



DRUG-FREE SCHOOLS AND CAMPUSES ACT

2023-24 BIENNIAL REVIEW

Reporting Period: January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024

Recorded by:

Desarée Murden, Director of Student

Conduct and Compliance

Office of the Dean of Students

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I. Introduction

Georgia College aims to produce graduates well prepared for careers or advanced study, who are instilled with exceptional qualities of mind and character, and who develop a healthy lifestyle. Designated as Georgia's Public Liberal Arts University, Georgia College provides the educational experiences typical of esteemed private liberal arts colleges with the affordability of public higher education. Wellness is a valued quality in a well-rounded student and is supported by the services offered in the Wellness and Recreational Center. As a residential campus in Milledgeville, Georgia College is primarily a teaching institution with an emphasis on undergraduate education and select graduate programs. There are approximately 6,300 students enrolled at Georgia College.

During the 2016-17 academic year, the Office of Student Affairs and University Housing/Residence Life began using a new management software called "Maxient". This software package is a comprehensive conduct software-as-a-Service (SaaS) that allows the University to track all incidents more accurately than previous methods. The following data is from January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024.

Rule 200. Residence Life Offenses involving alcohol	54
Rule 205. Residence Life Offenses involving drugs	14
Rule 101 A. Possession, use, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21	130
Rule 101 C. The sale, distribution, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages, or otherwise facilitating consumption of alcohol by persons under the age of 21	2
Rule 101 D. Public intoxication	4
Rule 101 F. Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or while impaired by the consumption of alcohol	10
Rules 101 J. Any activity or conduct involving the use of alcohol that is in violation of the law	0
Off-campus arrests of Georgia College students by local law enforcement (no way to determine if AOD related or not)	5 *
Total:	219

** Numbers provided after initial publication; total number adjusted accordingly.*

Residence Life Rules on Alcohol

Residence Life's alcohol policy is designed to ensure resident safety and help maintain individual rights to privacy, sleep, and study within the residence halls. Residence hall staff and occupants are required to comply with state and local statutes concerning the possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic

beverages. Residents who fail to comply with Residence Life's alcohol policy will be subject to disciplinary action by the department and/or the university. The complete policy is included in the appendix.

Residence Life Rules on Drugs

The use of illicit drugs has many negative consequences for both individual abusers and the community. Therefore, to promote a safe, healthy, and academically oriented community while upholding the law, housing staff work directly with Public Safety if there is suspicion of any drug-related activities. Any violation of drug policy is not only a violation of Residence Life rules but also a violation of the Student Code of Conduct and state/federal law. Violations of the drug policy may result in suspension and/or expulsion. The complete policy is included in the appendix.

Georgia College Student Code of Conduct – The Bobcat Code

RULE 101. ALCOHOL POSSESSION AND USE

- A. Possession, use, and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages by persons under the age of 21;
- B. Possession of alcohol containers by persons under the age of 21;
- C. The sale, distribution, or furnishing of alcoholic beverages, or otherwise facilitating consumption of alcohol by persons under the age of 21;
- D. Public intoxication;
- E. Providing alcoholic beverages to a person who is intoxicated;
- F. Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or while impaired by the consumption of alcohol;
- G. Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public locations on campus, including Residence Hall common spaces; common spaces in Residence Halls refer to any public space that exists outside the bedroom of a specific residential unit. Examples include, but are not limited to public kitchens, public living rooms, public bathrooms, group study/lounge spaces, laundry rooms, lobbies, computer rooms, etc. Common spaces also include the public spaces located on the outside grounds of a Residence Hall. If alcohol is found in the common area, all Students may be accused of violating the policy and/or found responsible;
- H. Any game or activity (especially those competitive in nature) contributing to the overindulgence of alcohol is prohibited regardless of the age of the participants (e.g., beer pong, water pong, flip cup, etc.);
- I. Possession or use of common source containers (e.g., kegs, pony kegs, party balls, beer bongs, trash cans, funnels, beer hats, etc.). Beverages must be used in individual containers; and
- J. Any activity or conduct involving the use of alcohol that is in violation of the law.

Georgia College is committed to fostering optimal health and safety for students. Georgia College, along with many colleges and universities throughout the country, has implemented and evaluated numerous strategies to address the problem of underage alcohol use, excessive alcohol use, and driving under the influence. We are actively working to help achieve our program objectives and help ensure student well-being.

Georgia College has an active involvement with campus and community partners, a written policy on alcohol and other drugs (AOD), and has successfully distributed this policy to faculty, staff and students. We are in full compliance with part 1 and 2 of Part 86 Regulations. Continuous review of our programs

is performed to assess our efforts. This report represents the 2023-2024 Biennial Review of Alcohol and Drug Prevention Programs at Georgia College, which is required by the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations.

