

2016

**Tarleton State University
Drug and Alcohol Abuse
Prevention Report**



**Prepared in Conjunction with the Drug-Free
Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA)
December 19, 2016**

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Introduction

Since its creation, Tarleton State University, a public coeducational institution, has provided a broad-based education. Established by a \$100,000 bequest from John Tarleton, an Erath County pioneer, John Tarleton College opened in 1899 as a private preparatory school and college for the youth of the surrounding rural region. During the next decade, students could earn a baccalaureate degree.

In 1908, declining enrollment and inadequate funding caused college officials to reorganize the institution to a two-year degree program. This revised curriculum emphasized a liberal arts education, while retaining the two-year preparatory division. Again in 1916, Tarleton experienced financial difficulties; consequently, the Texas Legislature in 1917 approved the college as a branch of Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College, which would later become The Texas A&M University System (system). John Tarleton Agricultural College, as renamed by the Legislature, retained the two-year degree as well as the preparatory program and specialized curricula in agriculture, home economics, and military science.

To meet the needs of a changing constituency, Tarleton has adjusted and enriched its curriculum since the 1920's. Accredited as a junior college by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in 1926, Tarleton gradually redeveloped a liberal arts education. In 1949, the Legislature changed the name of the school to Tarleton State College, and in 1953 the preparatory division was discontinued, reflecting the increased access to public schools throughout the state. By a 1959 act of the Legislature, Tarleton once again became a four-year degree-granting institution, with the first class graduating in 1963. Accredited as a senior college in 1966, Tarleton initiated many new programs, including graduate courses in 1970. Because Tarleton offered a broad liberal arts education within undergraduate and graduate degrees, the Texas Legislature recognized the institution as a university in 1973, and changed the name officially to Tarleton State University. In 2003, a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership was initiated.

Over the past century, Tarleton has grown from a small private college into a thriving state university with over 11,000 students. Today, Tarleton offers degree programs in Waco at the McLennan Community College (MCC) University Center and at several locations within the Southwest Metroplex, to include programs at the Terrell School of Clinical Laboratory Sciences and the Hickman Properties/Camp Bowie Boulevard site in Fort Worth. Additional sites include the W. K. Gordon Center for Industrial History of Texas, Museum and Gallery in Thurber, and in Midlothian as part of a Multi-institutional Teaching Center. These locations have enabled Tarleton to meet diverse educational demands from across the state.

For over one hundred years, Tarleton has maintained a commitment to excellence that was the vision of its founder, John Tarleton. This commitment includes the philosophy of providing health and wellness opportunities and education for Tarleton's students and employees.

Tarleton has an ongoing duty to both students and employees to provide a safe learning and working environment. Key components within this environment include the elimination of alcohol and drug abuse. Because of the responsibility to create a setting where intellectual, physical and psychological well-being is fostered, Tarleton strives to educate its students and employees in the areas of alcohol and drug abuse prevention.

In a cooperative effort, the following departments have focused efforts to implement programs to promote a healthy environment for the university community and enforce regulations for prevention of alcohol and drug abuse:

Offices of Student Life
Student Counseling Center
Student Health Services
Tarleton Athletics Department
Tarleton Police Department
Office of Student Judicial Affairs
Department of Employee Services
Risk Management and Compliance

Representation from each of the above areas was consulted when necessary during the preparation of the Drug-Free Communities and Schools Act (DFCSA) Report.

The focus of the DFCSA review group is to collaborate in a joint effort to review the effectiveness of university alcohol and drug abuse programs and initiatives and to ensure compliance with U.S. Department of Education, The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations [EDGAR Part 86], reporting requirements.

Tarleton's Philosophy and Policy Concerning Alcohol and other Drug Use

Tarleton State University (Tarleton), as part of The Texas A&M University System (A&M System), strictly prohibits the unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of illicit drugs or alcohol on system property, while on official duty or as part of any system activities. The possession, sale, manufacture, or distribution of any controlled substance is illegal under both state and federal laws.

