

University of Arkansas-Pulaski Technical College

2024 Biennial Review

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act

The University of Arkansas-Pulaski Technical College (UAPTC) has in place effective policies and procedures designed to comply with the Drug-Free Schools and Community Act (DFSCA), state laws, and UA-PTC policies regarding drug and alcohol use. These laws and policies are intended to reduce and prevent the problems associated with the use or misuse of these substances, ultimately creating a safer and healthier environment for the College community.

Individuals with questions or comments concerning the biennial review may contact:

University of Arkansas-Pulaski Technical College
Dean of Student Life and Wellness
Campus Center 306C
3000 West Scenic Drive
North Little Rock AR 72118
501-812-2756

POLICIES

Board of Trustees of the University of Arkansas Policy 705.2,
USE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON UNIVERSITY FACILITIES

Possession and use of alcoholic beverages in public areas of University facilities (including organized houses) and at official University student functions held on campus must follow state and federal laws and university policies at all times. Each campus shall establish policies to be approved by the Chancellor regarding the use of alcoholic beverages on and off campus for student and non-student events. Other units of the University designated by the President shall develop such policies for approval of the President. Irresponsible behavior while under the influence of alcoholic beverages is not condoned and may be subject to review and/or action by the appropriate judicial body. The Board directs each campus to develop an alcohol awareness and use policy which shall be made available to its new and continuing students each fall

Student Policy

UA-PTC Drug and Alcohol-Free Community – Student Affairs Policy 500.0

Possession and use of alcoholic beverages in public areas of University facilities and at official University student functions held on campus must follow state and federal laws and university

policies at all times. Irresponsible behavior while under the influence of alcoholic beverages is not condoned and may be subject to review and/or action by the appropriate judicial body.

Student Code of Conduct:

Illegal Drugs and Alcohol

- Possessing, using, distributing, manufacturing, or selling alcohol or other drugs on college property or at college-authorized activities, even if the activity is not conducted on campus, is prohibited.
- Alcohol usage, regardless of age, is strictly prohibited at any off-campus, college-authorized activity or travel. Appearing on college-owned or controlled property or at a college-sponsored event while under the influence of a controlled substance or any other intoxicating substance is prohibited.

Employee Policy

All new employees are required to sign an acknowledgement of the *UA-PTC Drug and Alcohol Free Community Policy*. All new employees are also sent a link to the UA-PTC employee handbook that outlines Drug and Alcohol policies and resources.

UA-PTC expects students and employees to be free of the influence of controlled substances and to refrain from the use of controlled substances on college premises or at a college activity. Employees of UA-PTC are expected to refrain from activities involving controlled substances both on and off campus where such activities could have a detrimental impact on their abilities to perform their jobs. Persons may generally not use, dispense or be under the influence or possess drugs or alcohol on UA-PTC premises or at functions or activities controlled by the college.

Any student or employee who possess, gives or transfers controlled substances to another person or sells or manufactures controlled substances while on campus or related premises will be subject to appropriate student discipline or employee discipline up to and including termination or expulsion, and/or referral to the authorities for prosecution.

Employee Drug and Alcohol Testing for Safety & Security Sensitive Positions

It is the intent of UA-PTC to establish programs designed to help prevent accidents and injuries resulting from the misuse of alcohol or the use of controlled substances by applicants for and employees in security-sensitive positions and drivers of commercial motor vehicles. UA-PTC strives to comply with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations requiring drug and alcohol testing for employees in safety-sensitive functions.

The provisions of this drug and alcohol testing policy do not relieve an employee from requirements pursuant to other college policies on drugs and alcohol.

a. Safe Work Environment It is the policy of UA-PTC to be a drug-free workplace and to prevent and eliminate drug abuse from the workplace.

