



University of Colorado
Anschutz Medical Campus

BIENNIAL REVIEW
DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS & COMMUNITIES ACT

OCTOBER 2021

INTRODUCTION

DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires institutions of higher education who receive federal funding to conduct a Biennial Review of all alcohol and drug (AOD) prevention efforts. If audited, failure to comply with the DFSCA may result in fines for the university or loss of federal funding.

In order to be compliant, institutions of higher education must provide programming around prevention, unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol or drugs to all students and employees on campus and related activities. The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (CU Anschutz) is committed to upholding these requirements by completing the following:

1. Have written policies on AOD
2. Distribute policies to all students and employees of the institution each year
3. Conduct a biennial review on the effectiveness of AOD efforts and programs
4. Maintain its biennial review report on file to submit to the U.S. Department of Education when requested.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES ACT

The 2021 Biennial Review of the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus' policies, programs, and assessments relating to AOD was conducted in October of 2021. The objectives of the review as identified by the U.S. Department of Education include:

1. Determining the effectiveness of and implementing any needed changes to alcohol and other drug programs, and
2. Ensuring that the disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct are enforced consistently.

The written Biennial Review is available to anyone who asks for a copy and is posted online (site). Although federal law requires the Biennial Review and institutions must retain it in their files, it is not reported to any federal or state agency, unless requested through an audit conducted by the Higher Education Center.

ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS POLICIES/PROGRAM GOALS

The goals of University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus' AOD policies and programs are to:

1. Establish an environment free from substance use/abuse
2. Educate the campus community for the purpose of preventing alcohol and other drug use/abuse
3. Ensure a level of care for substance abusers through counseling, treatment and/or referral.

AOD POLICIES AND DISTRIBUTION

The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus schools and college provide AOD policies, information and resources through links on their websites; students are informed in-person of the AOD policies during their orientations; and they are provided handbooks with the policies included. New staff and faculty are informed about the policies at their respective orientations. All students, faculty and staff receive e-mails regarding AOD policies including links to information and resources.

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Policies:

University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Alcohol and Drug Policies:

<https://catalog.ucdenver.edu/cu-anschutz/university-policies/university-policies.pdf>

Alcohol Service

The purpose of this policy is to set forth the policy and process regarding serving or selling alcohol on University Property or at University Events.

https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider284/default-document-library/3000-general-admission/3050---alcohol-service.pdf?sfvrsn=a99f3ba_2

Alcoholic Beverages Purchased for University Events

This policy sets forth parameters for using university funds to purchase alcoholic beverages for personal consumption at university events. For guidance regarding sales, service, or consumption of alcoholic beverages, organizational units should consult relevant risk management and campus policies.

<https://www.cu.edu/sites/default/files/4018.pdf>

Annual Security & Fire Safety Report

This report is designed to inform students, faculty, staff and other interested campus community members about policies (Clery Act page 5, Drug & Alcohol pages 82-95), procedures and programs that CU Anschutz uses to keep the campus safe and our facilities secure. This report includes Alcohol and Drug Policy (page 59)

[2020-cu-anschutz-annual-security-report.pdf \(cuanschutz.edu\)](https://www.cu-anschutz.edu/2020-cu-anschutz-annual-security-report.pdf)

Annual Notification of the Drug Free Schools and Community Act

[4003---drug-and-alcohol-information-2017-drug-free-schools-report-cu-denver-6.pdf](https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/default-source/wellnesscenter-documents/drugfreenotification/4003---drug-and-alcohol-information-2017-drug-free-schools-report-cu-denver-6.pdf) (ucdenver.edu)

Campus Drug and Alcohol Information

<https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/default-source/wellnesscenter-documents/drugfreenotification>

Financial Aid Eligibility Policies

The purpose of these policies is to outline the eligibility criteria for receiving financial aid.

