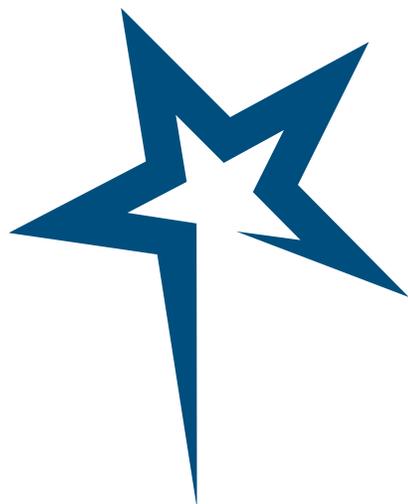


# Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy for Students



**Oklahoma City**

**U N I V E R S I T Y**

# Alcohol and Substance Abuse Policy for Students

Oklahoma City University prohibits, the use, possession, or sale of alcoholic beverages (including under-age drinking), tobacco, illegal drugs, firearms, or other dangerous weapons on University-owned or controlled property is strictly prohibited. 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.

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.

## **Standard of Conduct**

Oklahoma City University prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution dispensation, possessions, or use of controlled substances and alcohol on Oklahoma City University's property or at any Oklahoma City University-sponsored function, whether on or off-campus, except as exempted.

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. 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.

## **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,

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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 sanctions 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.

## **Disciplinary Action for Drug and Alcohol Use**

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 University. The disciplinary action may include a drug assessment, referral for counseling, and/or treatment as recommended by a University approved counselor or counseling service.

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.

## **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 (under 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:

- 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

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- Third (and subsequent) offenses – 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 directed here:

<https://ifap.ed.gov/drugworksheets/attachments/1718StudentAidEligibilityWorksheetorQuestion23EN.pdf> 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.

## **Law School Exceptions to Alcohol Policy**

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

## **Drug and Alcohol Policy Distribution**

Oklahoma City University is actively involved in distributing this policy and providing education and training. This policy is distributed actively to 1) all newly hired employees and new students, and 2) annually, in a manner designed to actively reach all students, and separate from the distribution of the Annual Security and Fire Report.

In compliance with federal law, Oklahoma City University will publish and distribute a report no later than October 1, outlining the number and types of alcohol/drug violations occurring on campus during the previous academic year.

# Alcohol and Substance Abuse Information

## Alcohol and Other Drugs Committee

The Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Committee is comprised of members of various university departments to address issues surrounding the use and misuse of alcohol by students. The committee holds social and educational events each semester in an attempt to raise students' awareness of the consequences and dangers of alcohol consumption.

## Alcohol and Drug Education

Oklahoma City University recognizes its responsibility to help educate students concerning alcohol and other drug use, abuse, and addiction. The University will offer lectures, courses, workshops, and prevention programs. The University Counseling Center, Campus Health Clinic and the Dean of Students Office will provide education on resources, including research around use, abuse and addiction. Mandatory online training modules are required for all new students annually. And, 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.

## Health Risks Associated with Drug or Alcohol Use

Whether the drug of choice is alcohol, marijuana, a prescription drug or cocaine, the habit can lead to a change in work habits, too. 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. And 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. Only some of the known health risks are covered, and not all legal or illegal drugs are included:

- **Alcohol** is the 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** is an 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.
- While **cocaine** and **crack** can speed up performance, their effect is short-lived. More lasting risks are short attention span, irritability and depression, seizure and heart attack.

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- **Prescription drugs** are often used to reduce stress. However, they are not safe, unless they are taken as directed. If abused, they can lead to sluggishness or hyperactivity, impaired reflexes, addiction, and brain damage.
- Other drugs, such as **PCP, LSD, heroin, mescaline, and morphine**, have a wide variety of negative health effects from hallucinations and mental confusion to convulsions and death.
- **Tobacco/nicotine** is 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.

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.

## 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:

*Reach out Hotline for Mental Health and Substance Abuse*  
1-800-522-9054

*Oklahoma Alcoholics Anonymous*  
405-524-1100

*Oklahoma Narcotics Anonymous*  
405-524-7068

*Oklahoma Tobacco Helpline*  
800-QUITNOW

*Oklahoma County Crisis Intervention Center*  
1200 N.E. 13<sup>th</sup>  
OKC, OK. 73152  
405-522-8100 or 1-800-522-9054

*A Chance to Change*  
5228 Classen Circle, OKC  
405-840-9000

# Alcohol and Substance Abuse Information

*Catalyst Behavioral Services (Inpatient and Outpatient)*

3033 N. Walnut Ave., OKC  
405-232-9804

*Jordan's Crossing, Inc. (Inpatient & Outpatient; Inpatient females only)*

301 SW 74<sup>th</sup>, OKC  
405-604-9644

*North Care Center*

4436 NW 50<sup>th</sup>, OKC  
405-858-2700

*Quapaw Counseling Services*

1301 SE 59<sup>th</sup> Street, OKC  
405-672-3033

*The Resource Center (Medical Detox)*

1215 NW 25<sup>th</sup> Street, OKC  
405-525-2525

*Specialized Outpatient Services, Inc.*

5208 N. Classen Circle, OKC  
405-810-1766

*Total Life Counseling*

3000 United Founders Bvd. Suite 239, OKC  
405-840-7040

*Valley Hope (Outpatient)*

6110 NW 63<sup>rd</sup> Street, OKC  
405-946-7337

*Norman Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center*

405-573-6624

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