II. Federal Requirements

The 1989 amendments to the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act, as articulated in Part 86, the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations, are explained below:

From U.S. Department of Education, EDGAR Part 86, Subpart B Institutions of Higher Education (IHE) Sec. 86.100. The IHE's drug prevention program must, at a minimum, include the following:

- (a) The annual distribution in writing to each employee, and to each student who is taking one or more classes for any type of academic credit except for continuing education units, regardless of the length of the student's program of study, of:
 - (1) Standards of conduct that 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;
 - (2) A description of the applicable 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 clear statement that the IHE will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees (consistent with local, 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 required by paragraph (a)(1) of this section. For this section, a disciplinary sanction may include the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program.
- (b) A biennial review by the IHE of its program to:
 - (1) Determine its effectiveness and implement changes to the program if they are needed; and
 - (2) Ensure that the disciplinary sanctions described in paragraph (a) of this section are consistently enforced.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1880-0522)

III. GC Comprehensive Efforts to Reduce Drug & Alcohol Abuse

- Standards of conduct that prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school property or as part of any school activities.
 - Georgia College Alcohol and Other Substance Abuse Policy and Student Code of Conduct is clear in its expectations that students must abide by Federal, State, and Local laws regarding alcohol and other drugs.
 - The institution also lists restrictions and possible sanctions for policy violations.
 - The relationship statement for Fraternity and Sororities includes rules regarding

alcohol and sanctions for violations.

- These standards are enforced by the Housing Conduct Officers (Housing), the Student.
- Conduct Hearing Bodies (campus-wide) and reinforced by the Student Code of Conduct.
- Georgia College students residing off-campus or engaging in illegal or intemperate use of substances while off-campus are still subject to campus student conduct procedures, as well as any civil procedures that may be instituted.
- Georgia College Public Safety has sworn peace officers to enforce the laws of the State of Georgia as they pertain to alcohol offenses and violations of the Georgia Controlled Substances Act. Any student that is found to be under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs on or about the Georgia College campus and is found to violate the laws of the State of Georgia is subject to arrest. Public Safety enforces within a 500 feet buffer around the campus.
- Early exposure:
 - Weekend of Welcome (WoW). WoW is a required fall program-oriented primarily towards incoming freshmen. Alcohol and other drug education are provided in the form of a speaker or program. This is an annual education and prevention program, as well as early exposure. In August of 2023, over 1,200 freshmen participated in a game style show provide by the Wellness and Recreation Center. In August of 2024, freshmen were provided with a "Bobcatting 101" program to address alcohol and other drugs and how use of those substances could jeopardize a student's conduct standing here at GCSU. Both of these presentations showcase high risk versus low-risk alcohol choices, what are the signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning, and how to help someone experiencing alcohol poisoning.
 - Georgia College has one-credit courses called First-Year Academic Seminar for grade in the Freshman Seminar classes. If a student does not complete the course, they are given a "hold" on their academic registration.
 - *AlcoholEdu for Sanctions* is assigned to students who have been found responsible for AOD violations of the Student Code of Conduct.
 - Annual education and prevention programs:
 - Participation in National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (October) and Safe Spring Break week (March), and Homecoming including a variety of programs and activities on campus. These events represent collaboration across several campus partners including University Housing, Campus Activity Board, Student Life, Counseling Services, Student Activities, Fraternity and Sorority Life, and the Wellness and Recreation Center.
 - Participation in alcohol-free "Alternative Spring Break" programs sponsored by Adventure Programs from the Wellness & Rec Center.

- Yearlong educational programming:
 - Education/Prevention efforts are continued throughout the year, as part of an on-going series of programs offered by several different offices on campus. Programs or presentations are offered to Residence Halls, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Freshman Seminar classes, and other campus organizations. Offices with programs most frequently requested are Counseling Services, Public Safety, Wellness and Recreation Center, and University Housing. For example, Public Safety, through their crime prevention efforts, provides a program on alcohol awareness to inform and educate students about the effects of alcohol on impaired judgment and balance. The program also educates students about the laws of the State of Georgia as they apply to alcohol. There is training offered every semester on risk mitigation, especially as it relates to alcohol. Peer Health Educators from Wellness and Recreation conduct an alcohol awareness table every month providing education and interactive tables.
 - Public Safety has a standing offer with our groups to offer one-on-one and personalized training with their chapters as needs arise.
 - The Office of Health Promotion sends weekly birthday cards to students who are turning 21 through the GOHS grant funding.
- Alcohol-free programming:
 - The Georgia Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) grant awarded to the school requires a minimum of 4 alcohol programs per year according to the grant. The grant has provided conference fees, alternative programs such as trivia, interactive educational resources. Among other things, the GOHS provided funding for impairment goggles to be used at information tables and events throughout the year. The 2023- 20224 grant has provided funding for Think Fast Trivia (Homecoming and Week of Welcome), which included alcohol education; 21st birthday cards and postage, the NCHA survey administered in the Spring of 2023, and office supplies for on campus promotion.
- Student Conduct Amnesty Policy (for students seeking medical attention for themselves or others):
 - Twenty-five (25) students have been allowed to opt for amnesty from student conduct charges in return for participating in alcohol education and counseling. All students involved, including those who call for help, are given this option. This policy only provides amnesty from violations of the Georgia College code of conduct. It does not necessarily grant amnesty from criminal, civil, or legal consequences for violations of Federal, State, or local law.
- Involvement of Multiple Campus Units:
 - Counseling Services: Counselors provide individual therapy and support for students, resource materials, and referrals for assessment of alcohol/drug addiction.
 - Wellness and Recreation Center: The University Health Educator has responsibilities in the area of AOD abuse prevention and conducts virtual AOD screenings on students who have been referred by Student Judicial, Athletics, and

voluntary referrals. More information can be found at: <https://www.gcsu.edu/health-promotion>.