[FAQ \(cuanschutz.edu\)](https://www.cuanschutz.edu/faq)

Smoke Free and Tobacco Free Policy:

In order to promote health and wellness within the University community, it is the policy of CU Denver | CU Anschutz (“the university”) that smoking or tobacco use of any kind is prohibited on any property or in any facilities at CU Anschutz and in any owned, leased, or occupied buildings on CU Denver. This policy is consistent with policies already in place for neighboring affiliates at both campuses, including University of Colorado Hospital, Children’s Hospital Colorado and the Auraria Higher Education 2 Center. All persons on CU Anschutz are prohibited from smoking products including, but not limited to, cigars, cigarettes, pipes or any device (e.g. e-cigarettes) or material which is lighted or inhaled. Smokeless tobacco products such as chewing tobacco or snuff are also prohibited. Smoking for the purpose of this policy shall include the use of e-cigarettes, electronic vaping devices, personal vaporizers, electronic nicotine delivery systems or such devices which vaporize substances to simulate smoking.

https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider284/default-document-library/3000-general-admission/3059---smoke-free-and-tobacco-free-environment.pdf?sfvrsn=869cf3ba_2

Policies within Schools/Colleges/Programs:

In addition to these campus wide policies, students in the following schools/college on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus must adhere to their individual school or college’s professionalism/ethics or disciplinary codes/policies:

School of Dental Medicine [SDM Student Handbook 2021-2022.docx](https://www.cuanschutz.edu/sdm-student-handbook-2021-2022.docx) (cuanschutz.edu)

School of Medicine [Policies Procedures Guidelines CU School of Medicine](https://www.cuanschutz.edu/policies-procedures-guidelines-cu-school-of-medicine) (cuanschutz.edu)

College of Nursing https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider2/student-resources/student-handbooks/all-student-handbook.pdf?sfvrsn=add041b9_2

Colorado School of Public Health https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider151/default-document-library/coloradosph-honor-code.pdf?sfvrsn=5d211eb9_4

Skaggs School of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences [CU School of Pharmacy Student Policies](https://www.cuanschutz.edu/cu-school-of-pharmacy-student-policies) (cuanschutz.edu)

Graduate School: [Graduate School Resources](https://www.ucdenver.edu/graduate-school-resources) (ucdenver.edu)

VIOLATIONS RECORDED

The following data summarizes violations that occurred on property of the CU Anschutz campus and may involve community members that are not connected to the University. The following table represents violations data for the previous two academic years:

| TYP OF VIOLATION | TOTAL VIOLATIONS 08/01/2019-07/31/2020 | TOTAL VIOLATIONS 08/01/2020-07/31/2021 |
|---|--|--|
| ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS | | |
| Consuming on campus grounds | 0 | 0 |
| Possess Liquor Glass Container Park | 0 | |
| Possession or Consumption of Alc by Underage Person | 0 | |
| Possession/Consumption Open Alcoholic Container | 2 | 2 |
| Protective Custody – Detox Placement | 3 | 6 |
| Public Place Open Container | 0 | 0 |
| Unlawful Act – Provide Alcohol to Person Underage | 0 | 0 |
| | | |
| CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE VIOLATIONS | | |
| Abusing Toxic Vapors | 0 | 0 |
| Consumption Publicly 2 oz or less Marijuana | 1 | 0 |
| Drug Paraphernalia General | 1 | 0 |
| Fraud, Deceit, Forged Prescription | 0 | 0 |
| Marijuana Offenses | 0 | 0 |
| Marijuana Possession Felony | 0 | 0 |
| Marijuana Sell Felony | 0 | 0 |
| Marijuana Possession 2 oz or Less Under 21 Years of Age | 0 | 0 |
| Possession Druga Paraphernalia Marijuana | 5 | 7 |
| Unlawful Distribution/Possession/Manufacture or Sale of Controlled Sub: | 0 | 1 |
| Unlawful Possession of Meth Materials: 0 | 0 | |
| Unlawful Use of a Controlled Substance: 0 | 0 | |
| Drugs Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance: 4 | 4 | |
| | | |
| TRAFFIC RELATED OFFENSES | | |
| DUIs | 14 | |
| Open Alcoholic Container | 8 | 4 |
| Open Marijuana Container | 0 | 1 |

