. Does the institution maintain a description of its alcohol and drug prevention program?	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
<i>If yes, where is it located?</i>	<i>Within the Faculty and Student Handbooks available online. The Staff Handbook does include this information, but it is only available as a hard copy. All information in the Staff Handbook is the same as the Faculty Handbook which is online.</i>			
2. Does the institution provide annually to each employee and each student, who is taking one or more classes for any type of academic credit except for continuing education units, written materials that adequately describe and contain the following:				
a) Standards of conduct that prohibit unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on its property or as a part of its activities	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
b) A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	

c) A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law				
d) A description of applicable counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs	O		O	
e) Clear statement of the disciplinary sanctions the institution will impose on students and employees, and a description of those sanctions	O		O	
3. How are the above materials distributed to students?				
a) Mailed to each student (separately or included in another mailing)		O		
b) Through campus post office boxes <i>All residents must attend a mandatory Safety Meeting that addresses alcohol and drug issues. Information on these meetings is distributed to residents through campus mail.</i>	O			
b) Class schedules which are mailed to each student <i>CSU does not mail class schedules because they are made available to the student online.</i>		O		
d) During freshman orientation	O			

e) During new student orientation	<input type="radio"/>			
f) In another manner (describe) <i>Available online</i>	<input type="radio"/>			
4. Does the means of distribution provide adequate assurance that each student receives the materials annually?	<input type="radio"/>			
5. Does the institution's distribution plan make provisions for providing these materials to students who enroll at some point after the initial distribution?	<input type="radio"/>			
	STAFF		FACULTY	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
6. How are the above materials distributed to staff and faculty?				
a) Mailed		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
b) Through campus post office boxes <i>During the open enrollment period, updates on the alcohol and drug abuse and general insurance benefits are distributed through campus mail</i>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
c) During new employee orientation	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	

d) In another manner (describe) <i>Available online</i>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
7. Does the means of distribution provide adequate assurance that each staff and faculty member receives the materials annually?	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
8. Does the institution's distribution plan make provisions for providing these materials to staff and faculty who are hired after the initial distribution?	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
	STUDENTS		STAFF & FACULTY	
	YES	NO	YES	NO
9. How and by whom does the institution conduct biennial reviews of its drug prevention program to determine effectiveness, implement necessary changes, and ensure that disciplinary sanctions are enforced?				
a) Conduct student alcohol and other drug use survey	<input type="radio"/>			
b) Conduct opinion survey of its students, staff, and faculty	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
c) Evaluate comments obtained from a suggestion box		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
d) Conduct focus groups <i>Although focus groups have not been conducted, students</i>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>

<i>enrolled in Introduction to Fitness courses engage in course discussions and view materials covering alcohol and drug prevention</i>				
e) Conduct intercept interviews <i>The Human Resources Department refers employees to professionals when needed</i>	<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>	
f) Assess effectiveness of documented mandatory drug treatment referrals for students and employees <i>Confidentiality limits the ability to assess effectiveness</i>		<input type="radio"/>		<input type="radio"/>
g) Assess effectiveness of documented cases of disciplinary sanctions imposed on student and employees	<input type="radio"/>			<input type="radio"/>
	YES		NO	
10. If requested, has the institution made available, to the Secretary and the public, a copy of each required item in the drug prevention program and the results of the biennial review?	<input type="radio"/>			
11. Where is the biennial review located?	On the Dean of Students web page on the Columbus State University website			
12. Comments	On-line documentation format continues to gradually replace printed documentation			

END OF REPORT