

# **MONTCLAIR STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Biennial Review of Montclair State University's  
Alcohol and Other Drug Programs  
Academic Years 2022-2024**

**July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023**

**July 1, 2023- June 30, 2024**

Marie Cascarano, Ed.D, MCHES (Chair)  
Assistant Director of Health Promotion

Charlene Berry  
ADAPT, Prevention Specialist, Family Connections

David Bryngil  
Associate Director of Campus Recreation & Health Promotion

Khabir Williams, LCSW, LCADC  
Coordinator Alcohol and Other Drugs/ Staff Clinician

Office of Health Promotion  
Completed and filed on Dec 11, 2024

**Montclair State University  
Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations [EDGAR Part 86]  
Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Certification**

The undersigned certifies that it has adopted and implemented an alcohol and other drug prevention program for its students and employees that, at a minimum, includes –

**1. The annual distribution to each employee, and to each student who is taking one or more classes of any kind of academic credit except for continuing education units, regardless of the length of the student's program of study, of:**

Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities

- A description of the applicable legal sanctions under local, State, or Federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol
- A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol
- A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment or rehabilitation or re-entry programs that are available to employees or students
- A clear statement that the institution will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees (consistent with State and Federal law), and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct. A disciplinary sanction may include the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program.

**2. A biennial review by the institution of its alcohol and other drug prevention comprehensive program to:**

- Determine its effectiveness and implement changes to its comprehensive alcohol and other drug prevention program and policies, if they are needed.
- Ensure that its disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

Montclair State University  
1 Normal Avenue  
Montclair, NJ 07043

IRS Employer Identification Number: 22-2912682

Signature:   
President Jonathan Koppell  
koppellj@montclair.edu  
973-655-4212

Date: 8/13/24

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## **Introduction**

The Drug-Free Schools and Campus Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) require that institutions of higher learning (IHE) such as Montclair State University adopt, implement, and evaluate programs to prevent the misuse or abuse of alcohol and use or distribution of illicit drugs both by university students and employees both on its premises and as a part of any of its activities. At a minimum, each institution of higher education must annually distribute the following in writing to all students and employees:

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.
- A description of the legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol.
- A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs that are available to employees or students.
- A clear statement that the institution will impose sanctions on students and employees and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct.

The law further requires that the institution conduct a biennial review of its program with the following objectives: (1) determining the effectiveness of the policy and implementing changes to the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) program if they are needed; and (2) to ensure that the sanctions developed are enforced consistently.

The biennial review must also include a determination as to: (1) the number of drug- and alcohol-related violations and fatalities occurring on the campus, or as part of their activities that are reported to campus officials; and (2) the number and type of sanctions the IHEs impose on students or employees as a result of such violations or fatalities.

Montclair State University acknowledges its legal obligation to conduct a biennial review of compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. The intention of this document is to comply with the legal requirements as set forth by the DFSCA and to discuss prevention and education related programs, initiatives and activities related to Montclair State University's Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Project during the 2022-2023 (July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023) and 2023-2024 (July 1, 2023- June 30 2024) academic years.

## **Biennial Review Process**

Dr. Marie Cascarano, Health Promotion Assistant Director, formed a committee to participate in the review process. The members of the review committee include:

- Charlene Berry, ADAPT, Prevention Specialist, Family Connections
- David Bryngil, Associate Director of Campus Recreation
- Khabir Williams LSCW, LCADC, Staff Clinician, Coordinator of Alcohol and Other Drug Program

The following campus departments and offices provided information for this report:

- Auxiliary Services
- Office of Health Promotion
- Counseling and Psychological Services
- Department of Campus Recreation
- Office of Student Conduct
- The Division of Student Development and Campus Life
- University Police Department
- University Health Center
- Human Resources
- Athletics

The following documents and programs were considered when compiling the biennial review.

- Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Other Drugs meeting minutes
- Office of Health Promotion Annual Reports
- ACHA-NCHA II data (Spring 2022)
- Campus Recreation Annual Reports
- CSI Annual Reports
- CAPS Annual Reports
- Student Conduct Data
- Student Handbook- University Policies
- Clery Act information
- Alcohol Permit Requests

## **Montclair State University Biennial Review Policies and Procedures**

**Policy:** The Drug-Free Schools and Campus Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) require that each participating institution of higher learning (IHE) certify that it has developed and implemented a drug and alcohol abuse education and prevention program. The program must be designed to prevent the unlawful possession, use, and distribution of drugs and alcohol on campus at recognized events and activities.

**Procedure:** The areas responsible for Montclair State University's Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program are the Office of Health Promotion, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) and the Office of the Dean of Students. These areas will work collaboratively and closely with campus departments and offices to ensure compliance of The Drug-Free Schools and Campus Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA). These offices include, but are not limited to Residence Life, Campus Recreation, the Center for Student Involvement, Intercollegiate Athletics, University Police Department and the University Health Center.

**Policy:** On an annual basis, the IHE must distribute written information about its drug and alcohol abuse prevention program (DAAPP) to all students, faculty, and staff. The distribution plan must make provisions for providing the material to students who enroll at a date after the initial distribution, and for employees who are hired at different times throughout the year. The information must include:

1. A written statement about its standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees;
2. A written description of the legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
3. A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol;
4. A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or re-entry programs that are available to employees or students; and,
5. A statement that the IHE will impose sanctions on students for violations of the institution's codes of conduct and a description of such sanctions.

**Procedure:** The responsible areas will work together, along with Student Communications, on a regular basis to ensure that the policies, legal and conduct sanctions, health risks, counseling, rehabilitation and treatment options are up to date

and available on the University website. Student Communications will distribute frequent notifications to all students, faculty and staff. This information will be disseminated at the start of each new term in order to capture any newly enrolled students and employees. This includes the start of the winter session and at the start of each summer session.

**Policy:** Determining the effectiveness of the policy and implementing changes to the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) program if they are needed. Recommended evaluation methods include a) the number of students attending self-help or counseling groups that address alcohol or other drug use; b) students' attitudes and perceptions about the alcohol or other drug problems on campus; and c) levels of use of alcohol and other drugs by students.

**Procedure:** The Office of Health Promotion will continue to conduct the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment (NCHA-ACHA III) every two years. Data collected from this survey will determine students' attitudes and perceptions about the alcohol or other drug problems on campus and use of alcohol and other drugs by students. The number of students attending the campus sponsored "Recovery Room" will be logged each year, along with students who are referred to ECHO (Exploring Choices and Healthy Options).

**Policy:** Ensure that the sanctions developed are enforced consistently.

**Procedure:** Students who are held accountable for policy violations under the University Code of Conduct receive sanctions and educational stipulations that correspond to specific violations. Each University administrator who serves the University in a disciplinary role uses a Sanctioning Outcome Guide to guide the sanction(s) and stipulation(s) portion for each violation (see appendix for Sanctioning Outcome Guide). The guide was created by representatives from the Office of the Dean of Students, Student Conduct, and CAPS who determined what outcomes and stipulations would be appropriate for the given situation. In addition, regularly scheduled training is conducted with any member of staff who serves as a hearing officer for violations, including those in the Office of Dean of Students, Student Conduct and Residence Life.

**Policy:** Ensure that biennial reviews are conducted in a timely manner and fully documented.

**Procedure:** The Office of Health Promotion will continue to conduct a thorough review of the University's alcohol and other drug program every two years on even numbered years. A team will be identified by the Assistant Director for Health Promotion each biennial review year to assist with the process. The biennial review will be completed and filed by December 31 of the biennial review year.

## **Notification Process**

### **Compliance with Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act**

Montclair State University continues to work towards fulfilling all requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and maintain compliance.

Coordinated by the Office of Health Promotion, Montclair State University's Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Project is a comprehensive, evidence-informed practice designed to implement and evaluate campus and community-based strategies to prevent high-risk drinking and substance use/abuse among college students. It is a collaborative effort involving Health Promotion, Counseling and Psychological Services, the Office of Student Conduct and other campus and community partners.

### **Notifications**

During the 2022-2024 Biennial Review period, the University distributed information about its drug prevention programs and policies to all students, faculty and staff at the beginning of each new academic term including winter session and the start of each summer session.

### **Websites that address University Alcohol and Other Drug Policies**

Students, staff, faculty and guests can find Montclair State University policies on several websites:

<https://www.montclair.edu/student-services/guide/policies-and-procedures/>

<http://www.montclair.edu/about-montclair/compliance/>

<https://www.montclair.edu/human-resources/current-employees/employee-assistance-program/?>

<https://www.montclair.edu/alcohol-drugs/medical-amnesty-policy/>

## **Research Methods and Data Analysis**

### **ACHA-NCHA III**

The Office of Health Promotion gathers quantitative data using the ACHA-NCHA III, an established survey questionnaire created by the American College Health Association. A health behavior survey is typically done every two years. IRB approval was obtained before beginning this study. IRB protocol was strictly followed while obtaining data for this study.

1. What is the pattern of alcohol and other drug use among current undergraduate students?
2. What percentage of students use alcohol?
3. What percentage of students use cannabis?
4. What is the number of drinks consumed the last time in a social setting?