PROGRAMS ADDRESSING AOD USE AND ABUSE

Alcohol and Drug education and prevention education are in development at Anschutz Medical Campus as campus wide programs, through the Office of Student Affairs and Student Health Promotion. Currently, each school or college addresses these issues differently via orientation programs, licensing requirement, course work, community-based referral programs (such as the Colorado State Employee Assistance Program, the Colorado Physician Health Program) and the Faculty and Staff Threat Assessment and Response Team.

The following programs are available for campus support:

YOU@CUAnschutz

A digital well-being portal for containing tools, content and resources designed to improve overall wellness. YOU@CUAnschutz has been customized specifically for CU Anschutz Medical Campus students, faculty and staff, and can connect them with resources and hundreds of pieces of content covering holistic health and wellbeing, AOD content included. The portal also includes self-assessments that include AOD questions and provides feedback and resources based upon the answers to these questions.

FindHelpNow

Released Fall 2021, this tool provides campus community members with **crisis navigation tool** that helps students, faculty, and staff connect to the right help in moments of need. This tool is available online and differs from the SafeZone app, which alerts campus police for in-person crises or emergencies. The tool essentially acts as a data base of information about campus and community resources regarding support services and matches this information to the users need. FindHelpNow is completely anonymous, never collecting identifying information, and free for the entire campus community to use.

Case Management

At CU Anschutz, we promote a “Culture of Care” for individuals and the campus community. Through intentional collaboration with the schools and colleges, we work to ensure that our students are connected to the appropriate resources to meet their goals and develop new skills in navigating challenging experiences.

Student Mental Health Services (SMHS)

Available to all CU Anschutz Students, Residents, and Fellows, SMHS provides comprehensive and confidential mental health services for all students enrolled in the schools located at the Anschutz Medical Campus as well as GME residents and fellows. Initial appointments are scheduled quickly, often within the same week. Options for ongoing care include receiving treatment from the CU Anschutz Student and Resident Mental Health clinicians, the University of Colorado Outpatient Psychiatry Clinic, and a community network of providers, depending on insurance coverage.

Collegiate Recovery Community: Resiliency & Recovery Group

The Office of Student Health Promotion responded to data from a 2019 student survey indicating that approximately 70% of responses indicated that they would like to meet other students in recovery, and 97% of students indicated that they believe our campus would benefit from a supportive recovery community. After completing a SAFE Project Collegiate Recovery Summer Series to outline a plan of implementation of a student recovery initiative, student leaders were identified to lead the facilitation of the bi-weekly group. The group began holding meetings at the beginning of Fall 2021.

WeCU Peer Coaching Program

While not specific to drug and alcohol support, the Peer Coaching Program is a peer-to-peer support, designed to assist students in making positive life changes in promoting overall well-being. The service is free to students and is currently offered virtually.

Employee Assistance Program - The Real Help Hotline

The Real Help Hotline gives employees access to professional counselors who can offer assistance finding local resources or provide immediate crisis counseling. It's a free and confidential service and is available 24/7.

School/College/Program Specific Support

Additionally, clinical schools/college at CU Anschutz work with both the Colorado Physician Health Program (diagnostic evaluation, treatment referral as well as treatment monitoring and support services) and the Peer Assistance Services (prevention and intervention services focused on substance use and related issues) as needed for students identified with AOD issues.

Campus Data: SPRING 2021 NATIONAL COLLEGE HEALTH ASSESSMENT DATA

CU Anschutz conducts the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment in order to understand student health behaviors. Based upon the responses received, the data are used in determining program development and outreach targeted to our student population.

