

# **POINT PARK UNIVERSITY**

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 Biennial

Review

Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Policies and Education Programs

2022 - 2024

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## INTRODUCTION

Point Park is a dynamic, urban university with a strong liberal arts tradition. Located in the heart of Downtown Pittsburgh, Point Park enrolls more than 4,000 full- and part-time students in 77 undergraduate programs, 17 master's programs and three doctoral programs offered through its School of Arts and Sciences, Rowland School of Business, School of Education, School of Communication, Conservatory of Performing Arts and Community Engagement. Its students represent 49 states and 33 countries.

Point Park University is committed to the well-being of all community members. Students, staff, and faculty have access to a variety of wellness resources. Within Student Affairs, a few departments focused on overall wellness of the campus community are Student Life, Student Development, the Student Health Center, and the University Counseling Center. Additionally, the Office of Compliance and Integrity provides wellness resources to the community.

The Office of Student Conduct leads the Alcohol & Other Drug Education initiative, assisting students in learning about the many aspects of alcohol and other drug consumption. A programmatic approach is taken as to reach the campus community-at-large to educate on the dangers of alcohol abuse and drug use. In lieu of events in which students may not be able to attend, the Office of Student Conduct distributes print campaigns throughout the campus specific to dangers of drinking, the alcohol and drug policies, and more. The University Counseling Center and Student Health Center are available to students for clinical and referral services.

## DESCRIPTION OF AOD PROGRAMS, ELEMENTS, & ASSESSMENT

### Alcohol-Free Options

#### Pioneer Pub

Pioneer Pub is an event held on Point Park University's campus during the first week of classes. Its purpose is to raise awareness about dangerous drinking behaviors, what to do if a friend needs help, and Point Park University's alcohol policies. Pioneer Pub also involves a mock bar and peer educator bartenders who give out different flavors of craft soda to students as a drinking alternative. Trivia units were used to quiz students on alcohol and drugs, university policies, sexual violence, and Pittsburgh-based trivia. The trivia units were utilized so students could join as teams, compete against other students, and earn points to their overall score.

#### Mocktail Mix-Off

An interactive event designed around fun alternatives to alcohol. Mocktail Mix-Off taps into students' creativity and competitive nature with teams of students facing off against other in pursuit of creating the tastiest mocktail while learning about dangers of high-risk drinking through informational elements throughout. The goal of this program is to reduce high-risk drinking, promote responsible drinking, and reduce underage drinking.

#### Finals De-Stress Event (Fall and Spring)

An alternative drinking event during a stressful time like finals week when students have a higher likelihood of making destructive decisions including turning to alcohol as a form of stress relief. The event includes food, non-alcoholic drinks, stress-relieving activities including art therapy, counseling center support, yoga exercises, breathing exercises, and a time management workshop. Massage therapists are a key element of the event to educate students about an alternative form of stress relief and provide immediate support through on-site tension relief. By decreasing immediate stress levels in students and educating/reminding students about the dangers of excessive and underage drinking, we anticipate decreasing dangerous alcohol behaviors during these high-stress times.

#### St. Patrick's Day Breakfast

Co-Sponsoring the event with Campus Activities Board, this event is hosted on the Saturday of the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade. With a large St. Patrick's Day parade, many students actively participate in events in and around campus; often this can lead to underage and/or excessive drinking. This event utilizes food to engage students before they head out for the holiday and to grab their attention while doing so, providing immediate education about dangerous drinking behaviors on a high-risk day, standard drink sizes, bystander interventions, and what to do in case of an alcohol emergency.

## **Alcohol Availability**

All events hosted by the Office of Student Conduct do not provide alcoholic beverages to students. Instead, all events provide alternative drinks such as mocktails, soda, and water to students.

*Please see AGO Policies for a comprehensive list of Point Park University's Alcohol and Drug policies which limit the alcohol availability on campus.*

## **Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol**

Point Park University does not permit the promotion of bars, restaurants, and liquor stores which use aggressive promotions of alcohol to target underage students and other college drinkers.

## **Policy Development and Enforcement**

### Marijuana Print Campaign

Educational paper flyers and door hangers were used to inform students about the marijuana policies established at Point Park.

### Health and Wellness Fair

D.W.Eye Goggles were used to simulate the visual effects of being intoxicated. Using these for the event is a great way to encourage students to stop by the table, engage them while visiting, and entice them to take informational marketing with them upon leaving.

The goggles were the main attraction for the table. Pamphlets from the Office of Student Conduct with information on the Student Conduct process, the Appeals process, BAG charts, Red Solo Cup measurements, Marijuana policies at the school, alcohol statistics, and much more were provided to students.

### Alcohol Print Campaign

The goal with this campaign is to educate students more on our alcohol policy here at Point Park. Additionally, the Office of Student Conduct wanted to educate students on the lingo, definitions of the policies, sanctions, charges, and more. Knowing what can happen is a great way to prevent an alcohol violation from happening in the first place.

## **ANNUAL AOD NOTIFICATION DISTRIBUTION**

In the fall semesters students were notified of the Student Conduct Code policies about alcohol and other drugs through the Dean of Student's yearly Student Handbook announcement.