The enforcement of alcohol laws on campus is the primary responsibility of the Tarleton Police Department. The possession of alcoholic beverages by anyone under 21 years of age is illegal. With prior university approval, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages are restricted to special use buildings and facilities as designated by the president, approved by the system chancellor and reported to the Board of Regents on an annual basis. Individuals, organizations or groups violating alcohol or drug policies or laws may be subject to sanctions by the university. Clarification regarding alcohol and controlled substances for students can be found in the [Student Rules](http://www.tarleton.edu/STULIFE/studentlife/) link on the Student Life website, <http://www.tarleton.edu/STULIFE/studentlife/> .

[Tarleton Rule 34.02.01.T1, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention](#)
[System Policy 34.02, Drug and Alcohol Abuse](#)
[System Regulation 34.02.01, Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs](#)

Texas State Laws Governing Alcohol and Drugs

Minor in Possession (MIP) - TX PC Sec. 106.5

A minor (individual under the age of 21) consuming or possessing an alcoholic beverage, except in the visible presence of the minor's adult parent, guardian or spouse. Class C Misdemeanor.

Public Intoxication (PI) - TX PC Sec. 49.02

Appearing in a public place while intoxicated so much that the person may endanger him/herself or another person. Class C Misdemeanor.

Driving under the Influence (DUI) - TX PC Sec. 106.041

A minor is operating a motor vehicle in a public place while having any detectable amount of alcohol in the minor's system. Class C Misdemeanor.

Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) - TX PC Sec 49.04

Operating a motor vehicle, aircraft or watercraft in a public place while intoxicated. A blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of .08 will automatically be a DWI, but this is not the only criterion. Class B Misdemeanor.

Providing Alcohol to a Minor or Purchasing Alcohol for a Minor – TX PC Sec. 106.6

The providing of alcohol to a minor, the purchasing of alcohol for a minor or the providing for a location for minors to drink is a violation of state law. Class A Misdemeanor.

Penalties

Class C Misdemeanor

Fine up to \$500; additional penalties include community service, an alcohol-awareness course and 180-days to one year driver's license suspension.

Class B Misdemeanor

Fine up to \$2,000; additional penalties include community service and jail confinement not to exceed 180 days.

Class A Misdemeanor

Fine up to \$4,000; additional penalties include up to one year in jail and a 180-days driver's license suspension.

Alcohol and Drug Education Program Initiatives

Tarleton's drug and alcohol abuse prevention efforts and activities for students and employees are many and varied. This section outlines strategies and programs used by campus administration.

Office of the President - 21st Birthday Card Program

The president sends out personal congratulatory cards to Tarleton students on the occasion of their 21st birthday as a way to promote responsible decision making when celebrating their birthday.

Division of Student Life

The Division of Student Life is committed to implementing programs that are effective at reducing abusive drinking behavior and its consequences. As such, research is used to identify programs most likely to be effective with college students. Potential initiatives have been tailored to suit Tarleton's culture. The following summary of the tapestry of programs is intended to affect students at the environmental and at the individual level. The long-term strategy is to progressively change the culture of drinking at Tarleton by focusing consecutively and cumulatively on each student entering their first-year of college. The long-term goal or outcome is to reduce the number of students who engage in abusive drinking and other self-destructive behaviors that affect academic performance and future wellness.

Student Life Ongoing Activities

CampusClarity

In response to the national problem of college sexual assaults, and the implementation of the Campus SaVE act, expanded training regarding alcohol, drugs, and sexual violence has been implemented for students. CampusClarity is an online national educational training program to provide incoming college students with information about the choices they may face with regard to sex, drugs and alcohol. As part of Tarleton's comprehensive alcohol and violence prevention program, all first time freshmen (including those with less than 30 transfer hours) are required to complete the course (beginning fall 2014). The course has three sections, two of which must be completed during their first semester and one which must be completed prior to spring break to fulfill university requirements. CampusClarity is a national award-winning program designed to empower students to make well-informed decisions about alcohol and to better cope with the drinking behavior of their peers. The course examines the interconnected issues of substance abuse, sexual violence, and healthy relationships through a variety of interactive, realistic scenarios and guided self-reflection. The course includes surveys that measure student's alcohol-related attitudes and behaviors.