The NCHA was conducted March of 2021 to 674 students of University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. This was a participation rate of 15.32%. The following is drug and alcohol related data and compared to the Graduate/Professional Student national average report of participating colleges and universities.

| | Anschutz 2021 | National 2021 | Anschutz/National Difference |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Alcohol Use Negatively Impacted Academic Performance in Past 12 Months | 1.8 | 1.5 | 0.3 |
| Cannabis/Marijuana Use Negatively Impacted Academic Performance in Past 12 Months | 0.6 | 0.8 | -0.2 |

| Last 3 Month Use: | Anschutz 2021 | National 2021 | Difference |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Tobacco/Nicotine Delivery Products | 9.5 | 13.1 | -3.6 |
| Alcoholic Beverages | 84 | 75.2 | 8.8 |
| Cannabis | 25.7 | 25.3 | 0.4 |
| Cocaine | 1.6 | 2.1 | -0.5 |
| Nonmedical Prescription Stimulants | 2.4 | 2.2 | 0.2 |
| Methamphetamine | 0 | 0.1 | -0.1 |
| Inhalants | 0.7 | 1 | -0.3 |
| Nonmedical Sedatives or Sleeping Pills | 1.8 | 1.9 | -0.1 |
| Hallucinogens | 2.7 | 3.2 | -0.5 |
| Heroin | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nonmedical Prescription Opioids | 0.3 | 0.5 | -0.2 |
| | | | |
| | Anschutz 2021 | National 2021 | Difference |
| High Risk Use of Alcoholic Beverages | 0.6 | 1 | -0.4 |
| High Risk Use of Cannabis (Nonmedical Use) | 0.4 | 0.5 | -0.1 |
| | | | |
| Misusing Prescription Medications in Past 3 Months | Anschutz 2021 | National 2021 | Difference |
| Prescription Stimulants | 1.6 | 1.5 | 0.1 |
| Prescription Sedatives or Sleeping Pills | 1.2 | 1.2 | 0 |
| Prescription Opioids | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0 |
| | | | |
| In the last 30 days, Driving after: | Anschutz 2021 | National 2021 | Difference |
| Having any alcohol | 20.1 | 17.3 | 2.8 |
| Within 6 hours of using cannabis | 20.7 | 25 | -4.3 |
| | | | |
| | Anschutz 2021 | National 2021 | Difference |
| Average Estimated Blood Alcohol Concentration | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0 |
| Average Number of Drinks Consumed in Last Social Setting | 2.3 | 2.5 | -0.2 |

Data Summary:

Overall, our campus data aligns closely to averages of other graduate/professional schools that participated in the NCHA. While alcohol use is prevalent, the average age of our students as of Fall 2021 is 29.1, well above the legal drinking age. Alcohol consumption numbers are slightly higher than the national average, but quantity and high-risk drinking behaviors are lower, with the exception of driving after having any alcohol. Generally, drug use data is consistently less than the national averages. Cannabis use is slightly higher (0.4%), but the data again supports moderate use and decreased high-risk concerns.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Program Recommendations:

1. Continue to develop collaboration with campus partners to provide education, outreach and resources that meet the needs of our unique population. This will be achieved by further developing resources for students on the YOU@CUAnschutz Portal, FindHelpNow, developing information for students during orientations, and within the Student Affairs website and resources.
2. Continue to develop our Campus Recovery Community. Goals include updating resources and supports for our students in recovery, collaborating with campus and community partners, and assessing this population to better understand their needs

Data Recommendations:

3. Improve processes of data collection, campus notifications, and timelines to align with the existing reporting of University of Police reporting. To accomplish this, the Director of Student Health Promotion and the Clery Compliance Manager will meet to discuss an on-going calendar and defining the needs of data to collect.

Policy and Review Recommendations:

4. Define the roles and timelines of campus annual notification processes
5. Engage more campus community members in future reviews to include diverse perspectives. Targeted community members to involve include: student(s), representative from legal, student and resident mental health staff,