## Alcohol and Other Drug Prevalence Rates, Incidence Rate, Needs Assessment and Trend Data

A random sample of students was selected from undergraduate students enrolled during the spring 2022 semester. This survey is typically done every two years. There were 144 respondents to the survey. Several descriptive and inferential analyses of the data were performed. Some key findings included:

- 53.1% of all students surveyed reported alcohol use. 47.2 % used in the last 3 months.
- 31.9% of all students surveyed reported cannabis use. 25.0 % used in the last 3 months.
- 1.4% of all students surveyed reported cocaine use. 0.7% used in the last 3 months.
- 4.2% of all students surveyed reported non medical use of prescription stimulants (Ritalin, Concerta, Dexedrine, Adderall, diet pills, etc). 2.8% in the last 3 months.
- 4.9% of all students surveyed reported nonmedical use of sedatives or sleeping pills (Valium, Ativan, Xanax, Klonopin, Librium, Rohypnol, GHB, etc) 2.8% used in the last 3 months.
- 1.4% of all students surveyed reported nonmedical use of prescription opioids (morphine, codeine, fentanyl, oxycodone [OxyContin, Percocet], hydrocodone [Vicodin], methadone, buprenorphine [Suboxone]). 0.0% used in the last 3 months.

When, if ever, was the last time you drank alcohol  <i>Percentage (%)</i>	National Reference Group N= 69131	Montclair State University N=144
Never	20.7	33.3
Within the last 2 weeks	50.6	30.6
More than 2 weeks ago but within the last 30 days	9.4	9.7
More than 30 days ago but within last 3 months	9.0	11.1
More than 3 months ago but within last 12 months	6.2	8.3
More than 12 months ago	4.1	6.9

When, if ever, was the last time you used cannabis <i>Percentage (%)</i>	National Reference Group N= 69131	Montclair State University N=144
Never	53.0	60.1
Within the last 2 weeks	17.2	14.0
More than 2 weeks ago but within the last 30 days	4.1	1.4
More than 30 days ago but within last 3 months	5.9	9.8
More than 3 months ago but within last 12 months	7.7	7.7
More than 12 months ago	11.9	7.0

**Reported number of drinks consumed the last time students drank alcohol in a social setting**

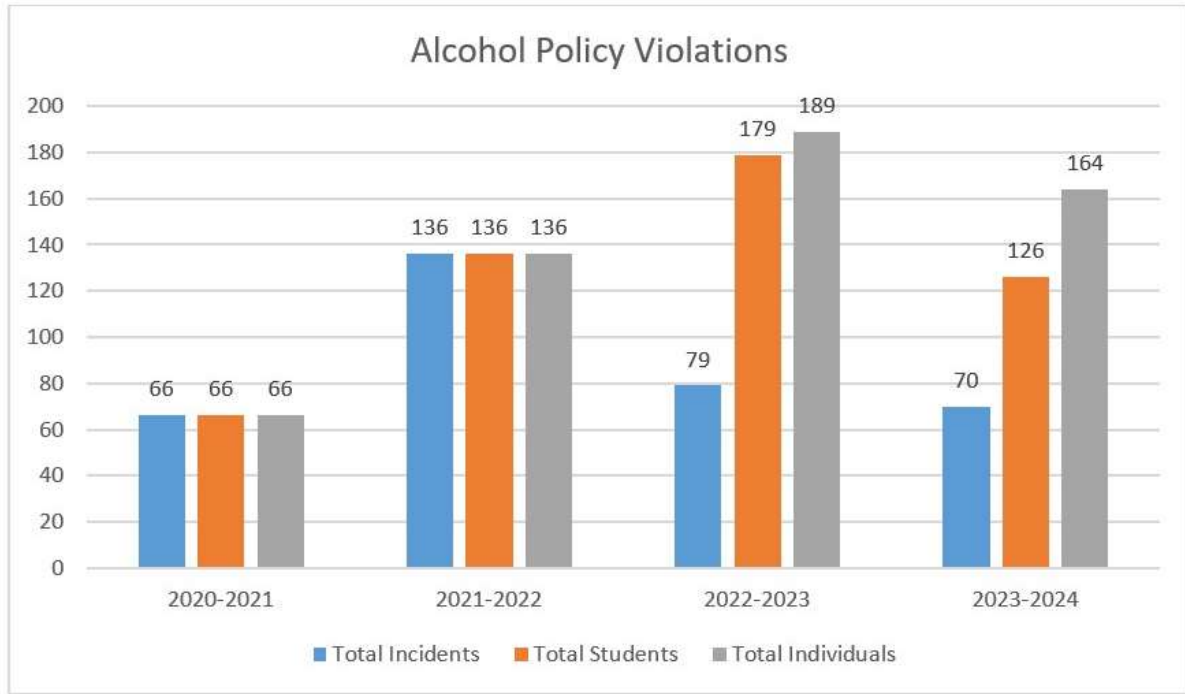
*\*only students who reported drinking alcohol in the last three months were asked this question*

Number of drinks <i>Percent (%)</i>	National Reference Group N= 69131	Montclair State University N= 144
4 or fewer	76.5	82.5
5-6	13.8	9.5
7 or more	9.7	5.5

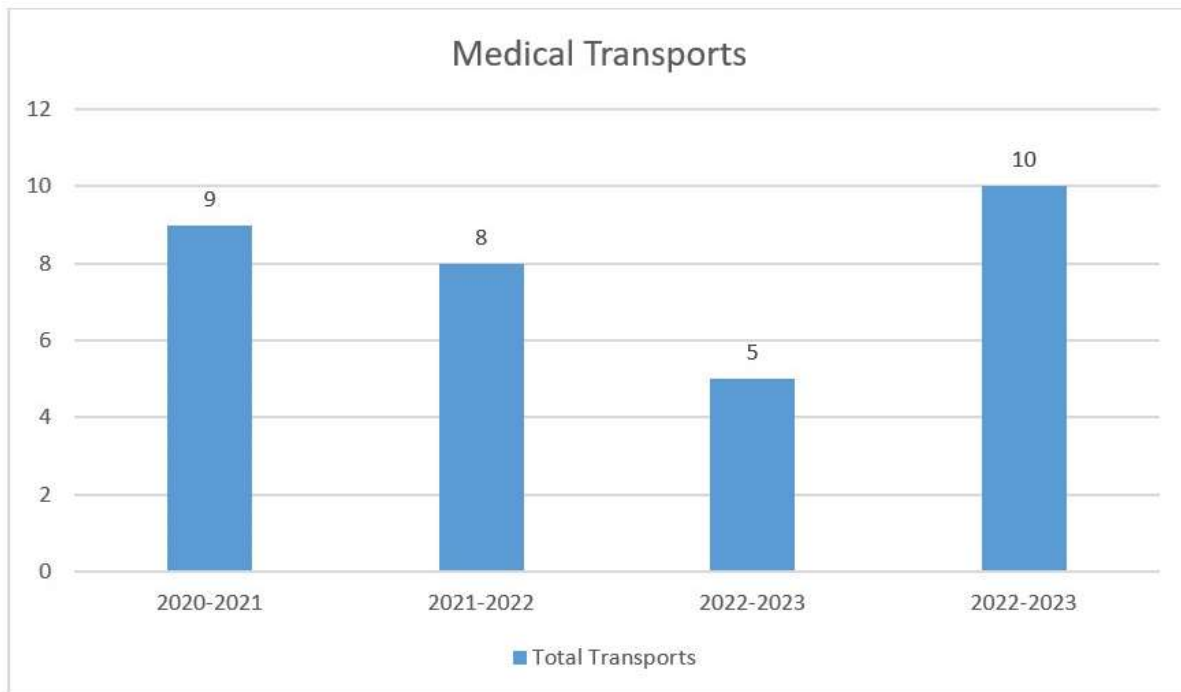
**Reported number of times college students consumed five or more drinks in a sitting within the last two weeks:**

<i>Percentage (%)</i>	National Reference Group N= 69131	Montclair State University N=144
None	49.9	52.3
1 times	24.3	29.5
2 times	12.9	6.8
3 times	5.6	6.8
4 or more times	7.2	4.5