UA-PTC has the obligation to:

- Ensure a safe work environment for all employees;
- Protect the students and other members of the public against endangerment resulting from the impairment of employees' physical or mental capabilities;
- Protect its property and equipment from unnecessary damage; and
- Assure that all UA-PTC business is conducted with efficiency and quality. UA-PTC requires, as a condition of initial and continued employment, that employees be free from the influence of alcohol and controlled substances while performing their duties as administration or employees.

b. Safety-sensitive Positions

Positions that require possession of a CDL as a condition of employment are considered safety sensitive (CDL safety sensitive).

c. Security-sensitive Positions Level II Positions designated as security-sensitive Level II are addressed in OP70.20. These may include CDL safety-sensitive positions. All employees deemed to be in safety sensitive positions include, but not limited to, the following: campus police, physical plant, etc.

Prohibited Drugs

Prohibited drugs are defined in this section as:

- a. Any drug prohibited by federal law or college policy;
- b. Alcohol;
- c. Prescribed drugs consumed by a person but not prescribed to that person;
- d. Any drug that is not legally obtainable;
- e. Any drug that is legally obtainable but is not being used for the prescribed purpose or is not being taken according to the prescribed dosages; and
- f. Any drug that would have a medical effect of reducing an individual's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle or perform a CDL safety-sensitive function

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION

Annual notification is sent to all students and employees through their College email account each fall. The standards of conduct, possible legal sanctions and penalties, counseling and

treatment programs available, and disciplinary sanctions for violations may also be found on the College's website. The Annual Security Report may be found on the College's website at [UA-PTC Annual Clery Campus Security Report](#)

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND INTERVENTIONS

UA-PTC partners with the Arkansas Collegiate Network (ACN) to offer alcohol and drug-free awareness and prevention events for students and employees. These programs and events are coordinated by the Counseling Center and Student Life and Leadership Offices under the direction of the Dean of Student Life and Wellness.

Employees

Employee Assistance Program

Full-time, benefits-eligible faculty and staff have access to the Employee Assistance Plan. The EAP program provides pre-paid counseling and family support programs designed to assist employees with substance abuse and addiction issues. Information regarding the program can be obtained from Human Resources.

Students

Throughout the academic year students have access to various programs and activities intentionally designed to increase awareness and prevent alcohol and drug abuse.

Counseling Center - All students have access to UAPTC Counseling Services throughout the academic year. The UAPTC Counselor participates in a variety of awareness and outreach programs. The UAPTC Counselor is trained and prepared to address substance abuse concerns as well as making referrals to community-based resources and comprehensive care.

College Pathways Course -All first-time entering UA-PTC students are required to take College Pathways. Alcohol and Drug Abuse Education Information is covered in the Wellness and Stress Management section of the course.

Student Life and Wellness Activities -All student activities at UA-PTC are alcohol and drug-free. The Student Life and Wellness Coordinator also offers alcohol and drug prevention programming throughout the academic year in coordination with the UA-PTC Counselor.

Alcohol and Drug Awareness and Prevention Programming includes:

- **Celebrate Life: Live Drug Free at Fall Fest:** This annual event encourages students to participate in student-led activities like: basketball toss, axe throw, dance, and carnival games. Students enjoy food, drinks, and other promotional items. Substance use prevention tables will be set up and will include information about alcohol and drug misuse and the harmful effects of tobacco and vaping.

- Suicide Prevention/Awareness Week- An annual event promoting suicide prevention, identifying symptoms and indications of suicidal ideation, steps for intervention, and highlighting campus and local resources available to assist
- UAPTC Wellness Fair: This annual event is held in the Spring semester and includes information about a variety of health topics including; nutrition, stress management, alcohol, drug, and tobacco awareness and prevention information, mental health resources, drug and alcohol treatment resources, as well as a variety of other health and wellness resources and screenings.
- Arkansas Collegiate Network (ACN) Ambassador Leadership Academy, Summer Workshops. These opportunities are available for students to attend each summer as an ACN Member. Students then bring the information they learned about alcohol and drug prevention practices to the campus to share with their fellow students. Events hosted by student leaders have included NARCAN Distribution days and Say Boo to Drugs and Alcohol.
- UAPTC offers Student and Employee Training through Vector Solutions. Modules that are available to students include: Mental Health and Well-Being for Students, Sexual Assault Prevention for Community Colleges, and Alcohol and Other Drugs.
- Arkansas Collegiate Substance Use Survey: The ACS is an annual statewide assessment designed to collect self-reported information on college students' substance use, the behaviors and consequences related to use, and students' perceptions of substance used as the source to determine the specific substance misuse issues to address on the UAPTC campus.