- Residence Life Program and Policies: Policy formulation, enforcement, and programming in Residence Halls. Each year, the housing staff such as Community Advisors, are brought in early for training in several areas. This training includes education about campus policies (including AOD policies), referral resources and procedures, and role-playing exercises that include interaction and educational follow through with intoxicated residents.
- Parking and Transportation instituted a late-night shuttle from central campus to west campus in order to provide safe and reliable transportation. While no data is available, the hope is that the shuttle will reduce the number of DUI's between the two areas of university.
- Athletics: As part of pre-season protocols, all student-athletes are required to sign agreements addressing policies on alcohol and violence. They must also sign a form consenting to NCAA drug testing and another confirming they have read and understood the Summary of NCAA Regulations.

The Athletics Department provides periodic educational programming, including guest speakers on alcohol awareness, supported by administrators who actively reinforce these initiatives. The NCAA conducts random substance use testing for athletes on campus. Violations of alcohol-related laws or policies result in disciplinary measures, which may include community service, suspension from sports, or other sanctions as determined by the Athletic Director or Head Coach. Cases of illegal substance use mandate counseling sessions aimed at fostering better decision-making and preventing recurrence. Additionally, any student-athlete who tests positive for banned substances is subject to sanctions under GCSU policies, rules, and the student conduct code.

In February 2024, two student-athletes and four administrators attended the NCAA-funded Athletic Prevention Programming and Leadership Education (APPLE) Training Institute. Based on the University of Virginia's APPLE model, the program focuses on substance misuse prevention and student-athlete wellness. This training enabled the team to evaluate current practices at Georgia College and develop strategies to enhance prevention efforts.

- Student Development: Student Development, which consist of Student Activities, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Wellness and Recreation, Family and Parent Programs, and The GIVE Center is responsible for Weekend of Welcome programming, Homecoming Week, and other events and activities which routinely provide AOD education as well as non-alcohol programming and events. The Student Activities Budget Committee (SGA Executive members) provides funding to different campus organizations and departments, such as the Health Movement for AOD education programs.
- Office of the Dean of Students: Responsible for overseeing the Student Conduct Hearing Bodies which hears student code of conduct violations and assigns sanctions for those found responsible for violations; and enforcement of sanctions. The Office of the Dean of Students ensures that a well-rounded

approach to campus-wide AOD programming takes place on the campus.

IV. Procedures for Distributing AOD Policy

Methods for distribution of AOD policies to students include:

- Annual Security and Fire Safety Report: All crimes or other emergencies occurring on the Georgia
 - College campus crimes are reported to Georgia College Public Safety. Georgia College policy designates Georgia College Public Safety as the law enforcement unit for the institution. Students are encouraged to report crimes directly to Public Safety. The university community is informed of this procedure through new employee/student orientation, the annual crime report, as well as through crime prevention efforts. The 2024 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report can be found at:
<https://www.gcsu.edu/publicsafety/campus-crime-information>
- Student Handbook: The Georgia College Student Handbook can be found at:
<https://www.gcsu.edu/studentlife/student-handbook>
 - Included in the Student Handbook are the following, which all cover the use of alcohol and illegal use of controlled substances:
 - Amnesty Policy
 - Facilities Usage Policy
 - Social Functions Policy
 - Tailgating Policy
 - Policy on Alcohol and Illegal Use of Controlled Substances
 - The Student Code of Conduct and Honor Code can be found at:
<https://www.gcsu.edu/deanofstudents/student-code-of-conduct>.
 - Disciplinary Procedures and Sanctions are located at:
<https://www.gcsu.edu/deanofstudents/student-code-of-conduct>.
- Undergraduate Application for Admission identifies the Annual Security and Fire Safety Report and its online location as a source of information about alcohol and drug use policies.
<http://www.gcsu.edu/admissions/apply>.
- Orientation: Each student and parent who participates in orientation are given a packet of information that includes an introductory letter about the AOD and Sexual Misconduct online education requirement.
- University Housing Contract contains Residence Hall Facilities and Policies section that outlines that residents shall abide by all university and housing policies.
 - The Bobcat Code contains policies prohibiting the use of alcohol for those under 21, and the use, possession or distribution of illicit substances by any resident.
- **Distribution of Policies**

Methods for distribution of the policies to employees include:

- In 2010, the Office of Human Resources implemented a compliance month each October as a means to inform faculty, staff, and student workers of all mandated policies. During Annual Compliance month, all employees are directed to the online portal in GA View. The information contained in the compliance training has been pulled from various departments on campus and is a collective step to streamline annual training and compliance announcements to ensure Georgia College & State University is communicating all required federal and state policy information. Also, we have included important Board of Regents policies and updates that are critically important to our University operations. Included is the GCSU's Drug Free Schools and Communities Act which is also reviewed annually ([Drug Free Schools and Communities Act](#)).
- The Office of Human Resources posts all employment-related policies in the GCSU Policy Manual, which includes the Georgia College Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. This policy includes the Drug-Free Workplace Policy and the Risks of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The policy is available at <https://gcsu.smartcatalogiq.com/policy-manual/policy-manual/office-of-human-resources/safety-and-security/drug-free-schools-and-communities-act/>.
- New faculty, staff, and student workers receive an overview of Georgia College & State University's policies to include awareness of where all policies are located during new employee orientation. All employees are required to sign an electronic ethics policy acknowledgement form.