Percentage of invited students who completed Part 1 of Campus Clarity for the 2014-2015 year: 90.4%; Students who completed part 2: 82.2%; students who completed Part 3: 75.4%

Percentage of invited students who completed Part 1 of Campus Clarity for the 2015-2016 year: 92.8%; Students who completed part 2: 77.7%; students who completed Part 3: 67.1%

Safe Ride Program

Impaired driving is a major public health problem. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death and disability between the ages of 2 and 33 years of age. Fatalities from impaired driving are above the national average in Texas. According to the National Collegiate Health Assessment, 3.9% of Tarleton students reported driving after having 5 or more drinks in the last 30 days compared with 1.9% nationally. 27.3% of Tarleton Students reported driving after having had any alcohol in the past 30 days compared with 20.2% nationally.

In the evening, the Stephenville community has no reliable public transportation or taxi service. Such data has led to the implementation and continued support of a safe ride program called

Tarleton Alternative Transportation (TAT). This program has been in operation since August, 2004.

<p style="text-align: center;">Tarleton State University Safe Ride Program (TAT) Fiscal Year Totals</p>					
	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Safe Rides Provided	476	781	1,014	739	667
* Data provided by the Student Counseling Center					

Summer Programming for New Students

Summer programming for students new to Tarleton reflected an emphasis on the university’s core values of integrity, leadership, tradition, civility, excellence and service.

Incoming Tarleton Students received a minimum of two doses of alcohol-related content over the summer of 2015. Students completed Campus Clarity prior to attending classes. Students who attended Duck Camp learned social norming information about alcohol, were introduced to the topic of violence and bystander intervention, and learned about the intersection of alcohol and violence. During Transition Week, students participated in bystander intervention training during which they again learned about the role of alcohol in violence, how to spot warning signs of an impending assault, and how to safely take action. Some students received additional training during First Year Seminar (FYS) courses.

Parents continue to play an important role in the lives of their children even after their children move to college. A strong partnership with parents is essential in Tarleton’s ability to positively influence students’ choices about alcohol.

Many Tarleton students look forward to Spring Break and travel to places which are often viewed as party destinations. There are unmistakable alcohol-related hazards associated with many Spring Break destinations. For example, according to a March 2002 fact sheet, “A Matter of Degree” (American Medical Association, 2002) more than 50% of all males and 40% of all females drink until they become sick or pass out at least once. These findings were the basis for the implementation of a comprehensive Safe Spring Break program.

The Office of Student Engagement sponsors Safe Spring Break Week. Safe Break Week is a venue for informing students of the potential health concerns associated with and alternative options to risky Spring Break behaviors related to unprotected sex, underage drinking, and illegal drug usage. These programs raise safety awareness and help influence decisions as students make plans for spring break holiday destinations.

The Office of Student Engagement School Wide Activities Team hosted a Safe Break Week with Tarleton Alternative Transportation (TAT), and the Tarleton Student Counseling Center. The main event of the week involved approximately 100 participants utilizing tools that simulated drunk driving. Tools such as goggles and cycling along with Alcohol and Other Drug prevention booths were available. The goal was to help students understand the importance of being aware of safety and alcohol and drug intake.

Safe Break Week for 2013 and 2014 included education about alcohol and illegal substance usage; laws related to drinking, driving, and illegal substance use; education about safe sexual behaviors; and alternative activities for spring break week. To kick off Safe Spring Break Week 2013, a glow-in-the-dark 5K was held at night with runners decked out in glowing gear. The Recreational Sports Department partnered with TAT and Alcohol EDU to encourage students to “Keep it Light. Save the Night” as they approached Spring Break 2013. Other activities included panel discussions with police, attorneys, and the dean of students outlining consequences of driving under the influence, Hypnotic Intoxication, in which a hypnotist used humor to address risky drinking behaviors, psychocycles sobriety tests, in which students simulated intoxicated driving of tricycles, and a cookout, in which alcohol educational materials were disseminated.

