

## Student Life at Tarleton State University receives matching grant

July 3, 2008

The Division of Student Life was awarded a Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission (TABC) Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws (EUDL) grant for the 2008-2009 academic year. The total award including matching funds is \$32,850. The goal is to curb underage drinking among Tarleton students. The primary target group for the project is the most vulnerable underage group: first-year freshman students encountering the freedom the college environment provides. Other high risk groups will also be targeted in prevention programming, such as Greek Life organizations and athletes.

The cornerstone preventive program in which the grant funds are applied is a program called AlcoholEdu. AlcoholEdu will be required for all new first-year freshman students. Tarleton will administer AlcoholEdu to freshman, a research-based alcohol education program designed to change students' attitudes and behaviors regarding alcohol use and abuse. Teaching tools and key data points will also be used in the Freshman Seminar course. Faculty will be able to utilize the information as the starting point for more detailed discussion of state and federal laws governing minors and alcohol.

In addition, other alcohol education and prevention programs will help support a comprehensive and consistent effort to reduce alcohol violations and educate students each semester. Grant funds will also be applied to enforcement initiatives as well. Enforcement initiatives will specifically target those events where student underage drinking has been an issue. The combination of these approaches will provide an effective plan to reduce the desire and opportunity for underage drinking of Tarleton State University students.