- **Program Strengths and Weaknesses**

Program Strengths:

- The addition of a Compliance Month has greatly improved our effectiveness at being assured that every staff and faculty member is informed annually of the Safe and Drug-Free School Regulations.
- Programs are proactive and student focused. Many of the elements of Georgia College's programs are educational and preventive. Disciplinary sanctions may include fines, education, community service, requiring a student to have a motivational interview with the Health Educator, recommending a counseling session, and other efforts designed to assist the students in gaining insight, knowledge, and increasingly responsible behavior. Student input is sought at all levels of programming.
- Staff Development: Faculty, staff, Public Safety officers, and administrators seek out opportunities to attend or present at AOD Prevention conferences to stay up to date on policy, enforcement, and content issues and to network with other university personnel.
- Grant Funding: Georgia College has been funded by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety Young Adult program grant for 24 consecutive years. Georgia College received one year of support from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety to continue the "Safe and Sound" Project. The 2022-2023 (October 2022- September 2023) and 2023-2024 (October 2023 – September 2024) allotment was for \$9,359 for each year. The goals of the project are to increase seat belt usage, reduce high-risk drinking, and reduce drunken driving incidences among college students. These funds support Peer Education programming, National Collegiate Health Assessment implementation and analysis, AOD abuse prevention programs, and promotion of highway safety issues such as impaired driving prevention.
- Scope of programming: Georgia College maintains a campus- wide involvement in AOD

programs, spanning orientation, Public Safety, Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Wellness & Recreation Center, University Housing, Human Resources, and other academic units. The elements are presented in a variety of formats encompassing universal, selected, and indicated levels of programming and intervention.

- Campus-wide support: Several aspects of the campus community are involved and supportive of the spirit of these regulations and recognize the negative effects of heavy drinking and the illicit use of controlled substances.
- AOD Screenings for students who have been sanctioned, referred through medical amnesty, and voluntary participants. These meetings provide students a place to understand what they would like to get out of substance use and how they can avoid consequences by making lower risk choices.
- Partnerships with Public Safety to promote impaired driving awareness. By utilizing the impairment goggles and interactive resources, we are able to provide a more comprehensive picture of what lower risk drinking can look like for students. The students also have the opportunity to speak to Public Safety about laws and specific situations.

Ongoing Assessment:

The ACHA NCHA Survey II is administered online every two years by the Office of Health Promotion to gain health and wellness information from students. The survey is administered to a selection of students who are randomly selected to receive a participation email from the Office of Health Promotion. Over 4000 emails are sent out. Students have three weeks to complete the survey. GCSU runs its survey before Spring break. In 2023, the survey was opened after students had been back on campus for 30 days from winter break. There were 722 students who participated in the online survey. The survey will be administered again in Spring of 2025.

- **Alcohol Use**
 - The survey shows that of this group of responders, 78% of our students have used alcohol previously and 74% have used alcohol in the last 3 months and 57% have used alcohol in the past 2 weeks.
 - The majority of GC students (67%) had 4 or fewer drinks the last time they were in a social setting. Binge drinking is defined as consuming 4 or more drinks for females and 5 or more drinks for males in a setting. The survey for 2023 shows that consuming 7 or more drinks (13%) the last time partying or socializing is second to consuming 4 or less, with 5 drinks following closely behind at 12 percent. Having six drinks falls in last with 7% of students consuming this many drinks the last time they partied or socialized.
 - Reported number of times college students consumed five or more drinks in a sitting within the last two weeks:
 - Did not drink alcohol in the last two weeks (includes nondrinkers): 43.1%
 - None: 20.1%
 - 1-2: 26.1%
 - 3-5: 9.6%

- 6 or more times: 1.1%
- **College students who drank alcohol reported experiencing the following in the last 12 months when drinking alcohol:**
 - Did something you later regretted: 26.8%
 - Blackout (forgot where I was or what I did for a **large period of time and cannot remember**, even when someone reminds me) 16.5%
 - Brownout (forgot where I was or what I did for **short periods of time, but can remember** once someone reminds me: 30.9%
 - Got in trouble with the police: 0.7%
 - Got in trouble with college/university authorities: 0.7%
 - Someone had sex with me without my consent: 2.9%
 - Had sex with someone without their consent: 0.3%
 - Had unprotected sex: 16%
 - Physically injured myself: 11.7%
 - Physically injured another person: 0.7%
 - Seriously considered suicide: 3.1%
 - Needed medical help: 0.7%
 - Reported 2 or more of these: 34%
- **Driving under the influence**
 - 13.4 % of college students reported driving after having **any alcohol** in the last 30 days.
 - 38 % of college students reported driving within 6 hours of using cannabis/marijuana in the last 30 days.
- **Substances used in last 3 months:**
 - Alcohol:** 74%
 - Tobacco or nicotine delivery products:** 34.3%
 - Cigarettes: 8.1%
 - E-cigarettes or other vape products: 29.6%
 - Water pipe or hookah: 3.1%
 - Chewing or smokeless tobacco: 3.6%
 - Cigars or little cigars: 3.6%
 - Other: 0.1%
 - Marijuana use:** 30.5%
 - Cocaine:** 5.3%
 - Methamphetamine:** 0.6%