Tarleton Serves, a registered student organization that coordinates Alternative Spring Break, took 36 students to Greeley Colorado to provide community service. Alternative Spring Break is a program that provides students an opportunity to spend their time off during Spring Break on projects that give back to the community. In the past, only 20 students have attended. Students who sign up for this must provide at a minimum 20 hours of community service locally and pay \$100.00 plus be responsible for any other expenses during the trip.

Greek 101 (October 2015)

Greek 101 is an educational prevention seminar hosted by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. This event was required for all new members of Greek organizations for Panhellenic, IFC, and the Inter-Greek councils. The presentation included alcohol norming information, standard drink information and harm-reduction tips including TAT promotion. The presentation also addressed the intersection of alcohol and violence, provided information about violence prevention including a bystander intervention refresher. Approximately 400 students participated.

Student Life Yearly Activities

Safe Break Party (March 2013)

Safe Break Party featured several booths of activities and information including: Drunk Driving Simulator, Pop-a-Condom, Texting Pledge, Root Bear Pong, Target Practice, and Wheel of Fortune. The Student Health Center provided “mocktails” and a recipe booklet for non-alcoholic beverages. All booths were designed to engage students and provide information regarding good choices during spring break.

Safe Break Luau (March 2013)

The School Wide Activities Team (SWAT) sponsored a weenie roast, sand volleyball and music. Presenters discussed different ways students increase their risk of death and injury over spring break. Alternative service projects were offered for an alternative to travelling over spring break.

Cupid’s Acoustic (February, 2015)

TAT concert promoting membership and usage, along with safe drinking choices.

Larry Joe Taylor Hydration Station (April, 2015)

Students were provided information regarding safe drinking choices including the opportunity to participate in Screenings and Brief Interventions (SBIs) using the Alcohol Use Disorders

Identification Test (AUDIT) brief screening tool. Students were also provided water, crackers, and condoms during this high-drinking incidence time in the Erath County community.

Completion of the Alcohol Diagnostic Interview (EverFi, April, 2014)

The Alcohol Diagnostic Interview will be analyzed and compared to national best-practices in order to influence future AODV programming.

TxDOT Hangovers Don't Go Away (September, 2015)

The Texas Department of Transportation spent time on campus Sept. 1 in collaboration with TAT handing out alcohol-related information and promoting the use of safe rides.

Medical Amnesty Policy (September, 2015)

A new medical amnesty policy was implemented for campus, granting amnesty from sanctions for students who seek help during an alcohol-related emergency. Information about the new policy was shared through student news outlets, social media campaigns, and promotional materials throughout September and into early October.

National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (October, 2015)

During NCAA week, TAT hosted four separate events to provide accurate alcohol-related information and promote safe drinking habits including the use of TAT. Events included: Open Mic Night, Game Night, Coffee and Cookies, and Intoxicated Simulation. Social norming messages were also pushed out through social media channels in collaboration with Student Life Marketing and Communications.

Residential Living and Learning Resident Advisor (Residential Leader) Training

The Resident Advisor (Residential Leader or RL) staff consists of 96 undergraduate students in seventeen residential facilities. RLs undergo a week-long training session prior to the residence halls opening in August. During training, the staff is educated on issues surrounding alcohol and drug use on Tarleton's Stephenville campus. The following describes the session presentations:

- **Alcohol & Drug Training:** The RL staff is trained to identify a student who has had excessive alcohol and how to address the student. They are introduced to different resources that are available on campus which include both counseling and educational programs.
- **Writing Incident Reports:** The RL staff receives education regarding documentation of an alcohol related incident. The staff is trained to identify the behaviors of students who have been drinking and how to confront the situation.
- **Behind Closed Doors:** This session is an opportunity for the RL staff to practice confrontation skills in a controlled environment. The RL is introduced to different scenarios where new staff confronts the situation. They are provided with instant feedback to improve their skills from professional staff members.
- **Confidentiality:** The RL staff is introduced to the regulations associated with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

- Residence Hall Guidelines: The RL staff is introduced to the guidelines and procedures included in the Guide to Community Living.
- Transformational Model: The RL staff is introduced to the relationship development model that is utilized by Residential Living & Learning. The focus of the model is getting RLs familiar with respective residents to provide support in areas such as academics, connection to the campus, and personal development.