COLLEGE ENFORCEMENT

UA-PTC Police Department Enforcement

The University of Arkansas – Pulaski Technical College Police Department is located on campus and is authorized to have 12 sworn officers that provide law enforcement services. The sworn officers focus on protection of persons, property, and enforcement of local, state, and college regulations. They patrol the campus and enforce all state underage drinking laws and all federal and state drug laws. They publish the Annual Security Report and provide daily crime logs and crime statistics <https://uacptc.edu/police>.

College Sanctions for Violating Alcohol and Drug Policies

Any student or employee who possess, gives or transfers controlled substances to another person or sells or manufactures controlled substances while on campus or related premises will be subject to appropriate student discipline or employee discipline up to and including termination or expulsion, and/or referral to the authorities for prosecution.

College Sanctions for Violating Alcohol and Drug Policies-Student

The Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management and Student Life (VCEMSL) has primary responsibility and authority for the administration of the Student Conduct process in response

to alleged violations defined in the Code of Student Conduct. Further delegation of this authority may be made by the VCMSL to the Dean of Student Life and Wellness.

Disciplinary sanctions are designed to promote the College's educational mission. Sanctions may also serve to promote safety or deter students from behavior which harms, harasses or threatens people or property. Violation of UA - Pulaski Tech's policy regarding illegal drugs and alcohol may result in suspension or expulsion.

Students found in violation of the illegal drug and alcohol policy at UA-PTC may be subject to local, state, or federal laws and may face criminal charges punishable by fines and/or imprisonment.

Specific degree programs may have additional policies related to the prevention and management of substance abuse. Students enrolled in these degree programs are responsible for adhering to program-specific policies as well as College policies.

Educational Sanctions may include, but are not limited to completing online training modules, community service, reflection paper, and other assessments.

LEGAL SANCTIONS

Legal Sanctions for Violations of Law

The following legal sanctions, at a minimum, may occur for violation of local, state, or federal laws:

Underage DUI Law

The State of Arkansas' "Underage DUI (Driving under the Influence) Law" (Act 863) makes it an offense for a person under the age of 21 with a blood alcohol content of .02 to .07 (approximately one can of beer, one glass of wine, or one drink of hard liquor) to operate a motorized vehicle. Penalties for a first offense can result in:

- First Offense: 24 hours to one year in jail. Up to a \$1,000 fine plus court costs. License suspended for six months.
- Second Offense within five years: seven days to one year in jail. Up to a \$3,000 fine. License suspended for two years.
- Third Offense within five years: 90 days to one year in jail. Up to a \$5,000 fine. License suspension for 30 months.
- Fourth Offense within five years (a felony): One to six years in jail. Up to a \$5,000 fine. License suspension for four years; forfeiture of vehicle within a three year period. Increased penalty if there is a passenger under 16 years of age.
- For fifth or subsequent offense within five year period (a felony): 2 year to 10 year prison term. Up to a \$5,000 fine. Four year license revocation. Forfeiture of vehicle if fourth offense within a three year period. Increased penalty if there is a passenger under 16 years of age.

Driving While Intoxicated

A person who drives a motorized vehicle while influenced or affected by the ingestion of alcohol, a controlled substance, or any intoxicant commits the offense of driving while intoxicated. Penalties for such offense may include:

- First Offense: 24 hours to one year in jail. Up to a \$1,000 fine plus court costs. License suspended for six months.
- Second Offense within a five-year period: Thirty days to no less than one year in jail or no less than 30 days of community service. Up to a \$3,000 fine. License suspended for two years.
- Third Offense: Ninety days to one year in jail. Up to a \$5,000 fine. Four-year license revocation.
- Fourth Offense within five-year period (a felony): One to six years in jail or one year of community service. Up to a \$5,000 fine. License suspension for four years.