Inhalants: 3.3%

Sedatives or sleeping pills: 3.5%

Hallucinogens: 6.9%

Heroin: 0.1%

Prescription opioids: 2.6%

Students in recovery for alcohol or drug use: 1.8%

Program Weaknesses:

- Lack of “ownership” of Alcohol and Other Drug Education and Programming. While it is a strength to have so many different areas of campus involved in AOD programs, education, and other issues, it is also a weakness to not have a designated “expert” on campus. Often, programs are duplicated or compete with one another for the same audience. If there was one office or position on campus that everyone knew to contact for AOD issues, it would prevent such things from happening.
- Distribution: The Department of Education has not developed an official policy on the electronic distribution of the required material. The DoE has, however, released guidance that electronic dissemination may satisfy this requirement if the institution can provide reasonable assurance that the information is not only being posted but received by students and employees. Moving forward distribution of the policy will include students validating that they have read the policy through the class registration process each semester. Starting in Spring 2022 this new process should be fully in effect with all registered students.
- Georgia College has a designated web site: <http://gcsu.smartcatalogiq.com/en/Policy-Manual/PolicyManual/Introduction-to-the-Policies-Procedures-and-Practices-Manual> for all Policies, Procedures, and Practices, which is helpful to administrators, faculty, staff and students. Accessibility of the policies and reports can still be difficult unless one has the exact URL (direct link) or does a search on the University’s website.

Revisions of AOD Prevention Efforts

- Greater efforts for environmental management are needed. For example, passing city ordinances that do not allow anyone under 21 to enter a bar and mandatory training for bartenders and wait staff (spotting false IDs, managing intoxicated patrons) would be helpful.
- The idea of designating a campus AOD point person will be brought to the Georgia College administration for discussion and recommendations. In addition, a request to create an AOD Task Force will be continued by the Dean of Students and Chief of Police. A delay occurred when key administrative decision-makers retired from the university.

Appendices

APPENDIX A. ALCOHOL AND DRUGS POLICIES

USG 4.6.4 Alcohol and Drugs on Campus

In accordance with Georgia laws governing the manufacture, sale, use, distribution, and possession of alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs on college campuses and elsewhere, including the Drug-Free Postsecondary Education Act of 1990, the Board of Regents encourages its institutions to adopt programs designed to increase awareness of the dangers involved in the use of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, or other illegal or dangerous drugs by University System of Georgia (USG) students and employees. Such programs shall stress individual responsibility related to the use of alcohol and drugs on and off the campus.

To assist in the implementation of such awareness programs and to enhance the enforcement of state laws at USG institutions, each institution shall adopt and disseminate comprehensive rules and regulations consistent with local, state, and federal laws concerning the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of alcoholic beverages, marijuana, controlled substances, or dangerous drugs on campus and at institutionally-approved events off-campus.

Disciplinary sanctions for the violation of such rules and regulations shall be included as a part of each institution's disciplinary code of student conduct. Disciplinary sanctions for students convicted of a felony offense involving the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of marijuana, controlled substances, or other illegal or dangerous drugs shall include the forfeiture of academic credit and the temporary or permanent suspension or expulsion from the institution. All sanctions imposed by the institution shall be subject to review procedures authorized by the Board of Regents' Policy on Application for Discretionary Review.

The rules and regulations adopted by each institution shall also provide for relief from disciplinary sanctions previously imposed against one whose convictions are subsequently overturned on appeal or otherwise.

APPENDIX B. GCSU STUDENT POLICY ON ALCOHOL AND ILLEGAL USE OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

Georgia College & State University recognizes the need to address the issues of alcohol and other drug abuse among university students. Drug use may pose physical and psychological risks, and long-term harm to self and others, in addition to the legal consequences of involvement with controlled substances.

The purpose of this policy is to circumscribe and educate about the lawful and responsible use of alcohol by students, and to educate about illegal drugs in order to maintain an environment that is consistent with the educational mission of Georgia College & State University.

Georgia College & State University will comply with all federal, state, and local laws and policies, including the policies of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, on the abuse of alcohol and other drugs by its students. The legal drinking age in the State of Georgia is 21.

Each member of the Georgia College & State University community should be involved in the implementation of and compliance with this Policy. Unless otherwise stated by law, each individual retains responsibility for his or her actions at all times regardless of his or her mental state, even if altered by alcoholic beverages or other drugs.

Campus organizations may develop and enforce additional group/individual standards which are more restrictive than those established in this Policy.

A. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT AND SANCTIONS

In accordance with federal and state laws and because of the potential detriment to the health and well-being of its students, all students are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful use, possession, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, and sale of alcoholic beverages, controlled substances (including marijuana), and other dangerous drugs.