Residential Coordinator Training

The Residential Coordinator staff consists of five full-time staff members. The full-time Residential Coordinators undergo a three week training beginning in July. Residential Coordinators (RC) also attend RL training and receive periodic additional training including topics such as:

- Incident Report Tracking System - The RCs are trained on the university database system used to track behavioral incidents in the residence halls. These individuals are also trained on how to manage cases utilizing the system.
- Confidentiality - The RCs are provided insights into the legal matters related to the regulations associated with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Residence Hall Guidelines - The RCs review the guidelines included in the Guide to Community Living.
- Transformational Model - The RCs review the relationship development model utilized by Residential Living & Learning. The model focus deals with familiarization of residents to provide support in areas such as academics, connection to the campus, and personal development.
- Student Conflict Resolution - The RCs are introduced to associated responsibilities in helping solve student conflicts ranging from roommate problems to crisis intervention.

Student Counseling Center

The Student Counseling Center (SCC) provides short-term counseling and crisis intervention to Tarleton students, including those who are struggling with substance abuse issues.

Referrals

Upon the request of a student, or as deemed necessary by SCC personnel, referrals to local service providers such as the STAR Council on Substance Abuse are granted.

Employee Assistance Programs Counseling Services

Tarleton's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides free and confidential assessments, short-term counseling, referrals, prevention, and education services for faculty and staff employees and their dependents. The EAP program is found on the [Employee Services](#) web page. The [EAP Brochure](#) is online and manually distributed. The EAP Helpline and contact information are also linked on the Title IX web page at www.tarleton.edu/titleix.

Also, the Employee Services Department can assist employees in finding counselors, drug or alcohol abuse assistance programs, and treatment facilities upon request by the employee. Employees may request this information from any Employee Services representative by email, telephone, or face-to-face.

Educational Efforts

Each new employee receives a copy of The Texas A&M University System Policy 34.02 and Regulation 34.02.01, *Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs*. New employees acknowledge receipt of the policy and regulation through signed acknowledgements which are filed in the personnel files. Current employees receive annual notification and reminder of the policy and regulation by email. The email contains links to the policy which can be downloaded at any time.

Alcohol and Drug Testing

Employees may be tested for alcohol and/or drugs due to reasonable suspicion, following a job in jeopardy agreement, or because they are required to participate in alcohol and drug testing per the Texas Department of Transportation regulations.

Alcohol and Other Drug Program Goals and Effectiveness

Student Life Assessment of Campus Clarity

Goals / Program Outcomes:

- Increase student knowledge of basic drug and alcohol information
- Increase student knowledge of harm-reduction (party smart) strategies
- Reduce binge drinking
- Develop a student culture at Tarleton in which abstinence and responsible drinking are endorsed by students.

Highlights from the 2014-2015 Campus Clarity date include: The average of correct first-attempts at answering questions related to recognizing Party Smart Strategies was 54.1%; for applying alcohol intervention strategies: 82.1%; for recognizing consent: 79%; for applying sexual assault intervention strategies: 77.49%. When students answer questions incorrectly, the program provides feedback and gives them the opportunity to answer again until the correct answer is selected, so students know the correct answer by the time they complete each section.

Student Counseling Center Assessments

Goals/program outcomes:

- Utilize Standardized Data Set (SDS) and Counseling Center Assessment of Psychological Symptoms (CCAPS) data to identify areas of need and to develop outreach educational programs.
- Encourage responsible decision making in alcohol related situations.
- Increase knowledge of alcohol related concerns.
- Provide treatment and referral for substance abuse.

Coordinated by the Center for the Study of Collegiate Mental Health (CCMH), the Student Counseling Center is part of a national collaborative effort involving counseling centers assisting in the development of a national data-sharing network which measures the status of mental health issues. These measures include substance use among students who seek assistance from university counseling centers. Data are gathered through the SDS and CCAPS. Currently, the Student Counseling Center focuses on data from CCAPS. Questions include those that address binge-drinking. These questions are included in the intake/first appointment.

