

February 5, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

The University of Arizona fosters a healthy academic community and strives to provide clear policies on substance abuse, in addition to offering supportive counseling, treatment and rehabilitative programs. As an institution of higher education, we are required by the federal Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (Public Law 101-226) to provide students and employees with information about University policies and resources regarding alcohol and drugs. Our students and employees are also subject to federal and state laws.

This notification is intended to achieve more than compliance with law. We hope it also will promote understanding of the health risks posed by alcohol and illicit drugs, encourage you to make informed decisions, and to show care for yourself and others.

Policy and Prohibition

The University prohibits the unlawful manufacture, dispensation, distribution, possession or use of a controlled substance on its property or as part of any of its activities. The University enforces federal and state laws including those prohibiting the following activities on campus: providing alcoholic beverages to individuals under 21 or possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by individuals under 21; distribution, possession or use of illegal drugs or controlled substances.

Students are subject to all applicable drug and alcohol policies, including policies set forth in the Arizona Board of Regents Code of Conduct, the University of Arizona Alcohol Policy and Regulations, and other applicable rules as adopted. The Student Code of Conduct prohibits students from (a) violation of the board or university rules or applicable laws governing alcohol, including consumption, distribution, unauthorized sale or possession of alcoholic beverages; (b) unauthorized use, sale, possession or distribution of any controlled substance or illegal drug or possession of drug paraphernalia that would violate the law; (c) hazing including acts which advocate or promote alcohol or substance abuse.

Sanctions

- Local, state and federal laws make unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol serious crimes. Conviction can lead to imprisonment, fines and required community service or rehabilitation.
- In order to ensure fair and consistent treatment of all students who are accused of use of drugs or alcohol in violation of law and/or policy, the University will follow applicable policies and procedures (e.g., Student Code of Conduct and Student Disciplinary Procedures, ABOR Code of Conduct) and where appropriate, local, state and federal laws and regulations.
- Sanctions will be imposed on students who violate Arizona Board of Regents or University drug and/or alcohol policies.
- Sanctions for students may include discipline, restrictions and administrative actions including: probation (removal of the student from good conduct standing); written warning (advisement that a violation has been committed and further misconduct may result in more severe disciplinary action); suspension (temporary separation from the University for a specified period of time, or until specific conditions, if imposed, have been met) or expulsion (permanent separation of the student from the University).

Health Risks

There are many health risks associated with the abuse of alcohol and illegal substances. Alcohol or any other drug used in excess over time can produce illness, disability and death. The health consequences of substance abuse may be immediate and unpredictable, such as cardiac arrest with cocaine use, or more subtle and long term, such as liver deterioration associated with the prolonged use of alcohol.

In addition to health-related problems, other concerns relating to substance abuse may include:

- Accidents, injuries, relationship problems, domestic violence, financial challenges and decline in job performance.
- Dependence, following repeated use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs.
- Poor personal health, including high blood pressure, heart disease, stroke, liver disease and digestive problems. Substance use can also adversely affect sleep and nutrition.

Support Systems and Resources for Students

If you are experiencing problems with alcohol and/or other drugs, campus and community

resources are available to you.

Campus Health provides alcohol and drug programs, counseling and treatment options:

- Health Promotion & Preventive Services provides risk reduction programs for students, including the SHADE (Student Health Alcohol/Drug Education) program for those in violation of University alcohol and marijuana policies; and presentations to the campus community. These programs provide students with information on the risks of drug and alcohol abuse. Information is available at health.arizona.edu.
- Counseling & Psych Services (CAPS) offers confidential short-term counseling and community referrals as needed.
- [Wildcats Anonymous](#) is an on-campus organization that works jointly with CAPS to provide meetings, programming and peer mentoring for students who want to address their substance use.
- First-year students are required to complete the e-CHECKUP TO GO program by the end of September; the program is continually available to all students at health.arizona.edu/echeckup.
- Additional information on programs and resources related to alcohol, including SHADE, the Red Cup Q&A, and The Buzz, can be found at: health.arizona.edu/alcohol.
- If you know someone who may be struggling with alcohol or other drugs, the Friend 2 Friend website is another resource that can provide assistance: friend2friend.arizona.edu.

Reporting Responsibility

University of Arizona police refer all students cited, arrested, or diverted in lieu of arrest (disciplinary referral) for drug and alcohol offenses to the Dean of Students Office (DOS). Students arrested or cited are also referred and/or subject to criminal prosecution. Students found responsible of any alcohol or drug-related offense which occurred on-campus, or as part of any University activities, may face both criminal and administrative sanctioning; campus employees may be subject to termination. DOS staff are available to answer any questions pertaining to the University's enforcement of, and compliance with, law and policy.

Statement on the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act

Arizona voters approved the Arizona Medical Marijuana Act in 2010 and the Smart and Safe Arizona Act in 2020. These acts permit individuals to possess and use limited quantities of marijuana.

However, because of the institution's obligations under the federal Controlled Substances Act, the University will continue to prohibit marijuana possession and use for any purpose on campus. Failure to comply with the Controlled Substances Act would violate the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, rendering the University of Arizona ineligible to "receive funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program, including participation in any federally funded or guaranteed student loan program." Therefore, the University will continue to enforce its current policies prohibiting the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance on its property or as part of any of its activities. Students who violate University policy prohibiting the use or possession of illegal drugs, including marijuana, on campus will continue to be subject to disciplinary action.

University policy does not prohibit medical research projects involving marijuana from being conducted on campus as authorized by applicable University or federal approvals, which may include the United States Food and Drug Administration, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, and the National Institutes on Drug Abuse, and approval of any applicable University Institutional Review Board.

This message and the information contained within is in compliance with the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 ("Act"), which states, "no institution of higher education shall be eligible to receive funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program, including participation in any federally funded or guaranteed student loan program," unless it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the use of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The Act requires the annual distribution of the above information to students and employees.

Thank you,

Kendal Washington White

Vice Provost, Campus Life & Dean of Students
The University of Arizona

Related Links and Resources:

Policy and Regulations:

Resources:

[Arizona Board of Regents Student Code of Conduct](#)

[Arizona Board of Regent Policy Manual: Personnel](#)

[Employee Performance](#)

[Management/Discipline Guidelines](#)

[Student Disciplinary Procedures](#)

[University of Arizona Alcohol Policy and Regulations](#)

[University Staff Standards of Conduct Policy](#)

[Narcotics Anonymous](#)

[Alcoholics Anonymous](#)

[Campus Health](#)

[Counseling & Psych Services \(CAPS\)](#)

[Health Promotion & Preventive Services \(HPPS\)](#)

[Marijuana Anonymous](#)

[The Buzz – Alcohol Prevention Program](#)

[SHADE Diversion Program](#)

[UArizona Safe and Drug Free Campus](#)

[Wildcats Anonymous](#)

This email was sent to: all University of Arizona Students.

Privacy Statement

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Land Acknowledgment

We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O’odham and the Yaqui. Committed to diversity and inclusion, the University strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.