1. Alcohol

a. The sale, distribution, and consumption of alcoholic beverages in or on all Georgia College & State University-owned or leased (by) property or on sidewalks/streets are specifically prohibited, with the exception of those designated annually by the Chief Student Affairs Officer. An official list of designated locations is available in the Chief Student Affairs Officer's office and on the Student Life website. This does not prohibit the lawful use of alcohol in residences.

b. Individual possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages is acceptable, provided individuals do not:

- 1) Possess or consume alcoholic beverages if under 21 years of age.
- 2) Furnish or cause to be furnished, any alcoholic beverages to persons less than 21 years of age.
- 3) Conspicuously display open containers of alcoholic beverages in any public location, including, but not limited to, grounds, sidewalks, and streets within campus boundaries (with the exception of the grounds, but not the public sidewalks and streets, or privately owned or leased property).
- 4) Sell alcoholic beverages.
- 5) Misrepresent one's age or identity in any manner for the purpose of obtaining or possessing any alcoholic beverage.

c. Serve or make available alcohol to obviously intoxicated persons. Alcoholic beverages may be served and/or consumed by individuals age 21 or over at events and activities that are advertised, promoted, sponsored, or supervised by a recognized Georgia College & State University organization, providing the organization shall:

1) Be responsible for enforcing the entire Student Policy on Alcohol and Illegal Use of Controlled Substances.

2) Have an acknowledgment of the " Student Policy on Alcohol and Illegal Use of Controlled Substances " form on file in the Department of Campus Life in the Student Activities Center. Acknowledgment of the Student Policy on Alcohol and Illegal Use of Controlled Substances Forms are available in the Department of Campus Life. This must be signed with every changeover of officers.

3) Ensure that alcohol is not the focal point, the reason for, or the drawing card for an event.

4) Submit, and have approved, a completed Alcohol Event Planning Form to the Department of Campus Life before the event. Alcohol Event Planning Forms are available in the Department of Campus Life in the Student Activities Center.

5) Not advertise the service or availability of alcoholic beverages at functions.

6) Ensure that alcoholic beverages are not consumed by any individual under the legal drinking age of 21.

7) Provide non-alcoholic beverages and food in a reasonable quantity, in the same general area, and for the same time period, as the alcoholic beverages are accessible.

8) Control access to the alcoholic beverages through either a central point of distribution by a designated server or by another method such as wristbands and sober monitors. Control is for the purpose of restricting use by those under 21 and/or who are obviously intoxicated.

9) Not use organizational funds to purchase alcohol. Any money used to pay for alcoholic beverages must be taken from personal/private sources by a properly licensed third-party vendor. Alcoholic beverages may not be paid for by the student organization selling them at the activity or by charging an admission fee either in advance or at the door (as stated in the Georgia Code of Law, 1981 Section 3-3-21).

10) Not use kegs, champagne/punch fountains, or other common usage containers (such as punch bowls or frozen drink machines) for alcoholic beverages.

11) In the absence of a third-party vendor, designate or hire a TIPS (Training Intervention Procedures for Servers) trained server to monitor the service and consumption of alcohol. It is unlawful to serve or make available alcohol to obviously intoxicated persons (as stated in the Georgia Code of Law, Section 3-3-22).

12) Require a Student Life recognized advisor, who must not be a minor, to be aware of functions of student organizations where alcohol is served or made available. Advisors are encouraged to attend such functions.

d. Tailgating with alcohol at major events

1) Tailgating is defined as a social event held on and/or around the open tailgate of a vehicle. Tailgating often involves consuming beverages and grilling food. Tailgate parties usually

occur in the parking lots at stadiums and arenas before, and occasionally after or during, sporting events and concerts. Individuals may still “tailgate” even if their vehicles do not have tailgates or are not using a vehicle. Tailgate parties are permitted in Georgia College & State University parking areas and gathering sites during major campus events which are designated annually by the Chief Student Affairs Officer.

2) Pre-determined areas of the Georgia College & State University parking areas and gathering sites during major campus events in use for tailgate parties will be identified as “family-friendly zones” and individual possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages will not be permitted in these areas.

3) It is acceptable for individual possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in areas not identified as “family-friendly zones” within the tailgating area designated by the Chief Student Affairs Officer provided individuals do not:

- i. Possess or consume alcoholic beverages if under 21 years of age.
 - ii. Furnish, or cause to be furnished, any alcoholic beverages to persons less than 21 years of age.
 - iii. Sell alcoholic beverages.
 - iv. Misrepresent one's age or identity in any manner for the purpose of obtaining or possessing any alcoholic beverage.
 - v. Serve or make available alcohol to obviously intoxicated persons.
 - vi. Use kegs, champagne/punch fountains, or other common usage containers (such as punch bowls or frozen drink machines) for alcoholic beverages.
 - vii. Engage in any disorderly, profane, indecent conduct or misbehavior that would interfere or disrupt the peaceful activities of others.
 - viii. Begin more than three hours prior to the event, and do not continue more than three hours after the event unless prior authorization has been given when designated by the Chief Student Affairs Officer.
 - ix. Litter; all trash must be placed in the appropriate receptacles.
 - x. Public safety must be present at all tailgate parties involving alcohol on all Georgia College & State University-owned or leased (by) property or on sidewalks/streets.
- e. Promotional activities regarding alcohol are as follows:
- 1) The posted advertisement of alcoholic beverages on campus is not permitted. Campus publications are encouraged to minimize/eliminate all advertisements of alcoholic beverages.
 - 2) No promotion or advertising on the campus of incentive drinking is allowed.
 - 3) Student groups and organizations may not seek or accept sponsorships from companies/vendors whose main focus of business is the manufacture, distribution, or sale of alcohol products.
- f. Participants in Study Abroad programs are bound by the legal drinking age of the respective countries in which they are studying, as well as the guidelines established by their program's faculty leader(s), and in all other respects, this policy applies.
- g. Sanctions for Violation of Standards

1) Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action and penalties in accordance with the Honor Code and Code of Conduct as published in the Student Handbook of Georgia College & State University.