Employee Assistance Program Assessment

Goals/program outcomes:

- Raise employee awareness of alcohol and drug abuse in the workplace
- Provide referral for substance abuse

The Employee Services Department distributes the brochure, “Prevention of Alcohol Abuse and Illicit Drug Use,” to all new employees upon hire and annually to all employees. The document defines alcohol, alcohol abuse, controlled substances, and illicit drugs. The document also describes the health risks associated with alcohol and substance abuse, and links to the A&M System sanctions and criminal sanctions.

The Employee Services Department provides all budgeted faculty and staff with free and confidential access to the Employee Assistance Program. The EAP is a university sponsored program that provides free and confidential assessments, short-term counseling, referrals, prevention and education services to employees and their dependents. The EAP also hosts a website with resources and assessment tools. EAP provides monthly newsletters and hosts training sessions about creating healthy work-life balance.

The Employee Services Department provides guidance and direction in the application of all state and federal laws pertaining to substance abuse in the workplace. When abuse of alcohol or drugs is suspected in the workplace, Employee Services works with supervisors in determining effective action. Where an employee rejects mandatory alcohol and drug treatment or fails to meet the terms of applicable disciplinary sanctions, disciplinary measures including termination may result.

Employee Services reported no mandatory referrals in 2012-2016 and no voluntary utilization of the Employee Assistance Program in 2015-2016. Note: The Employee Assistance Program began in July 2014.

Sanction Enforcement Tarleton Police Department

An annual review is conducted in order to:

- Determine the number of drug and alcohol-related violations and fatalities that occur on the campus or as part of any institution’s activities.

- Determine the number and type of sanctions that are imposed by the institution as a result of drug and alcohol-related violations and fatalities on the institution campus or institutions activities.
- Ensure that the sanctions are consistently enforced.

The following chart shows statistical data collected on drug and alcohol arrests and disciplinary actions as reported in Tarleton’s Annual Security Report.

Tarleton State University Drug & Alcohol Abuse Violation Totals					
Offense	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Liquor Law Arrests	16	65	14	16	11
Liquor Law Disciplinary Actions	26	29	62	142	106
Drug Law Arrests	5	12	16	22	23
Drug Law Disciplinary Actions	4	2	12	12	28
Totals	51	108	104	192	168
* Data provided by the Tarleton UPD Source: The Annual Security Report; Clery does not track PI or DWI arrest, this count is limited to Clery counting standards.					

The university has strived to change the philosophy of how liquor violations and referrals are processed in an effort to build the character of our student community. Even though the total arrests have decreased over the past reporting year, the referrals have increased.

Office of Student Judicial Affairs

Any violation of state or federal law or the Code of Student Conduct pertaining to controlled substances which occurs on or off campus may result in disciplinary action. The university addresses incidents where the continued presence of the student on campus is likely to have an adverse effect to the university community and/or the pursuit of its educational objectives. University disciplinary proceedings will comply with the procedures outlined in the Student Rules: Student Code of Conduct. The university may take action as a result of alleged violation regardless, and in addition to any action taken by civil authorities.

- Alcohol incidents each year account for approximately 50% of the total number of conduct violations seen by the Office of Student Judicial Affairs (OSJA).

- The alcohol violation types include: – On campus policy violation (in Resident Hall), Minor in Possession, Minor in Consumption, Public Intoxication, Driving While Intoxicated, Driving Under the Influence, and Contributing/Furnishing/Making Alcohol available to minors. Over 70% of these violations are on-campus policy violations (in Resident Halls).
- Incidents of misconduct involving alcohol are most prevalent during the beginning of each semester, with the fall semester having the largest number. This is a result of students being away from home for the first time, students reconnecting with old friends, and the excitement of being back in school. The spring semester usually has fewer incidents because the students have received their first set of semester grades and realized that partying and studying don't mix, or, they are trying to get off of academic probation.
- Incidents of illegal drugs, controlled substances and paraphernalia violations have begun to happen more frequent with the passing of allowable personal use, in some states. The OSJA office has embraced a developmental approach to sanctioning students, which addresses the future or long-range consequences and the unintended effects of their behavior, such as future careers, familial relationships, and goals.
- The sanctions are usually two-fold - a punitive sanction such as probation (most common conduct probation), and an educational sanction (most common is requiring the student to read a book about decision making and effects of our choices) which requires critical thinking, and perspective expansion. The written assignments involve answering questions that provoke something beyond the rhetorical answers, and the answers are to be incorporated in the summary written.
- Each educational assignment is selected based on the interactions during the conduct meeting and the misconduct found responsible for.