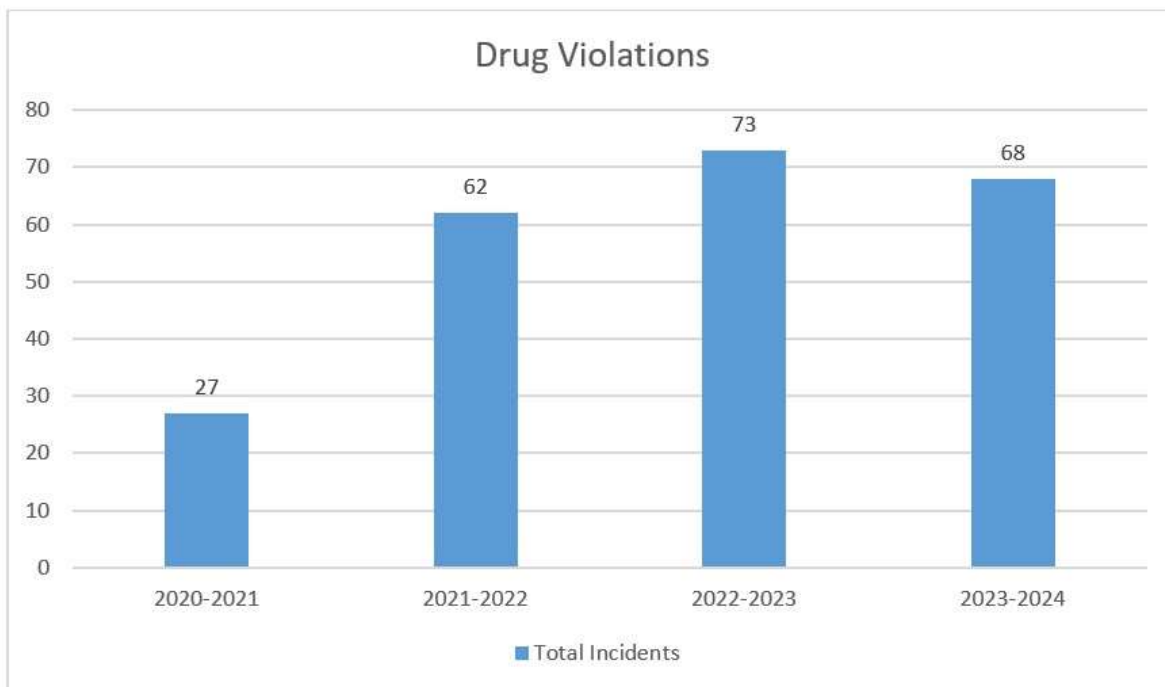
## Alcohol Policy Violations Data



## Medical Transports



## Drug Violations Data



## **Policy Enforcement of Disciplinary Sanctions & Compliance Inventory**

University conduct policy is overseen by the Vice President of Student Development and Campus Life with the Office of the Dean of Students, in consultation with University Counsel.

The Director of Student Conduct, within the Office of the Dean of Students, is charged with monitoring policy as well as overseeing the timely administration of the conduct process, entailing the adjudication of all reported incidents, establishing educational outcomes, including sanctions and stipulations, for violators of policy.

## **Consistency of Enforcement of Disciplinary Sanctions**

Students who are held accountable for policy violations under the University Code of Conduct receive sanctions and educational stipulations that correspond to specific violations. Each University administrator who serves the University in a disciplinary role uses a Sanctioning Outcome Guide to guide the sanction(s) and stipulation(s) portion for each violation. The guide was developed by representatives from the Office of the Dean of Students, Student Conduct, and Counseling and Psychological Services, who in turn determined what outcomes and stipulations would be appropriate for the given

situation regarding incidents that involve drugs and/or alcohol.

In addition, annual training is conducted with any member of staff who serves as a hearing officer for violations, including members of the Office of the Dean of Students, Office of Student Conduct and the Office of Residence Life. Analysis of the reasoning is provided in the guide, both from the educational perspective, as well as for consistency expectations. All students are held to this guide, regardless of individual factors such as their engagement activity status, grade point average, etc. at the University.

## University Alcohol and Other Drug Policy

As stated in the University Student Handbook, the policy reads as follows:

### B. Alcohol Violation

*Minimum sanction: Warning; Maximum sanction: Expulsion.*

Drinking or being in possession of any alcoholic beverage in public or private areas of University premises not approved for such activity, possession and/or consumption by a minor; public intoxication; soliciting University students and minors to purchase alcohol off-campus, and driving while intoxicated.

1. **Common Sources/Bulk Containers:** Possessing, furnishing, or serving from a common source of alcohol (i.e. kegs, mini-kegs, beer balls, punch bowls, or other approximate equivalent number of servings) is prohibited. Bulk containers and/or mass quantities of any alcohol are not permitted in apartments, suites, and/or individual rooms. Sanctions apply to all students (residents and non-residents) present at the time of the infraction and/or for all students (residents and non-residents) who were involved in any way in planning or hosting an event at which a common source or bulk container is provided. In addition, empty kegs, mini-kegs, beer balls, and/or any tapping devices are not permitted in any apartment, suite, or individual room for any purpose, including use as decorations and/or furnishings.
2. **Rapid Consumption:** Objects and drinking apparatuses or methods that promote irresponsible binge consumption of alcohol, which include, but are not limited to, funnels, beer bong, or drinking games, including imitations or non-alcoholic beverages (i.e. root beer pong) are prohibited. All individuals present at the time of the infraction may be charged for a policy violation.
3. **Residence Halls and Hawk Crossings Apartments:** The University promotes an alcohol-free residence hall community as part of a strong academic environment. Because the majority of campus residents are under age and due to the challenges of alcohol abuse, alcohol is prohibited in the residence halls and Hawk Crossing Apartments. Possession of alcohol, or empty alcohol cans, bottles, etc., constitutes a violation and may result in strict disciplinary action and/or dismissal from the residence community. Students may be asked to

reveal the contents of bags, boxes, etc., if reasonable suspicion of possible alcohol possession exists.

**1. The Village at Little Falls Alcohol Policy.** In keeping with NJ laws regarding alcohol, and the University's own philosophy regarding substance use and abuse, only Village residents 21 years of age or older may possess and consume alcohol inside their apartments and only under the following conditions: 1) no alcohol deliveries are permitted to the apartments, 2) no alcohol is permitted outside the buildings or in hallways/stairwells, or other common areas outside of apartments and 3) no alcohol is given to individuals under 21 years of age.

a. Quantities. Quantities of alcohol are limited based on the guidelines outlined in the Office of Residence Life handbook, which are as follows: 1 liter of hard liquor per apartment; or 1 case (24 count) of 12 oz. bottles/cans of beer per apartment; or 1 gallon table wine per apartment. Empty containers are subject to these stated alcohol limits.

b. Roommates. Students under 21 years old sharing an apartment in The Village with students who are 21 years old or older may be in the presence of alcohol within their apartment ONLY; however, the underage individuals are NOT allowed to consume or possess alcohol.

**2. The Village at Little Falls Party Policy.** Parties involving alcohol are prohibited at The Village at Little Falls. An alcohol party will be defined as any gathering of residents where alcohol is being served or consumed and one or more of the following conditions exists: 1) there is obvious traffic in and out of the apartment/stairwell/hallway, 2) excessive noise exists, as determined by neighbors and/or staff, and 3) the total number of persons in the apartment reaches or exceeds the maximum occupancy assigned to the apartment which is a maximum total of 12 persons. Residents found hosting parties would be subject to immediate suspension from The Village apartments and face disciplinary action. Guests attending a party will be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

## **H. Drug Violations**

*Minimum sanction: Probation; Maximum sanction: Expulsion.*

1. The intent of, actual distribution of, sale of, or manufacturing of drugs, narcotics, barbiturates, hallucinogens, marijuana, steroids, amphetamines or any other controlled substance is prohibited.
2. The possession or use of controlled dangerous substances, marijuana, steroids, or narcotics, including, but not limited to, opium (morphine, codeine, heroin), prescription drugs in possession of someone other than the prescribed individual, misuse of prescribed drugs, and every other substance not chemically distinguishable from them (i.e. imitation/synthetic products such as bath salts and/or K2) as well as any drug paraphernalia, on campus or in any University-related premises is prohibited. This includes marijuana prescribed for debilitating medical conditions as it is not allowed on University property.

\*Students should be aware that federal law dictates that conviction in criminal court for certain controlled substance offenses including drug possession and/or sale may make them declared ineligible for Federal financial aid for a period of time. See the Financial Aid Office for details.

## **Medical Amnesty Policy**

### **Providing the Path to Help Yourself and Friends**

#### **I. Philosophy**

- a. The health and safety of members of the Montclair State University community is of paramount concern.
- b. Students need to seek immediate medical attention for themselves or others when someone's health and/or safety is at risk.
- c. Students may be reluctant to seek assistance for themselves or someone else for fear of facing action from the University conduct process.
- d. Montclair State University seeks to remove barriers that prevent students from seeking the medical attention they need in emergency situations.

#### **II. Policy**

- a. Students who seek emergency medical attention for themselves or for whom medical assistance was sought related to consumption of alcohol and/or drug overdose will not be charged with violations of the Montclair State University Code of Conduct associated with that action (specifically: Section II, Letter B and/or Letter. G.), provided they comply with the following conditions:
  - I. The student subsequently completes an evaluation, ECHO, and any recommended treatment at the University Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center.
  - II. This follow-up must be completed within a time frame determined by the University.
  - III. Failure to complete this evaluation/treatment may result in discipline charges filed with the Office of Student Conduct.
- b. Students who seek emergency medical attention for someone else will not be charged with violations of the Montclair State University Code of Conduct related to consumption of alcohol, alcohol intoxication, and/or drug use (specifically: Section II, Letter B. and G., respectively), provided that the student subsequently participates in a meeting with and complies with all recommended stipulations established by the University Director of Student Conduct.

c. Student organizations who wish to employ MAP will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

d. MAP applies only to those students or organizations who seek emergency medical assistance in connection with alcohol or drug overdose and does not apply to individuals experiencing an alcohol medical emergency who are found by University employees. (I.e. University Police, faculty, administrative staff, community directors, community assistants, etc...)

e. The Montclair State University MAP is not intended to shield or protect those students or organizations that repeatedly violate the Code of Conduct. In cases where repeated violations of the Montclair State University Code of Conduct occur, the University reserves the right to take disciplinary action on a case by case basis regardless of the manner in which the incident is reported. Additionally the University reserves the right to adjudicate any case in which the violations are determined by the University in its sole discretion to be egregious.

f. The Office of Student Conduct reserves the right to contact any student to discuss an incident whether or not the Montclair State University MAP is in effect.

g. Information concerning students who utilize MAP is confidential, but will be recorded for case management purposes.

h. MAP does not preclude students from being held responsible for other violations of the Code of Conduct.

i. Parental Notification will still apply if applicable under the University Parental Notification Policy.