2) Attempts to circumvent the provisions in this Policy in any way are an infraction of this Policy.

Possession and/or Use of Illegal Drugs

h. Georgia College & State University does not permit or condone the illegal possession and/or use of controlled substances. Controlled substances mean any drug, substance, or immediate precursor included in the definition of a controlled substance in the Official Code of Georgia Section 16-13-21 (4) or Schedule I through V of Section 202 of the Federal Controlled Substance Act [21 United States Code 812]. "Dangerous drug" is used as defined in the Official Code of Georgia Section 16-13-71.

i. Sanctions for Violation of Standards:

1) Any student who violates this Policy or any federal or state law or policy regarding the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of controlled substances or other dangerous drugs shall be subject to disciplinary actions and penalties in accordance with the Honor Code and Code of Conduct as published in the Student Handbook of Georgia College & State University.

2) In accordance with Georgia law, any student convicted of a felony that involves the manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of controlled substances or other illegal drug, or student organizations involved in these activities will be subject to specific penalties required by State law.

j. Further information regarding the effects of drug abuse and penalties for manufacture, distribution, sale, possession, or use of controlled substances or other illegal drugs is available in the Counseling Center, Student Health Center, and the Chief Student Affairs Officer.

k. Participants in Study Abroad programs are bound by the policies of the Georgia College & State University as well as the guidelines established by their program's faculty leader(s), regarding the possession and/or use of illegal drugs.

B. DRUG AND ALCOHOL COUNSELING, TREATMENT, AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

Students with alcohol- or drug-related problems may be referred to or seek assistance from the Division of Student Life. The Division of Student Life provides trained professional and paraprofessional counselors in the Counseling Center for drug and alcohol abuse prevention, education, and counseling. In addition, Student Health Services provides a Health Promotions Coordinator who specializes in health education and abuse prevention related to alcohol and drug abuse.

C. POLICY REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed annually by a Task Force which includes student representation and is appointed by the Chief Student Affairs Officer or their designee, to determine its effectiveness, to ensure that policies are enforced and the disciplinary sanctions are consistently applied, to evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the educational component of the policy, and to recommend and implement changes as appropriate.

D. POLICY DISTRIBUTION

The Chief Student Affairs Officer, or their designee, shall oversee the annual distribution of this Policy to every Georgia College & State University student. Additional copies of the Student Policy on Alcohol and Illegal Use of Controlled Substances may be obtained from the Chief Student Affairs Officer.

APPENDIX C. AMNESTY POLICY (GOOD SAMARITAN POLICY)

The purpose of the Georgia College Alcohol and Other Drugs Amnesty Policy is to prevent students from being reluctant to seek assistance for themselves or someone else for fear of facing disciplinary action. It is an attempt to remove barriers that prevent students from seeking the medical attention that is needed.

The policy does not necessarily grant amnesty for criminal, civil, or legal consequences for violations of Federal, State, or Local laws. Georgia College Public Safety Officers have sworn police officers with full arrest authority, and they have the autonomy to use that authority as circumstances dictate according to their professional experience. In general, unlike police from many other settings, Georgia College Public Safety officers attempt to balance a concern for student educational outcomes with their powers of arrest. In circumstances in which they choose to arrest students rather than refer them to the Office of the Dean of Students, their decision is typically a result of evidence of gross irresponsibility on the part of the student, the presence of an apparent safety risk, or complications due to the student's non-compliance or belligerence.

A. PHILOSOPHY

The health and safety of members of the Georgia College community are a primary concern. Students need to seek immediate medical attention for themselves or others when someone's health and/or safety is at risk (examples include alcohol poisoning, unconsciousness, sexual assault, or physical assault). Students may be reluctant to seek assistance for themselves or someone else for fear of facing action from the Office of the Dean of Students. Georgia College seeks to remove barriers that prevent students from seeking the medical attention they need.

B. POLICY

Note: This Policy only provides amnesty from violations of the Georgia College Student Code of Conduct. It does not grant amnesty for criminal, civil, or legal consequences for violations of Federal, State, or Local law.

1. Students who seek emergency medical attention for themselves related to consumption of drugs or alcohol will not be accused with violations of the Georgia College Student Code of Conduct related to that consumption, provided that the student subsequently completes a screening from Student Health Services and any recommended treatment within a reasonable time frame to be determined by the Office of the Dean of Students. Failure to complete this screening/treatment may result in violations being filed with the Office of Dean of Students.

2. Students who seek emergency medical attention for someone else will not be accused of violations of the Georgia College Student Code of Conduct related to consumption of alcohol or drugs, or intoxication, provided that the student subsequently completes a screening from Student Health Services and any recommended treatment within a reasonable time frame to be determined by the Office of the Dean of Students.