Employees were notified of the University's alcohol and drug program via the staff and faculty handbooks upon their employment and via the University's Annual Security Report, which employees receive via email annually from the Chief of Police.

All policies related to alcohol and other drug use are available on the University's website for the respective groups to access as appropriate.

## **ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG POLICIES**

Point Park University's policies regarding Alcohol and Other Drug use are included below in the following links and appendix. Links are included for information that is on our website, but some information may only be accessible on the University's intranet. Information that isn't publicly available is stored on the intranet and can be viewed below in the appendix.

### **Student Handbook**

- Alcohol and Other Drugs pg. 53
- University Alcohol Policy pg. 53
- University Drug Policy pg. 54

### **Student Athlete Handbook**

- Inside Athletics > Student Athlete Handbook
  - Drug & Alcohol Policy pg. 12

### **Annual Security Report**

- Policy on Alcoholic Beverages pg. 19
- PA/Federal Laws pg. 19
- Policy on Illegal Drugs pg. 20
- Drug-Free Workplace Policy pg. 20

### **Appendix A - Administrative and Staff Handbook and Policies**

## AOD RECOMMENDATION

Based on the Program Elements and Assessment, the Office of Student Conduct is offering a few recommendations regarding the Alcohol and Drug Education program:

- Expanding on the Alcohol Print Campaigns and Marijuana Print Campaigns will be beneficial for the Point Park Community. Adding variety to the marketing of the campaigns will allow the community to see a fresh perspective regarding alcohol and marijuana.
- Appropriate budgeting of events to ensure food and beverages are available during the duration of the event and overspending does not occur which creates waste
- Development of newer events to bring more interaction between students and staff to educate students on the risks associated with alcohol and other drugs.
- Collaboration with campus departments to increase alcohol and other drug awareness for students, staff, and faculty.
- Evaluating the efficacy of Alcohol and Other Drug programming and removing programs and events that do not have appropriate intended outcomes in order to preserve budgets and focus on creating events that interest students and offer maximum educational outcomes.



## APPENDIX A - ADMINISTRATIVE & STAFF HANDBOOK & POLICIES

### 4.5 Drug Free Workplace

The University abides by the provisions of the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988. Point Park University prohibits the illicit manufacture, distribution, dispensation, sale, attempted sale, purchase, attempted purchase, conveyance, transfer, cultivation, possession, or use of a controlled substance as listed in Schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 812) on all properties of Point Park University. All employees are hereby notified that the unlawful and/or unauthorized manufacture, distribution, dispensing, processing or use of a controlled substance, paraphernalia, alcohol, or any combination thereof, is prohibited in the workplace. The illicit use of drugs includes new designer drugs and drugs not yet classified as illegal under the federal Controlled Substance Act and drugs lawfully obtained, but not by employee, or not used as prescribed. The workplace is defined as all areas on company property, including company vehicles and private vehicles parked on the premises, and while engaged in work activities in any capacity, including travel, while conducting company business.

Violations of such prohibitions on university premises or off-campus while conducting University business may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Employees are prohibited from abusing prescription drugs or possessing prescription drugs that have not been prescribed for the employee by a physician. Employees using prescription drugs according to a physician's instructions or using over-the-counter drugs for medicinal purposes should, in the event such drugs would impair their physical, mental, emotional, or other faculties, notify their supervisor.

Entry onto the premises or being at work with any of the above mentioned, or under the influence, will be grounds for immediate dismissal. Under the influence is defined as being unable to perform work in a safe and productive manner, being in a physical or mental condition that creates a risk to the safety and well-being of the individual employee, other employees, the public, Point Park University or having any detectable trace of alcohol, drugs, or a controlled substance, or a combination thereof.

Current and prospective employees who work in a high-risk or safety-sensitive position may be required to submit to drug-testing prior to employment, after a work-related accident, or when there is reason that the employee has violated the drug and alcohol prohibitions of the policy based on specific, contemporaneous, articulable observations concerning the employee, including but not limited to, the employee's appearance, behavior, speech or body odors, and may include indications of the chronic and withdrawal effects of drugs. Point Park University also reserves the right to conduct drug and alcohol testing for already existing employees. Drug testing may occur on either a random testing or probable cause basis. The employer reserves the right to make such a decision on a case-by-case basis. Refusing to cooperate may be cause for disciplinary action including termination. Refusal to submit to pre-hire testing or a positive test result will disqualify the applicant from employment.

Where reasonable suspicion exists that the employee is under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol, or the employee is "involved" in an on-the-job accident, or violation of a safety rule, or exhibiting behavior indicating such, the employer reserves the right to test employees for the presence of drugs and/or alcohol. "Involved" in an on-the-job accident or injury means not only the one who was injured, but also anyone who arguably or potentially contributed to the accident or injury event in any way, i.e., the person suspected of causing someone else to get hurt gets tested as well. A refusal to take such a test is grounds for immediate discharge.

Under the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, employees are required to abide by the policies and statements set forth by Point Park University related to a drug-free atmosphere in the workplace.