*(Note: This Policy only provides amnesty from violations of the Montclair State University Student Code of Conduct. It does not grant forgiveness for criminal, civil, or legal consequences for violations of Federal, State, or Local law. However, the "911 Lifeline Legislation" approved on October 1, 2009, P.L.2009, c.133 does allow for underage individuals to receive amnesty in accordance with the provisions of the law. Individuals must stay on scene and assist responders with information concerning the at-risk individual to comply with the law. Further, Good Samaritan Emergency Response Act, approved on May 2, 2013 (A578/S851), allows for the same regarding drug overdoses.)*

*Adopted on 11/4/2009; Updated 6/15/2013*

**On Campus:** Call Montclair State University Police –

- x5222 from any campus phone
- 973-655-5222 from a cell phone or non-campus phone
- Blue Light Phone: press the button



- 911 from any phone if off-campus

## **Alcohol Emergency Information**

### **How to help a friend who has had too much to drink**

Alcohol poisoning can be fatal. If someone has had too much to drink or gets hurt while drinking, call for help immediately and stay with the person until help arrives.

In cases of a potential head injury, even if the person regains consciousness, they must be evaluated immediately.

### **Signs of alcohol poisoning**

- Vomiting, vomiting while passed out, not waking up after vomiting, or incoherent while vomiting.
- Inability to rouse the person with loud shouting or vigorous shaking.
- Inability of a person who was passed out to stay awake for more than 2-3 minutes.
- Slow or irregular breathing or lapses in breathing.
- Weak pulse, very rapid pulse, or very slow pulse.
- Cold, clammy, or bluish skin.

### **What to do**

- Call for help by calling Montclair State Police (see above).
- Stay with the person until help arrives.
- Turn the person on their side to prevent choking if the person vomits. Call for help!
- Be prepared to give the emergency medical personnel as much information as possible, including any drugs or medications taken.

### **What NOT to do**

- Don't just let them "sleep it off." Get medical help.
- Do not hesitate to call for help (see above). Drinking to intoxication is a medical issue and the person's life is in danger. Better to be safe than sorry.
- Do not leave the person alone. The person may seem to be okay, but the alcohol ingested may take some time to be absorbed before peak levels are reached in the brain.
- Do not leave the person lying on his/her back.
- Do not try to give the person anything to eat or drink.
- Do not put the person in a cold shower. The person could fall or the shock could make them pass out.

*Adapted from Lehigh University with permission*

## Parental Notification

Montclair State University is committed to the elimination of alcohol and drug abuse and misuse within the University community. Accordingly, the University has long held policies regarding the use of alcohol and drugs on campus.

In 1998, the Higher Education Reauthorization Act of 1998 (HERA) amended the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to allow institutions of higher education to notify parents or guardians of students under the age of 21 to the final outcome of an alcohol or drug violation.

While Montclair State University will continue to respond to underage drinking and drug infractions as violations of the law, there may be times where parental notification serves as an additional resource for students. It is therefore the intent of Montclair State University to adopt the following parental notification policy, both for incidents that take place on campus and off campus involving students:

1. Montclair State University will notify, by mail, parents and/or guardians of students under the age of 21 (at the time of adjudication) that their student has been found responsible for violating the University's alcohol or drug policies. This will occur after a finding of responsibility for the second alcohol or drug offense, except in such cases detailed in # 4.
2. Students whose parents will be notified of an alcohol or drug violation will be officially informed of such after a finding of responsibility is made and stated in the student's outcome letter. This will allow the student to make contact with their parents or guardians prior to the letter arriving.
3. Letters will include resources available at the University and the nearby community to assist the student and their family should they wish to pursue counseling or other assistance. Letters will not include specifics concerning the incident.
4. In specific cases, the University will notify the parents or guardians of students under 21 years of age following a first violation. Examples of such cases may be as follows:
  - The incident involved significant property damage.
  - The incident involved a reckless disregard for the safety of the individual and/or others, including but not limited to hospital transports.
  - The incident was accompanied by other serious violations of University policy.
5. In cases where the student is in the foster care system, letters may be directed to the Dean of Students.

Parental notification will take place only after the appeal process if the student is found responsible.

## Sample Parental Notification letter

Required



Student Development and  
Campus Life  
973-655-7733  
Fax: 973-655-7656

[date]

To the Parents/Guardians of:

[student|fullname]

[student|perm\_address]

Re: [incident|irnum]

Dear Mr. /Mrs. [student|name]:

Montclair State University is committed to the elimination of alcohol and drug abuse and misuse within the University community. The University has long held policies regarding the use of alcohol and drugs on campus. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) makes it possible for us to expand our efforts in this area by involving you as your student's parent or guardian. By informing you about the alcohol or other drug violation that has occurred, we hope to broaden and strengthen the network of support and concern for students in their growth and development.

I am writing to inform you that your student, [student|fullname], has received Parental Notification under the University's Medical Amnesty Policy (MAP) for a violation of the Montclair State University's *Student Code of Conduct* regarding an inappropriate possession and/or use of alcohol/drugs.

The conduct process at Montclair State University is intended not to impose punishment on its students, but to help educate and challenge them to make responsible life choices. Therefore, your student's outcome has included an educational component. Some of these options include computerized educational products, such as:

- **3rd Millennium** –3rd Millennium courses provide relevant behavioral health information in a fast-paced, interactive format. Personalized feedback and social norms surveys help the student clarify their thinking about alcohol & other drugs. The student can also hear and read opinions and feedback from their peers.
- **The Judicial Educator** – an on-line service provided by *Reslife.net*. Designed to provide information on specific behaviors with several modules available. The Judicial Educator allows students to read through an assigned area, followed by a post-test. Upon their completion of the

test (with a passing test score), the conduct officer is notified that the student has satisfactorily completed the assignment.

- **e-CHUG/e-TOKE** – a brief interactive online learning tool which allows the self-assessment of the student concerning their use of alcohol (electronic Check-UP to Go) or drugs (electronic THC Online Knowledge Experience). There are opportunities for students to learn about their own drinking/drug habits and risks, followed by a self-test and report that the student prints and submit to the conduct officer at the completion of the program.
- **ECHO**– the Exploring Change and Healthy Options program provides students with the opportunity to explore their alcohol and other drug use in a non-judgmental environment with members from Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Students typically meet with the CAPS staff for an individual meeting followed by a group meeting.

Additionally, the University has a variety of on-campus resources, such as University Health Center, Health Promotion, and Counseling Services for individual counseling, and contacts in the surrounding community for students to use if needed.

We believe that students over age 18 are adults, and we encourage them to assume responsibility for their actions. However, the legal drinking age of 21 means that even as adults there are still privileges that are not rights and pursuing them is a violation of the law and University policy, as is the case with any illegal controlled substance regardless of age. The process of parental notification is intended to provide a conduit between the University, the student, and the family to discuss and work through these important issues. We encourage you to talk with your student about the use of **alcohol or drugs** and their accompanying effects. We suggest that you express your concerns and expectations through frank and open discussion to facilitate better health, better relationships, and academic success.

If you have questions about the University’s disciplinary procedures, you may contact me at 973-655-4118. I will not be able to discuss any other disciplinary issues specific to your student without a **Release of Information Form (FERPA form)** signed by the student, but will be happy to offer our assistance to you on this matter or any general questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

[staff]digital\_signature]

[staff]signature]

c: Student File

[student|fullname] (electronic copy only)

Dean Yolanda Alvarez, Associate Dean of Students

## **Athletic Department AOD Use Policy**

### **MSU Athletic Department Position on Alcohol and Other Drugs:**

1. The Athletic Department of Montclair State University condemns the use of any drug, either recreational or performance enhancing, by staff members, volunteers and student-athletes. Coaches and staff are compelled to emphasize this statement and enforce the sanctions.

2. The NCAA condemns the use of non-therapeutic drugs of any kind by any of its member institutions or affiliated organizations. In Division III, the NCAA reserves the right to drug test student-athletes competing in NCAA post-season championships. Any athlete who tests positive will follow all NCAA sanctions. Specific drugs, which are banned, include:

- Cocaine
- Heroin
- Marijuana
- Steroids
- Non-authorized prescription drugs
- Alcohol abuse by those over age 21
- Alcohol use or abuse by those underage

The NCAA has an extensive list of banned substances. Not only are illegal drugs on the list, but a number of common over-the-counter drugs are also included. The banned list is available from the Athletic Training Staff and may be accessed on the NCAA website at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). Each student-athlete will be asked to sign and acknowledge that they know and understand the NCAA substance abuse policy. If the student-athlete refuses to sign this statement, they will be declared ineligible for competition.

