



**University of South Alabama's
Biennial Review of the
Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program
AY 2018-2019 – AY 2019-2020**

Biennial Review Committee Membership

Dr. Chris Cleveland, Assistant Vice President of Auxiliary Services
Dr. Angela Coleman, Associate Vice-President, Institutional Effectiveness
Aimee Davis, University Police and Parking Services
Shanta Jenkins, M.S., LPC, Prevention Coordinator, UCTC
Ryan Ferguson, FNP-BC, Director of USA Student Health
Dr. John Friend, Director, University Counseling and Testing Center (Chair)
Jinni Frisbey, Associate Athletic Director and Senior Woman Administrator
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- I. Introduction and Overview
 - a. Commitment Statement
 - b. Objectives
 - c. Office/Department Participants
 - d.

I. Introduction and Overview

A. The University of South Alabama recognizes that substance abuse is a major issue affecting all aspects of our society. The University views the abuse of alcohol and other drugs as harmful to the life, safety, and orderly progress of the academic community. Responsible conduct and accountability are expected from each individual on campus. The University will address this ongoing concern through an institution-wide commitment to appropriate education, prevention, and counseling services. The University recognizes, through this policy and the programs developed to prevent illicit use of drugs and abuse of alcohol, its goal and commitment to a drug-free academic and employment environment, in accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989 and the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and the American with Disabilities Act of 1990.

B. In compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (EDGAR Part 86), USA's Biennial Review Committee is responsible for achieving the following objectives:

1. Determine the effectiveness of the University's drug and alcohol abuse prevention program;
2. Ensure that the University has consistently enforced disciplinary sanctions related to drug and alcohol conduct violations;
3. Evaluate strengths and weaknesses of the University's drug and alcohol abuse prevention program and outline strategies for program improvement.

C. In order for the Biennial Review to be completed, the following offices were used to provide information through statistics, interviews, and online resources for the Biennial Review process: Office of the Dean of Students • Student Health Center • University Counseling and Testing Center • Office of Housing and Residence Life/Campus Tr

A. Alcohol-Free Options

1. A number of

- a. University Counseling and Testing Center provides training for new faculty and staff on how to identify and intervene with students suspected of having a mental health and/or substance abuse problem.
- b. University Counseling and Testing Center provides training for Community Directors and Resident Assistants in University Housing &

8. Pro-health messages are publicized by various departments and units including, Student Affairs, Campus Recreation, the Student Health Center, University Counseling and Testing Center, and the USA Health System.
9. During the month of October, the University Police Department conducts a program called "Sobriety Rewards." During their normal patrols, police officers invite students to take a portable breath test, advising them that, if they blow under the legal limit for 1 (un)2i

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November 2018, a number of police procedures and policies changes took effect prior to the University Police Department receiving an award of accreditation by the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA). These changes included limiting officer discretion to refer an offense for University judiciary proceedings in lieu of arrest. During this same time period, the University Police Department also hired additional officers.

use screening questions. Additional questions are asked based on the patient's symptoms as well.

4. University Counseling and Testing Center participates annually in Jag Health and Wellness Day. During this event, students are screened for a number of mental health issues including anxiety and depressive disorders. Students screening positive are given feedback and information about counseling services. Although the focus is on specific mental health issues, many students who are screened also struggle with substance abuse problems and are referred to the University Counseling and Testing Center.
5. The University Counseling and Testing Center Substance Abuse Prevention Program coordinates National Alcohol Screening Day annually during the first week in April to raise awareness about the harmful effects of alcohol abuse/dependency and offer an opportunity for education, treatment and referrals for those that screen positively. In April 2019, a total of 60 screenings were administered. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 National Alcohol Screening Day was not held on campus; however, students were encouraged to complete the eCHECKUP TO GO screening tool on the University Counseling and Testing Center's web site.
6. "USA Safe Spring Break" is conducted annually by the University Counseling and Testing Center Substance Abuse Prevention Program in collaboration with the Student Health Center and Jag Health Team, SAVE and the USAPD. The program is designed to encourage students to make safe choices regarding substance use and skin and sexual health.
7. Student-athletes are required to participate in the testing component of a mandatory prevention program. This includes both institutional and NCAA-related testing. Failure to do so will forfeit membership within a sport program and any associated athletics financial assistance. The Uniand0.1 (hTJ)-4 (H)-2 (B)3 (r)-11 ((S)-24 6 (r)-11 - (t)-22U 0.a

A. Data Gathering and Analysis

1. During the current review period a continued emphasis was placed on gathering relevant data to inform the University's alcohol and drug prevention program. Measures included the following: the administration of the USA Alcohol and Drug Usage Survey

Program is separate from and in addition to any other substance education and training program to which student-athletes may be subject (e.g., NCAA and USADA). All student-athletes, coaches and staff will participate in drug educational programming administered annually.