Public Intoxication

A person commits the offense of “Public Intoxication” if they appear in a public place manifestly under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance to the degree and under circumstances such that:

1. The person is likely to endanger themselves or another person or property.
2. The person unreasonably annoys a person in their vicinity.

Public intoxication is a Class C misdemeanor.

Maximum fine \$500; probation not to exceed one year; no more than 30 days in jail.

Possession of Alcohol by a Minor

It is illegal for a person under the age of 21 to possess alcohol. Penalties include a fine of up to \$500 along with a 60-day license suspension.

Second offence: 120-day suspension

Third or subsequent offense: One-year suspension

Knowingly Furnishing to a Minor

A person commits the offense of “knowingly furnishing to a minor” if, being an adult, he knowingly purchases for or provided alcohol beverages to a minor. Such an offense is a Class C misdemeanor, and can result in

- First Offense: You will be fined not less than \$200 and not more than \$500.
- Second Offense and subsequent offenses: You will be charged with committing a Class D felony.

HEALTH RISKS

Health Risks of Drug and Alcohol Use

Illicit drugs as well as alcohol and other drugs have various effects on the body and mind. The initial, short-term effects may be positive feelings like alertness, optimism, self-confidence, energy or stress relief. However, the secondary, long-term, negative effects far exceed the initial positive effects.

The use of alcohol impairs reasoning and clouds judgment. Long term drinking can lead to alcoholism and liver and heart disease. A person who begins drinking early in life is more likely to become a heavy drinker during adolescence and to experience alcohol abuse or dependence in adulthood.

Effects of drug and alcohol use on the body:

- mood swings/impaired judgment
- depression/mania
- sleep disturbances and irritability
- increase in aggressive or combative behavior
- heart and/or breathing difficulties/death
- increased susceptibility to bacterial and viral infections
- liver damage

Signs that indicate a person is becoming dependent on a substance:

- Increased tolerance. It takes more and more to get the desired effect. This increases the risk of overdose.
- Changes in relationships with friends and family.
- Withdrawal symptoms such as nausea, shakiness, headaches, convulsions, or hallucinations.
- Psychological dependence – thinking that using a substance will help him or her get through the day.

Visit NIDA at www.drugabuse.gov for more information on the effect of substances and Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment.

Counseling, Treatment and Referral Programs:

The UA-PTC Counseling and Advising office provides free literature, handouts, individual counseling, one-on-one information sessions, and referrals. Self-help groups such as Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meet in the community.

Referrals to private and public facilities, outpatient and inpatient institutions and individual practitioners are provided by the Counseling and Advising office.

Community Resources for Alcohol and Drug Treatment:

Alcoholics Anonymous Arkansas Central Office
[\(501\) 664-7303](tel:5016647303)

Al-Anon Family Groups of Central Arkansas
[\(501\) 372-5234](tel:5013725234)

Division of Behavioral Health Services, DHS
[\(501\) 868-9164](tel:5018689164)

Family Service Agencies
[\(501\) 372-4242](tel:5013724242)

Professional Counseling Associates
[\(501\) 221-1843](tel:5012211843)

Little Rock Community Mental Health
[\(501\) 686-9300](tel:5016869300)

PROGRAM REVIEW

Program Strengths

- UA-PTC partners with the Arkansas Collegiate Network (ACN) for training, resources, and grant funding surrounding alcohol and drug prevention and awareness programming.
- The campus is consistently enforcing policies.
- Campus departments are working together to provide awareness and prevention programming for the campus community.
- The college participates annually in the Arkansas Collegiate Alcohol and Drug Survey.

Program Opportunities

- A data review on arrests and violations shows that the college had one reported alcohol violation for the reporting period. While very low, there may be an opportunity to increase education and awareness efforts surrounding healthier ways to manage stress.
- Work with student leaders to develop student organizations that may be interested in providing health and safety information surrounding alcohol and drug use, as we know that students are more likely to be receptive to messaging from fellow students.

Summary:

The college is meeting its obligations under the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. The University of Arkansas- Pulaski Technical College is committed to providing a high-quality education, which includes providing a healthy environment for students to learn.