3. Alcohol may be the biggest problem we deal with on a day to day basis. Alcohol use is not permitted during departmental activities. These activities include:

- Practice
- Competition
- Team Travel

4. Sanctions: Student-athletes involved in improper use of alcohol or drugs on campus will be subject to University disciplinary action for those offenses. There may be additional athletic department sanctions applied as well. Any or all of the following sanctions may be applied:

- Letter of apology
- Game or contest suspension
- Taking full financial responsibility for any inappropriate behavior
- Community service activities
- Required counseling
- Meeting with the Director of Athletics
- Indefinite suspension from the team

- Dismissal from the team
- Immediate return to campus (if the inappropriate behavior occurs during a team sponsored trip)

### **NJAC Tobacco Policy**

The NCAA and NJAC policy “bans the use of tobacco related products by any of our players, coaches, or other team personnel at practices, meetings or contests.” This includes cigarettes, cigars, snuff, and chewing tobacco. The penalties are “First Offense- written warning to coach/player, Second Offense - immediate suspension for one game.”

## **Employee Assistance Program Referral Policy**

The Montclair State University Employee Assistance Program provides free support services for all University employees and their families.

- Services are confidential and provided off campus.
- Services include short term counseling and referrals if necessary.
- Assistance with locating support resources, including substance abuse programs, mental health specialists and self-help programs.

For more information, or to schedule a confidential appointment, please call CONCERN at 800-242-7371 or please refer to the attached CONCERN brochure and the CONCERN website

## **Sale, Service and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages**

### **Alcohol Procedure and Policy**

All alcoholic beverages are to be sourced by the new dining services provider Gourmet Dining Services and remain within the facility.( Gourmet Dining Services is a subsidiary of the Compass Group. The Compass Group also owns Chartwells the Universities previous food service provider) Beverages not consumed will remain the property of Gourmet Dining Services, in accordance with the laws of New Jersey. It is the policy of Montclair State University that no alcoholic beverages are brought on the premises without an appropriate Special Events Permit from the state ABC, as this action violates the liquor license. In addition, Montclair State University requires that a Request for Alcohol Service on Licensed Premises Form be completed for all events serving alcohol no later than two weeks prior to your event.

The below figures represent the alcohol related events that have been scheduled and worked by Gourmet Dining Services for Montclair State University. This includes all events on campus: Conference Center, Red Bulls, Yogi Berra Stadium(NJIT and Montclair Baseball teams), Homecoming, etc.

2022-2023- Unknown due to change in dining service provider

2023-2024- 11 events

All Montclair State events, where alcoholic beverages are served, are subject to having an officer or officers on scene during the event. This is to ensure that all state and local laws are adhered to, as well as to ensure that should any violations occur it can be addressed promptly. During Red Bull games there is a minimum of three officers on duty for the match, and an officer is posted in the concessions area where the alcoholic beverages are sold.

## **Alcohol and Other Drug Education and Prevention**

Though the Office of Health Promotion is the primary provider of alcohol and other drug prevention education, many departments and campus partners are involved in educating students, staff, faculty and families. Below is a summary of initiatives:

**Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ACAD):** The Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Other Drugs at Montclair State University is a coalition of campus and community members who collaborate on issues relating to substance use and abuse, and educational efforts within the campus. The Advisory Committee is responsible for developing, implementing and evaluating educational and environmental approaches aimed at reducing risk related to alcohol and other drug use. With the use of evidence-based educational programs, policy recommendations and on-going research, the Advisory Committee strives to provide members of the University community with tools for making informed decisions that will foster academic success, personal development and a healthy balanced lifestyle.

List of members 2022-2023, 2023-2024

- Charlene Berry (ADAPT)
- David Bryngil(Campus Recreation)
- Marie Cascarano co-Chair (Office of Health Promotion)
- Casey Coleman (Center for Student Involvement)
- Romaine Eaker-Kelly (Campus Recreation)
- Tara Rienecker (Athletics)

- Kevin Schafer (Residence Life)
- Alexis Sell (Student Health Center Health Center)
- Joel Torres (ADAPT- Community Partner)
- Angela White (Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Department)
- Khabir Williams (Counseling & Psychological Services)

### **Social Marketing Campaigns**

- Red Hawk Safety Tips: This campaign promotes responsible drinking tips and how to reduce risks associated with high-risk drinking.
- Medical Amnesty Policy (MAP) campaign: A social marketing campaign to promote the Medical Amnesty policy launched in the fall 2010 semester and has continued to date. Materials included were posters and magnets. All residential students were provided with a MAP magnet upon move-in.
- Cannabis Campaign: a multi-part cannabis legalization myth/fact ad campaign was developed and implemented.
- RX Drug Campaign: Campaign included Medication Drop Box information.
- Safer Spring Break campaign – A campaign to promote responsible drinking and educate students about the signs of alcohol poisoning and promote the Medical Amnesty Policy (NJ 411 Lifeline Legislation) was created and implemented during the spring of 2022 and spring of 2023.

### **Educational workshops and presentations**

- New Student Seminar classes- facilitated by Health Promotion Staff and Peer Advocates.
  - Responsible Decision Making*: Interactive program covering basic facts about alcohol, drugs, and safer sex practices, along with a discussion on the implications of high risk drinking and available resources.
- Family session for new student orientation- presented by Dr. Marie Cascarano
- Family session for new student orientation: Student Conduct and Campus Safety
- Student session for new student orientation which reviews AOD policy and sanctions.
  - Campus Community Expectations*- The Director of Student Conduct and the University Police Department will introduce our Student Code of Conduct, which explains our expectations of you as a member of our community.

**Educational harm reduction interventions:** These initiatives are designed to empower students to make healthier and more responsible choices. Among these programs are eCHECKUP TO GO programs for alcohol and cannabis, which are online evidence-based intervention programs.



- Alcohol eCHECKUP is a brief, self-assessment that provides you with accurate, detailed and personalized feedback on your use of alcohol, and specific information and helpful resources in the Montclair State University community.
- Cannabis eCHECKUP is a brief, self-assessment that provides you with accurate, detailed and personalized feedback on your use of cannabis as well as specific information and helpful resources in the Montclair State University community.

These programs are available to the entire campus community on the Health Promotion and CAPS website.

**Recovery Room:** The Recovery Room began in the spring 2012 semester and is an informal & confidential group of students who want to explore their substance use, self-identify as recovering from alcohol and other drugs, or those seeking recovery resources, to network and to support one another in a safe environment, while in college. Students in need of professional counseling services are referred to CAPS. This group is only open to Montclair State University students who are currently in recovery from alcohol or other drugs, looking to explore their relationship with alcohol and other drugs, make changes in their substance use, or actively seeking recovery resources.

**Substance-Free Activities:** Montclair State University provides a healthy and stable support structure for students in addition to their regular academic routine. There are hundreds of programs offered by various departments and student organizations that promote health and wellness and are substance-free. Engage is a platform used to centralized campus events and activities.

Intentional and collaborative programming between departments encourage student involvement with activities that are substance-free. Special emphasis is placed on weekend and Thursday night programming, as these are traditionally times that students may choose to become involved in inappropriate and unhealthy activities. Intentional and collaborative programming is also done for the first forty days of the fall semester as data shows that this is a time for determining true connections to a college or university, specifically by first year students. In addition to weekend trips, special events on the weekend and throughout the week, an event/trip is planned each day for the first forty days of the fall semester. Events and trips are intentionally varied and diversified in order to appeal to the diverse population of students at Montclair State University. “Red Hawk Frenzy” is publicized by the Center for Student Involvement, Residence Life, and Campus Recreation through a variety of print and social media. Examples of programs offered during “Red Hawk Frenzy” include “RecFest”, movie nights, bingo, off campus trips, dive in movies, open mic nights, and a variety of fitness exercise classes. Students are instrumental in the planning and execution of these events. A similar program called “Winter Warm-up” and a Day of Wellness are offered

when students come back to campus in January to begin the spring semester. “The Center for Student Involvement, Residence Life, and the Department of Campus Recreation continue to work together throughout the year to provide events, trips and activities for all students. This is done to encourage participation in activities that foster positive social, emotional, and physical well-being. The concept is that by offering a variety of healthy outlets for students to be involved in, they will choose these activities over unhealthy or inappropriate ones. This is an on-going process and one that is routinely evaluated for its effectiveness. This is done by reviewing attendance records and issuing electronic program evaluations to students upon completion of events.

### Campus Recreation

The Department of Campus Recreation provides programs, services and facilities that encourage personal development and learning experiences through enjoyable sport and recreational opportunities. The Student Recreation Center at Montclair State University is approximately 78,000 square feet with over 250 pieces of cardio, fitness and strength equipment. It also supports a 6-lane, 25-yard long indoor pool, full size gym, two racquetball courts, two multi-purpose fitness classrooms, and two lounge areas. Students receive automatic membership through activity fees. The facility is open Monday-Thursday from 6:00am-12:00am, Friday 6:00 am - 10:00 PM, Saturday 8:00 am - 10:00 PM and Sunday from 8:00am-12:00am, for students to use in a variety of both active and passive ways. Approximately 2,000 students use the facility on a daily basis and 300+ students are employed in a variety of capacities at the recreation center.