3. *Previous Biennial Review Goal: The Employee Assistance Program Counselor plans to continue to develop and offer training sessions for employees dealing with the issue of how to recognize and intervene with a co-worker suspected of having an alcohol and/or other drug problem. The Counselor will also enhance promotion of the available training.* The EAP Counselor enhanced the promotion of available training by expanding the methods used for training services (virtual as well as in person) and offered information at the Wellness Fair and other well attended staff events. Literary material was prepared for managers and supervisors to reference in times of need, the information includes identifying substance abuse symptoms as well as contact information for the appropriate Human Resource personal.
4. *Previous Biennial Review Goal: Counseling and Testing Center will explore the potential benefits of a recovery community on campus that would promote the goal of long-term recovery from addiction and, at the same time, enhance student growth and wellness on campus.* With the recent additions to the University Counseling and Testing Center staff, a substance abuse wellness and psychoeducation group will begin during the 2021 spring semester. The group will provide a safe environment for discussion of matters related to recovery in general and to life as a college student at USA in particular. The ultimate objective of the group

7. *Previous Biennial Review Goal: Counseling and Testing Center will develop brief training modules for faculty, staff and students on 1) identifying students having mental health and/or substance abuse issues and 2) motivational interviewing, an evidence-based method of communicating with individuals ambivalent about behavioral change to include substance use.* Training modules for faculty, staff and students on 1) identifying students having mental health and/or substance abuse issues and 2) motivational interviewing were developed and are currently being offered and advertised on the University Counseling and Testing Center's dedicated Faculty/Staff Concerns and Referrals page.
8. *Previous Biennial Review Goal: Counseling and Testing Center will partner with the USA Recreation Center and its JagFit Employees Wellness Initiative to increase awareness and prevention activities related to alcohol and substance abuse for faculty, staff and students.* Campus Recreation and JagFit enhanced their websites to include national substance abuse self-assessment tests, University Counseling and Testing Center resources available for students and added a FAQ section to both sites supporting the screening process.
9. *Previous Biennial Review Goals: Increase collaborative efforts between university departments and the Student Government Association in order to gain additional perspectives to enhancement Alcohol and Drug Abuse prevention program and improvements and Develop a strategic plan to address the new emerging drugs trends opioid pain relievers, ADHD stimulants, and vape-pens.* University Counseling and Testing Center is working with the Student Government Association's WEB/PR Chair, identifying social media content to address student nicotine and vaping use.
10. *Previous Biennial Review Goal: Develop a strategic plan to address privately-owned housing communities (i.e., The Grove) located near campus.* The University Police Department has taken several proactive measures to address safety and crime, as well as violations of University policy, in privately-owned student housing facilities located on the University's campus. This includes the installation of cameras with the ability to monitor the grounds of these facilities from the University Police Department's Communications Dispatch Center, gate checks and restricting access to non-residents, and the placement of door placards that include safety information to assist students and residents in protecting themselves and their property.
11. *Previous Biennial Review Goal: Explore creating a more robust Good Samaritan Clause in Student Code of Conduct.* A discussion was held with the Student Government Association and it was determined that a number of policies outlined in the Lowdown, the USA Student Handbook, addressed the spirit of a Good Samaritan Policy and clearly encourage students to reach out for help when faced with medical emergencies without fear of disciplinary responses to drug and alcohol violations.

1. The make-up of the Biennial Review Committee is a strength of the AOD program. Each member brings a unique perspective based on specific roles on campus and knowledge of relevant AOD issues and is passionate towards the improvement of the University's Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program. Several additional committee members were added this year to include representatives from Student Health, Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Office of Student Disability Services.
2. A major strength of the University's Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program is the application of a comprehensive and multifaceted approach that includes the six major elements described in some detail earlier. This approach includes evidence supported strategies such as restricting alcohol access and promotion; offering alcohol free housing and provision of ample alcohol-free activity options for students; social norms marketing; strict enforcement of AOD laws and policies and the use of motivational interviewing for students receiving substance abuse counseling.
3. The number of campus hearing officers has increased since the last review period, which has resulted in shorter case processing times.
4. The USA Substance Abuse Prevention Program and the USA Substance Abuse Screening and Assessment Program (USASA) have been instrumental in a continued decrease of alcohol and drug infractions and recidivism rates. The number of alcohol and drug infractions decreased 47.6% from the last review period. The alcohol recidivism rate declined from 5.88% (last review period) to 0% for this review period.

- 76.1% of USA students endorsed “0” when asked the average number of drinks you consume a week.
- 83.4% of USA students were aware that the University had alcohol and drug policies.

Results from the 2018-19 Faculty Senate Survey indicate that 80% of the Faculty are aware that University Counseling and Testing Center provides alcohol and substance abuse counseling and prevention services for students.

B. Weaknesses and Negative Indicators

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21. The strategies utilized to educate faculty and staff on the importance of student success and retention are limited. (2019-2020 survey) 194/217 responses

2. A component of the AY 2018-2019 – AY 2019-