Student Athletes

Statement of Purpose

The Drug Education and Testing Program at Tarleton is separate and distinct from the NCAA program.

Drug education along with drug testing deters drug use and/or abuse. Mandatory drug education for student-athletes, athletic training students, student managers, cheerleaders, coaches, and athletic administrators is required. Students are more likely to actively participate in educational activities if coaches and athletic administrators participate as well. Drug education activities will include information from the NCAA, National Center for Drug Free Sport, and educational sessions over varied topics.

Individuals Subject To This Policy

All individuals (including student-athletes, athletic training students, student managers, student coaches, and cheerleaders) who participate in intercollegiate athletics will be in compliance with this policy and are subject to drug testing. Compliance is required regardless of any athletic financial assistance. Any individual participating in intercollegiate athletics may refuse drug testing. However, refusal to consent to be tested will result in denial or forfeiture of participation in

intercollegiate athletics at Tarleton. The denial or forfeiture will also include any athletic financial assistance provided to the student-athlete by Tarleton.

Each student-athlete must read and sign the drug testing consent statement. If a student-athlete is a minor (under the age of 18), his/her parents or legal guardians will be notified of the drug testing procedures and be provided with a copy of the drug testing policy and procedures. Parents or legal guardians must read and sign a drug testing consent statement, giving the Athletics Department permission to drug test their son/daughter. The statement must be returned to the athletics compliance officer before testing is performed. The penalty for not completing this form prior to a scheduled drug test is the same as the penalty for testing positive.

Alcohol

Tarleton does not condone the use of alcohol by its student-athletes. Arrests for MIP (minor in possession), DUI (driving under the influence), DWI (driving while intoxicated), PI (public intoxication) or Contributing to a Minor will not be tolerated. Any student-athlete arrested for any alcohol-related offense is suspended from practice and competition until reinstated by the Director of Athletics. This suspension will remain in effect until all charges have been cleared.

Employees

Employees who violate The Texas A&M University System substance abuse policy and regulation are subject to discipline up to and including termination. If not terminated, employees in violation of the policy or regulation may be asked to sign a Job in Jeopardy Agreement which requires participation and completion of a substance abuse program. Failure to successfully complete the program may result in immediate dismissal.

Summary of Alcohol and Other Drug Program Strengths and Weaknesses

Student Life

Tarleton State University received feedback from an assessment through EverFi in September, 2014 and scored poorly in all areas, including programming, policies, critical processes, and institutionalization, with the highest score being a “D+.” Since that report, the university has taken steps to improve our prevention efforts. Efforts from the 2015 calendar year include:

- Hiring a full-time Coordinator for Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention in the spring of 2015. Two graduate assistants provide additional support.
- The SAVP office, in collaboration with the Student Counseling Center and Student Life Marketing and Communications office launched a social norming campaign in the spring of 2015 using data from NCHA and Campus Clarity
- SAVP began strategically abandoning programming efforts with little to no efficacy including invited speakers and the use of goggles and cycles as an intervention.

- SAVP began planning and implementing outreach that includes information about standard drinks, the signs & symptoms of alcohol poisoning, and safe-ride options; screenings and brief interventions; and small-group brief interventions tailored to Greek Life.
- Judicial Affairs, The Student Counseling Center, and SAVP staff collaborated to implement a Medical Amnesty policy and to promote awareness of alcohol poisoning signs and symptoms through the use of social marketing.
- The Student Counseling Center and Judicial Affairs abandoned previous sanction practices with little efficacy and implemented the use of a theory-based class for students receiving an alcohol sanction.