The Student Recreation Center markets the concept of making choices that promote health, wellness, and fun for all students on campus. The goal of the recreation center and the Department of Campus Recreation is to provide appropriate outlets for student involvement that are substance-free. The facility acts as a safe haven for students to come and be involved in a variety of ways. Opportunities include:

- Approximately 50 free group exercise classes a week including but not limited to Yoga, Zumba, Mixed Martial Arts, Body Pump, TRX, Body Sculpt and Pilates.
- Lap swimming, free swim instruction, and aquatic events.
- Ping pong and racquet ball.
- Open gym, including “pickup” basketball and volleyball.
- Two floors of free weights and cardio equipment.
- Lounge areas for free video game rentals, esports, board game nights, etc.
- Space for Wi-Fi use and doing homework.
- Weekly special events designed to meet the needs of a diverse student population, including but not limited to: “Yoga Glow”, “, “Rec Nights”, off campus programming, Hamster Ball in the Pool, as well as a variety of community service projects that are student driven.

Intramural Sports and Club Sports range from non-competitive to moderately competitive activities that are open to all students on campus. A variety of sports from table tennis and corn hole to soccer and volleyball provide diverse choices. Open, male, female, and Greek leagues are provided for most intramural sport activities. Seasons are relatively short to encourage a larger participation level. Club Sports are initiated and run by students with the assistance and guidance by campus recreation staff. These sport activities require little to no previous experience and are positive physical and social outlets for students.

“Outdoor Adventure” is a program that offers monthly hikes and weekend programs including canoeing, horseback riding, rock climbing, and camping. Attendance for these outdoor experiential activities continues to grow, offering both introductory and intermediate level experiences designed to provide physical challenges, team work experiences and an appreciation for nature and the environment. All of these programs have an emphasis on healthy outlets where students can learn, enjoy and grow.

Campus Recreation hosts evening drop-in programs averaging close to 130 student participants each night as an alternative to provide appropriate outlets for student involvement that are substance-free called RecNight. In 2023-2024, Campus Rec hosted 27 events with a total of 3422 participants. This represented a 27% increase in Rec Night participants from the 2022-23 academic year. Rec Night programs were also offered during the Summer 2024 Bridge Program with 6 events and 242 participants.

### The Center for Student Involvement (CSI)

The Center for Student Involvement is responsible for co-curricular and extracurricular programming, in which all students at Montclair State University are encouraged to participate. In addition to working with all student organizations on campus, special emphasis is placed on the needs of the commuter student. Activities are designed to develop and refresh the body and mind in the form of entertainment, educational enrichment, cultural diversity and fine arts activities. The organizations listed under the Student Government Association support these objectives. There are nearly 200 student organizations on campus.

CSI serves as the "clearinghouse" for programming events on campus. We play an active role in assisting all clubs and organizations as they plan on- or off- campus events. Our office oversees a master calendar of activities while also serving as advisors and facilitators for student clubs, organizations, and the Student Government Association.

In 2022-2023 CSI collectively supported 240 campus programs. Over 8,000 guests were checked in at department sponsored events. In the 2023-2024 school year CSI collectively supported 179 campus programs. Over 4,200 attended department events. One annual tradition has become hosting ‘Red Hawk Night’ which is a late night weekend program that sees over 500 students participate in community service, mini

golf, art projects, karaoke, and more. This program has been recognized regionally as an award winning program by ACUI.

### **Individual based programs and interventions**

In order to assess, prevent, and manage University challenges related to the use of alcohol and other drugs (AOD), CAPS has developed and participates in numerous campus-based initiatives directed toward reducing high risk alcohol and other drug (AOD) use among students. Utilizing a multi-disciplinary approach, individuals from across the campus (including, faculty, staff, and students) are working collaboratively to identify and support students who are at risk for alcohol and other drug abuse. CAPS provides a number of services to students who are either at risk for AOD related difficulties or who present with on-going substance-related concerns. These are summarized as follows:

Individual counseling: All clients seen at CAPS for counseling are assessed through the initial clinical interview process and complete the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT) and the Cannabis Use Dependence Scale-Revised (CUDIT-R). Students scoring “8” or higher on the AUDIT or an “8” or higher on the CUDIT-R are recommended to take part in the ECHO program. Individual treatment plans are modified to incorporate AOD issues, where appropriate. Typically, clinical interventions are included to address AOD issues as a component of therapy. Students who present for the treatment of AOD issues generally present to CAPS with co-occurring mental health diagnosis. Counseling is focused on treating the student holistically, thus working on the substance use and other presenting problems concurrently. Additionally, students with ongoing AOD concerns are provided with off-site referrals to community providers who specialize in treating addictions or more intensive treatment programs geared towards treating people with addictions. These referrals are indicated for students with a significant AOD addiction that requires long-term, intensive, or multi-disciplinary treatment and/or detoxification. During the 2022/2023 academic year 741 students were screened for substance abuse issues using the AUDIT and CUDIT-R at the time of intake. Of the 741 students assessed at CAPS, 8.2 % scored “8” or higher on the AUDIT, 17.9% scored “8” or higher on the CUDIT-R, and 33.3% of students endorsed using a drug (including prescription medication) for recreational purposes. In the 2023/2024 academic year 662 students were screened for substance abuse issues using the AUDIT and CUDIT-R at the time of intake. Of the 662 students assessed at CAPS, 9.5% scored “8” or higher on the AUDIT, 13.8% scored “8” or higher on the CUDIT-R, and 31.4% of students endorsed using a drug (including prescription medication) for recreational purposes.

Group AOD counseling: A collaborative support group called Recovery Room is co-facilitated by the Assistant Director of Health Promotion, Marie Cascarano, Ed.D. and Angela White, Counselor/ Academic Advisor of EOF. Recovery Room offered a supportive space for students to connect, and support one another in understanding how their life has been impacted by alcohol and/or drugs and find new ways of coping.

In addition, Breaking the Cycle: Exploring Family Substance Use is therapy group co-facilitated by CAPS counselors [Lisa Westreich](#), Staff Clinician Khabir Williams, Coordinator of Alcohol and Drug Program/Staff Clinician. This group brings together students who want to explore and discuss the ways substance misusing family members have impacted their life, relationships and the way they may cope. We will focus on self-understanding, breaking the cycle of substance misuse and learning ways to improve yourself and your relationships.

Community Referrals: Clients presenting with AOD issues who require referral to an off-campus facility or service provider are interviewed for information regarding their geographic and insurance-related requirements. In this way an appropriate referral can be provided that best meets the needs of the client. CAPS maintains a database of local and national resources for individuals requiring off-campus treatment or intervention. In 2022/2023 24.4% of students seen at CAPS for short-term therapy/consultation were provided a referral off campus for additional treatment (not specifically for AOD treatment). In 2023/2024 20.5% of students seen at CAPS for short-term therapy were provided a referral off campus for additional treatment (not specifically for AOD treatment). Community Referrals for students with AOD concerns are facilitated by the clinician meeting with the student, the AOD Program Coordinator, or CAPS Referral Coordinator. Statistics for AOD specific referrals are not available.

Exploring Change and Healthy Options (ECHO): The cornerstone of the alcohol and other drug treatment services at CAPS is the Exploring Change and Healthy Options (ECHO) program. The ECHO program provides students with the opportunity to explore their alcohol and/or other drug use in a supportive, non-judgmental environment. Personal exploration helps students make informed decisions about their use of substances and increase their awareness of the role that alcohol and drugs may play in their lives. The principal idea behind ECHO is that students are provided with personalized information related to their alcohol and drug use that is presented in a non-judgmental format. Students then have the opportunity to make their own informed decisions about their AOD use and are supported in the decision they choose. The non-judgmental clinical approach used in harm-reduction programming such as ECHO incorporates Motivational Interviewing (MI). CAPS counselors are provided with basic MI training that will assist them in competently administering the ECHO intervention.

1. The ECHO intervention is a 2 to 3 session intervention that provides education, information, and an opportunity to reflect on the impact of alcohol and other drugs on the individual's life. With increased consciousness about AOD use, students are provided an opportunity to determine what, if any, changes she/he wants to make in her/his AOD use. With the help of the CAPS clinicians, students learn options for reducing harm, and assistance with creating a plan for change if available and if students are interested in making a change.
2. ECHO is based on the Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS), a program that incorporates a harm-reduction approach toward prevention and is designed for college students ages 18 to 24. BASICS is a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Model Program and is employed by universities throughout the United States.
3. The heart of the BASICS model is personalized feedback for the student. Accordingly, the ECHO intervention employs the use of electronic Check Up To Go (e-CHUG) or electronic THC Online Knowledge Experience (e-TOKE) , online assessments that generate personalized feedback based on responses the student provides on his/her use of alcohol, tobacco, and marijuana. In addition, students are provided their scores from the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT), Cannabis Use Disorders Identification Test-Revised (CUDIT-R) as well as their score from the substance abuse scale on the Counseling Center Assessment of Psychological Symptoms-62. These scores and comparative data are used to promote self-awareness and reflection about one's alcohol or drug use.

The ECHO program includes three primary components:

- Initial assessment (including a clinical interview) and review of alcohol and other drug (AOD) use policy.
- Personalized assessment and feedback of current AOD use patterns
- Individual appointments designed to assist the student in making educated decisions about future use of alcohol and illicit substances.

People may also participate in ECHO for one of the following reasons:

1. Self-Assessment – Those students who are interested in learning about how their alcohol and other drug use impacts their lives are encouraged to complete the ECHO program. Students are not required to stop using alcohol or other drugs; rather, they are asked to share honestly in a confidential and non-judgmental environment so that they can learn more about the role that alcohol and other drugs play in their lives.

2. Referral from Director of Student Conduct – ECHO is offered as a program to students who have been found responsible for violating Montclair State University's alcohol and other drug policy. It is used to capitalize on the "teachable moments" that present themselves when students are in violation of Montclair State University's alcohol and other drug policy.

During the 2022/2023 24 students attended and successfully completed the requirements for the ECHO Program. 16 Students attended and successfully completed the requirements for the ECHO program for the 2023/2024 academic year.

Substance Abuse Screening Days: CAPS hosts a University-wide alcohol and marijuana screening event during the fall and spring semesters using the AUDIT and CUDIT-R. For academic years 2022/2023 there were 57 students screened with 8 scoring "8" or higher on the Cudit-R and "10" students scoring "8" or higher on the Audit. For the academic year 2023/2024 48 students were screened and 25 scored "8" or higher on Cudit and 6 students scored "8" or higher on the Audit. All students screened reviewed their results with CAPS clinicians and were provided with feedback, education and resources.

## **Effectiveness of the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program**

### **Changes Implemented Based Upon 2020-2022 Biennial Review Evaluation**

Recommendation: Expand social marketing cannabis campaign: The legalization of cannabis for recreational use fuels misconceptions. Messaging will reinforce our policy that prohibits cannabis possession or use on campus.

Action: Articles featured in Wellness News and Social Media messages. Updated tobacco-free campus signage to include cannabis (spring 2022).

Recommendation: Continue to expand recovery services to better meet the needs of students and increase participation in the Red Hawk Recovery program.

Action: In progress.

Recommendation: Increase the number of Naloxone training.

Action: EMS provided 46 training sessions.

Recommendation: Create guidelines and develop a pilot fentanyl strip program.

Action: We are pleased to announce the availability of fentanyl test strips at no cost, generously provided through the support of Family Connections ADAPT and the NJ Harm Reduction Coalition. Test strips are now accessible at CAPS, Health Promotion, EMS, the Student Health Center, and the "Safe" health vending machine. This program

aims to equip students with a harm reduction tool that can help them make informed decisions and reduce the risk of accidental overdose.

## **2022-2024 SWOT Analysis of the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Project**

### Strengths related to policies:

- Policies at Montclair State University are progressive, proactive and education focused. Policies are created as a collaborative work with key stakeholders including Residence Life, the Office of Student Conduct, Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS), the Office of Health Promotion, and the Center for Student Involvement (CSI). Policies are not stagnant, and reviewed and updated if necessary on an annual basis. Senior-level administration has not only been supportive, but instrumental in the adaptation, implementation, and promotion of new and updated policies.
- Introduction to policies at Family and Student Orientation.
- The Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Other Drug (ACAD) leadership has an active role in the NJ Higher Education Consortium on Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention and Education (NJHEC) and NJ Student Conduct Officers meeting. During these meetings, they often provide leadership on a state level in enacting policies and practices.
- Dining Services has established policies and procedures to request a permit to serve alcohol at an event that is hosted on campus.

### Weakness related to policies:

- Lack of staffing to implement and enforce in a timely manner.

### Opportunities related to policies:

- Review and update current policies and related sanctions.
- Education on harm reduction techniques, moderation, and responsible drinking.
- Potential to apply for funding under Opioid Settlement Funding, either countywide or locally, to expand prevention programming on campus that address the impact of the opioid crisis on our campus population.
- Newly opened campus pub provides opportunities to promote responsible drinking/harm reduction strategies to students.



### Threats/Challenges to policies:

- Inconsistent follow-through by the municipal courts when a student is in violation of policies. This sends a mixed message to the student and threatens the educational purpose of the University policies.
- Legalization of cannabis for recreational use without funding prevention and education programs.
- Addition of an on campus pub may create an environment of mixed messaging regarding alcohol use on campus.
- Limited data is collected and reported on DUIs, cannabis, and opioid use at the municipal, county, or state levels.

### Strengths related to programs/interventions:

- Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Project (AODPP) is theory based, evidence informed and utilizes best practices including environmental management.
- We do not have an “Alcohol Awareness Week” since education and intervention programs are ongoing throughout the year.
- Prevention efforts are collaborative and student driven.
- Collaboration allows pulling together limited resources and developing and implementing evidence-based programming.
- Intentional programming and events are offered as alternatives during high-risk drinking times such as the first six weeks of the semester, Thursday evenings and weekends. Outreach is provided to student groups and organizations that typically do not utilize services such as Campus Recreation and making a connection to support those students.
- Division-wide collaborations for big events including Welcome Week, Red Hawk Days, Homecoming etc. to engage students as soon as they enter the University.
- “Recovery Room” is offered weekly and is an informal & confidential group for students who want to explore their substance use, self-identify as recovering from alcohol and other drugs, or those seeking recovery resources, to network and to support one another in a safe environment.
- Data collected utilized the NCHA III and is conducted every two years.
- Monthly meetings are scheduled with a specific agenda and have a consistent representation from many key offices on campus.
- Collaboration with the Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Team (ADAPT) expands resources.
- ECHO (Exploring Change and Healthy Options), is offered throughout the Academic year. The ECHO program provides students with the opportunity to explore their alcohol and/or other drug use in a supportive, non-judgmental environment. Personal exploration helps students make informed decisions

about their use of substances and increase their awareness of the role that alcohol and drugs may play in their lives.

#### Weakness related to programs/interventions

- Lack of resources including staff and funding. State-wide and federal funding are not available to support these initiatives. Support staff for student conduct is needed to enable focus on prevention and education efforts instead of just being reactionary, and to have a better presence on campus.
- Though data is collected every two years using the ACHA-NCHA, the response rate has been less than satisfactory.
- Currently, descriptive data analysis of the NCHA III is conducted. We do not have the resources to conduct a more robust analysis of the raw data.
- The trends in drug use and abuse, along with “new drug of choice”, can vary greatly from year to year.

#### Opportunities related to programs/interventions

- Continue to identify high-risk times and then provide intentional alcohol free events for identified high-risk days of use.
- Increased demand for program utilization allows for engagement in health enhancing substance free activities.
- Collaborate with campus departments to better allocate and utilize limited resources.
- Collaborate with Alcohol & Drug Abuse Prevention Team (ADAPT) to enhance harm reduction strategies.

#### Threats/Challenges related to programs/interventions

- Offices and departments who also offer alcohol programming are well intentioned, however often the information is not necessarily evidence based or consistent with best practices.
- Faculty and staff will at times provide information that is not accurate regarding the perceived harm of substance use.

#### **Recommended Changes to Implement for the 2024-2026 Biennial Review Period**

- Expand cannabis education campaign: The legalization of cannabis for recreational use fuels misconceptions. Messaging will reinforce our policy that prohibits cannabis possession or use on campus.
- Expand harm reduction resources and services.
- Review alcohol and drug policies for the Bloomfield campus and make revisions for integration and alignment.
- Review and strengthen the MAP (Medical Amnesty Policy) to reduce barriers, increase utilization, and improve clarity.

## Appendix

### Alcohol or Other Drug Conduct Sanction Guide

Violation	Sanction Level	Recommended Sanction	Rationale for Sanction	Circumstances to Consider
Being in the Presence of Alcohol, but not consuming (first offense)	Level 1	Warning  E-Chug & JE 5	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills	Was the student not consuming or could it not be proved that the student was not consuming?
Being in the Presence of Alcohol, but not consuming (second offense )	Level 2	<b>2</b> month probation 3 <sup>rd</sup> millennium & JE 8 & 15	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education	Was the student not consuming or could it not be proved that the student was not consuming? What did the student miss in the first judicial experience?
Being in the presence of marijuana (first offense)	Level 2	2 months probation E-Toke & JE 5	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills - Drugs education	Was the student not using or could it not be proved that the student was not using?
Underage possession of alcohol (first offense)	Level 2	2 months probation UTI; JE 5 & 8	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education	This is a common developmental experience. What type of alcohol was involved and how much?