Employee Services

The Department of Employee Services has a number of strengths involving the provision of informational sources for employees with regard to specific communication channels. The brochure, “Prevention of Alcohol Abuse and Illicit Drug Use” is distributed to all employees initially upon hire via the employment packet, covered in new hire orientation and distributed annually thereafter. The document defines alcohol, alcohol abuse, controlled substances, and illicit drugs. The document also describes the health risks associated with alcohol and substance abuse along with an explanation of sanctions for violations of university policy and/or criminal statutes. Tarleton Rule [34.02.01.T1 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention](#), provides guidance to employees addicted to alcohol or drugs.

Improvement opportunity: A Worksite Wellness website has been created for university personnel; however, additional information on alcohol and drug abuse and links to related resources remains to be added to the website due to minimal staff resources.

Program Assessment

During summer 2013, Alcohol, Other Drug, and Violence Prevention programs moved from the Recreational Sports Department to the Student Counseling Center. The Program has significantly expanded training regarding sexual assault prevention/response, and is currently undergoing a thorough re-evaluation of programs. The first step in the re-evaluation is the completion of the Alcohol Diagnostic Interview, which will provide a detailed report regarding the strengths and weaknesses of current programs. The report will be used to critically evaluate all current programming and to develop a strategic plan for future programs.

Distribution of Information to Students and Employees

Annual Notification

Faculty, staff, and students are made aware of Tarleton’s alcohol and drug abuse education and prevention programs and additional resource information via annual email notifications which are sent each year to all students, staff, and faculty. Resource information includes the following:

Texas A&M University System Policy and Regulations:

[34.02](#) Policy and Regulation [34.02.01](#), “Drug and Alcohol Abuse and Rehabilitation Programs”

[34.03](#) Alcoholic Beverages <http://www.tamus.edu/offices/policy/policies/>

Tarleton Rule [34.02.01.T1 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention](#)

Texans and Alcohol “A Guide to Responsible Decision Making.” Brochure provided by the Tarleton Police Department:

<http://www.tarleton.edu/police/documents/brochures/texansandalcohol.pdf>

“Prevention of Alcohol Abuse and Illicit Drug Use.” Brochure provided by Employee Services Department.

Student-Athlete General Assembly

Tarleton Student-Athlete Handbook distributed; provides information concerning the drug education and testing program.

[NCAA Banned Drugs List](#)

Texas State Drug and Alcohol Laws:

[Alcoholic Beverage Code Title 4](#)

Regulatory and Penal Provisions; Chapter 101, General Criminal Provision Alcoholic Beverage Code Chapter 106, Provisions Relating to Age

[Health & Safety Code Subtitle C. Substance Abuse Regulation and Crimes Chapter 481, Texas Controlled Substances Act](#)

Recommendations

- DFSCA Working Group will look at new ways to distribute alcohol and drug abuse prevention information and notifications in order to increase the likelihood that students and employees will read the information. Consideration should be given to internet platforms such as Twitter, Facebook or other social media forums.
- Evaluate the success of CampusClarity to determine if the program has significantly impacted student behavior.
- Continue to apply recommendations offered by EverFi regarding alcohol policies on campus (based on the results from the Alcohol Diagnostic Inventory).
- Enhance opportunities for educating Tarleton employees about the dangers of drugs and alcohol via the Employee Services Department website, the Worksite Wellness Website, and various health-based and insurance providers.
- Enhance student leadership in the education/participation of all students regarding drug and alcohol abuse.

Bibliography

Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education, (2009), CAS Self-assessment guide for alcohol, tobacco, and other drug programs. Washington, DC.

Faden, V.B. & Baskin, M.L. (2007), Evaluation of college alcohol policies: An evaluation of college online alcohol policy information. National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Retrieved from <https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov>

National College Health Assessment (NCHA) - Online data collection survey regarding use of alcohol, other drugs and other health/wellness issues affecting students nationwide. <http://www.achacha.org/>