Underage consumption of alcohol (first offense)	Level 2	2 months probation UTI; JE 5 & 8	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education	This is a common developmental experience. What type of alcohol was involved & were they using responsibly?
Alcohol intoxication (first offense) **If transported, student will see DOSC.	Level 2	3 months probation UTI; JE 5 & 8	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education	This is a common developmental experience. What type of alcohol was involved, how much was consumed, were they in any danger?
Creating a disturbance relating to alcohol use	Level 2	3 months probation UTI; JE 3, 5 & 8	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education	What type of disturbance? Was anyone in danger? How did staff become aware of the disturbance?
Hosting an underage party	Level 2	Probation- <u>Consult with DOSC</u> UTI; JE 3, 5 & 8	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education	Parties are a normal part of college life. Was the host providing alcohol, or just providing a place to drink? How much alcohol was involved?
Hospital transport due to alcohol/drug use	Level 3	Probation 6 months UTI/MAR 101; JE 5 & <b>8/9</b> , PN, and <b>ASP</b>  <b><u>All transports will be seen by DOSC.</u></b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills	While drinking is a common experience for college age students, drinking until the point of alcohol poisoning is not common or safe. How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education

			-Alcohol and other drugs education -One on one personalized intervention & feedback	and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Underage possession of alcohol (second offense)	Level 3	4 months probation UTI; JE 15; PN, <b>and AE</b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education -One on one personalized intervention & feedback	This is a common developmental experience. What type of alcohol was involved and how much? What did the student miss in the first judicial experience? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Underage consumption of alcohol (second offense)	Level 3	4 months probation UTI; JE 15; PN, <b>and ADE</b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education -One on one personalized intervention & feedback	While it is common for college students to drink it is rare that they have more than one interaction with the conduct process. What did the student miss in the first judicial experience? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Alcohol intoxication (second offense)	Level 3	6 months probation E-chug, UTI; JE 15, PN, <b>and ADE</b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education -One on one personalized	While it is common for college students to drink it is rare that they have more than one interaction with the conduct process. What type of alcohol was involved and how much? What did the student miss in the first experience? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?

			intervention & feedback	
Possession of marijuana (first offense)	Level 3	5 months probation <u>minimum-consult with DOSC</u> MAR 101, JE 5 & 9, <b>and ADE</b> <b><i>Loss of Housing- Consult with DOSC</i></b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills - Drug related education -One on one personalized intervention & feedback	This is a common developmental experience (although much less common than alcohol use). How much marijuana was involved? ? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Marijuana related offense (first offense)	Level 3	5 months probation <u>minimum-consult with DOSC</u> MAR 101, JE 5 & 9, <b>and ADE</b> <b><i>Loss of Housing- Consult with DOSC</i></b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills - Drug related education -One on one personalized intervention & feedback	This is a common developmental experience (although much less common than alcohol use). How much marijuana was involved? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Alcohol/Drug related vandalism	Level 3	4-8 months probation <u>consult with DOSC</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Millennium, JE 5, 8/9, & 20; <b>and ADE</b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving decision making skills -Alcohol and other drugs education -One on one personalized intervention & feedback	What were the circumstances that led up to the destruction of property? How serious was the offense? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Alcohol/Drug related violence	Level 3	4-8 months probation <u>consult with DOSC</u> 3 <sup>rd</sup> Millennium, JE 5, 8/9 & 18, <b>and ADE</b>	-Self Assessment -Intro to MSU's social norms data -Guidance on improving	What were the circumstances that led up to the violent incident? How serious was the offense? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and

			<p>decision making skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Alcohol and other drugs education</li> <li>-One on one personalized intervention &amp; feedback</li> </ul>	<p>intervention in a non-judgmental way?</p>
<p>Marijuana related Offense (second offense+)</p>	<p>Level 4</p>	<p>Refer to DOSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Likely suspension or expulsion from University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Self Assessment</li> <li>-Intro to MSU's social norms data</li> <li>-Guidance on improving decision making skills</li> <li>- Drug related education</li> <li>-One on one personalized intervention &amp; feedback</li> </ul>	<p>While college students do occasionally use marijuana, it is rare that they are caught using and even rarer that they have more than one interaction with the conduct process.</p> <p>How much marijuana was involved? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?</p>
<p>Drug related offense (other than marijuana)</p>	<p>Level 4</p>	<p>Refer to DOSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Likely suspension or expulsion from University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Self Assessment</li> <li>-Intro to MSU's social norms data</li> <li>-Guidance on improving decision making skills</li> <li>- Drug related education</li> <li>-One on one personalized intervention &amp; feedback</li> </ul>	<p>Most college students do not use drugs; however experimentation with drugs is developmentally appropriate. How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education and intervention in a non-judgmental way?</p>
<p>Alcohol related offense (three or more offenses)</p>	<p>Level 4</p>	<p>Refer to DOSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Likely suspension from University</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Self Assessment</li> <li>-Intro to MSU's social norms data</li> <li>-Guidance on improving decision making skills</li> <li>-Alcohol and other drugs education</li> <li>-One on one personalized</li> </ul>	<p>It is extremely rare for a student to have more than two interactions with the conduct process. Are there indicators that the student is abusing alcohol? What type of alcohol was involved and how much? What did the student miss in the previous two experiences? How can the CD/CA provide basic support for further education</p>

			intervention & feedback -More advanced exploration of alcohol and other drug use.	and intervention in a non-judgmental way?
Drug Dealing/Growing on Campus	Level 5	Refer to DOSC -Expulsion from University	-Student requires treatment for benefit of their health and safety. And to ensure health and safety of MSU community	How can this experience provide a positive learning experience for the student? What positive effects can this experience have on the community?

**Spring 2024-onward**

<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 1: Being in the presence of alcohol, but not consuming (first offense)	Warning	E-Chug & JE: Personal Decision Making
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 1: Possessing an empty container of alcohol	Warning	JE: Alcohol Education 101
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 2: Being in the presence of alcohol, but not consuming (Second offense)	Warning - 2+ months probation	JE: Alcohol Education 101
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 2: Underage possession of alcohol (first offense)	Warning	JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Alcohol Education 101
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 2: Underage consumption of alcohol (first offense)	Warning	JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Alcohol Education 101
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 2: Alcohol Intoxication (first Offense)	Warning -3+months probation	JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Alcohol Education 101
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 2: Creating a disturbance relating to alcohol use	3+ months probation	JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Alcohol Education 101; community service (5-10 hours)



<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 2: Hosting an underage party	5+ months probation	JE: Community Living, JE: Personal Decision Making, & JE: Alcohol Education 101; other educational stipulations as appropriate (such as rescinding guest privileges through the end of the semester)
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 3: Underage possession of alcohol (Second offense)	4+ months probation; possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	JE: Alcohol Education 102
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 3: Underage consumption of alcohol (Second Offense)	4+months probation; (possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	JE: Alcohol Education 102
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 3: Alcohol intoxication (second offense)	6+ months probation; possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	E-Chug; JE: Alcohol Education 102
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 3: Hospital Transport due to alcohol use	Cases may qualify for medical amnesty; MAP decisions will be made by DOSC as part of the hearing process. For conduct findings, sanctions include probation 6+months	Cases may qualify for medical amnesty; MAP decisions will be made by DOSC as part of the hearing process. For conduct findings, sanctions include probation 6 months; ECHO; JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Alcohol Education 101/JE: Marijuana; ECHO. Transport cases will be heard by DOSC.
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 3: Alcohol-related vandalism	4-8 months probation- Consult with Chris (MSU)/Consult with Chinasa (Bloomfield)	JE: Personal Decision Making, JE: Alcohol Education 102/JE: Marijuana, & JE: Understanding and Managing Conflict; restitution if damage to property
<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 3: Alcohol-related violence	4-8 months probation or suspension (Consult with Chris (MSU)/Consult with Chinasa (Bloomfield)	JE: Personal Decision Making, JE: Alcohol Education 102/JE: Marijuana, & JE: Understanding and Managing Conflict; E-Chug

<b>Alcohol Violation</b>	Level 4: alcohol related offense (three or more offenses). Usually heard by DOSC or an AD	6+ months probation or suspension; possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	Community service or research paper, potential loss of housing.
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<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 1: Possession or being in the presence of cannabis (first offense)	Warning - 2+ months probation	JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Marijuana
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 2: Possession or being in the presence of cannabis (second offense)	Warning - 3+ months probation; possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	E-Toke; possible deferred or actual housing suspension depending on context
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 3: Drug-related vandalism	4-8 months probation	JE: Personal Decision Making, JE: Alcohol Education101/JE: Marijuana, & JE: Damage and Vandalism; restitution if damage to property; possible deferred or actual housing suspension for 1+ semesters depending on scope of damage; community service
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 3: Drug-related Violence	4-8 months probation or suspension (Consult with Chris (MSU)/Consult with Chinasa (Bloomfield))	JE: Personal Decision Making, JE: Alcohol Education101/JE: Marijuana, & JE: Understanding and Managing Conflict
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 3: Hospital Transport due to drug use	Cases may qualify for medical amnesty; MAP decisions will be made by DOSC as part of the hearing process. For conduct findings, sanctions include probation 6	Cases may qualify for medical amnesty; MAP decisions will be made by DOSC as part of the hearing process. For conduct findings, sanctions include probation 6 months;

		months	ECHO; JE: Personal Decision Making & JE: Alcohol Education101/JE: Marijuana; ECHO. Transport cases will be heard by DOSC.
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 4: cannabis-related offense (third offense+)	DOSC will hear; likely removal from housing or deferred residential suspension; possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	DOSC will hear; likely removal from housing
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 4: Drug-related offense (other than cannabis)	DOSC will hear; likely housing suspension for 1+ semesters; possible deferred or actual University suspension; possible parental notification (consult with Chris/Chinasa)	DOSC will hear; likely housing suspension for 1+ semesters; possible deferred or actual University suspension
<b>Drug Violations</b>	Level 5: Drug Dealing/Growing	DOSC will hear; likely expulsion from the University	DOSC will hear; likely expulsion from the University

Loss of Housing is to be discussed on a case-by-case basis with the Director of Student Conduct/University Conduct Officer.

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UTI- 3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium's Under the Influence

MAR 101---3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium's Marijuana 101

3<sup>rd</sup> Millennium---Either UTI or MAR 101; depending on if alcohol or drug related

JE—Judicial Educator

ADE—Alcohol and/or Drug Education

PN---Parental Notification