3. Georgia College Public Safety officers will weigh heavily a student's cooperation and genuinely positive intent in determining whether a substance abuse situation allows them to provide the student amnesty from arrest. Student Groups are required to seek immediate medical assistance for their members or guests when any potential health risk is observed, including medical emergencies related to the use of alcohol and/or drugs. A Student Group that seeks immediate assistance from appropriate sources will not be accused of violations of the Georgia College Student Code of Conduct related to providing alcohol, providing that the organization completes any educational programming required by the Office of the Dean of Students. However, the

organization can and will be held accountable for any other violations of the Student Code of Conduct related to the incident (e.g. endangering the health or safety of others, covered smoke detectors, etc.). Student Groups that fail to seek immediate medical assistance for members or guests in need of attention will likely be accused of violations of The Bobcat Code and face dissolution as the outcome of such behaviors. **It is imperative that Student Groups seek medical assistance for their members or guests in an emergency situation.**

4. This Policy applies only to those students or organizations who seek emergency medical assistance in connection with an alcohol or drug-related medical emergency and does not apply to individuals experiencing an alcohol or drug-related medical emergency who are found by University employees (i.e. University Police, Faculty, administrative staff, residence hall staff).

C. The Georgia College Amnesty Policy is not intended to shield or protect those students or organizations that repeatedly violate the Student Code of Conduct. In cases where repeated violations of the Georgia College Student 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 was reported. Additionally, the University reserves the right to adjudicate any case in which the violations are egregious.

D. Additionally, the Georgia College Amnesty Policy allows for assistance in cases of sexual misconduct. If you believe you have been involved in an incident of sexual misconduct, you have the right to pursue action through the Student Conduct Process and/or the appropriate law enforcement authorities, and/or the courts. Georgia College further encourages anyone who has been involved in such an incident to pursue action through appropriate law enforcement authorities and/or the courts. The University wishes to encourage victims to report incidents of sexual misconduct and therefore reserves the right to waive disciplinary violations against victims for circumstances surrounding the incident. For example, a victim who had been drinking underage would not typically face Allegations of violating alcohol policies. See the Sexual Misconduct Policy for more information.

E. The Office of the Dean of Students reserves the right to contact any student to discuss an incident whether or not the Georgia College Amnesty Policy is in effect.

APPENDIX D. **SOCIAL FUNCTIONS POLICY**

A. Any registered student organization hosting a social event, whether on-campus or off-campus, will be expected to abide by all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations. All social events on campus must be approved by the Director of Student Activities and Organizations and must be in compliance with Georgia College policies and procedures for student organizations. If the event is held on-campus facilities such as the East Campus (Lake Laurel), the main campus (Maxwell Student Union and Student Activities Center), and the J. Michael Peeler Athletic Complex (picnic grounds and athletic fields), appropriate facility usage request forms must be submitted to Public Services where approval of the appropriate building/area supervisor will be obtained. A damage deposit must accompany the application in order for the request to receive full consideration. Completed requests must be submitted to the Director of Student Activities and Organizations for their approval of the appropriateness of the event prior to submitting to Public Services. All applications must be approved in their entirety one week prior to the date of the requested event.

1. Each organization sponsoring a social event on campus property must sign a statement of responsibility and a waiver of liability included on the Social Function Application releasing Georgia College from liability for personal injury or damages to property, littering or destruction, and cleanup of Georgia College property. All scheduled events shall terminate at designated times. If the organization plans to serve alcoholic beverages during the social event, they must adhere to the university's alcohol policy. Organization advisors must be present at all social events where alcohol may be present.

2. The Board of Regents recognizes and supports the laws of Georgia with respect to the sale, use, distribution, and possession of alcoholic beverages on university campuses as well as within the state at large. To this end, the Board has endorsed a program designed to enhance awareness and curb abuse of alcohol by students and others in the University System. This program emphasizes that each institution shall stress individual responsibility related to the use of alcohol on and off the campus.

3. To assist in the implementation of alcohol awareness programs and to enhance the enforcement of state laws on the campuses of the University System of Georgia, each institution shall adopt and disseminate comprehensive policies and procedures, consistent with state and local laws, concerning the use, distribution, and possession of alcoholic beverages on campus and institutionally approved events off-campus. Disciplinary sanctions for violation of the policies or other unauthorized use of alcoholic beverages shall be included in each institution's disciplinary code of conduct.

4. A copy of the policies and procedures adopted by each institution shall be filed with and approved by the Office of the Vice-Chancellor for Student Services of the Board of Regents. This shall be reviewed and approved by this office annually thereafter.

5. Copies of policies and procedures, forms, and information relative to the implementation of system policy on the Georgia College campus are available upon request from the Department of Student Activities and Organizations in the Student Activities Center.

6. Please note the following rules:

- a. All registered student organization members, faculty, or staff using university facilities and serving alcoholic beverages must be in full compliance with the Board of Regents Alcohol On-Campus Policy as well as Georgia College Policies and Procedures for social functions.

b. Coordinators of events shall complete a Social Function Application one week prior to the proposed function.

c. Coordinators of events must sign a statement of responsibility and waiver of liability releasing Georgia College from liability for personal injury or damages.

d. Organization members or appropriate faculty or staff members will accept full responsibility for any personal injuries, damages to property, littering or destruction, and cleanup of Georgia College.

e. Registered student organizations must submit an appropriate damage and cleanup deposit attached to the Social Function Application.

f. All registered student organization events shall terminate on or before 12:00 midnight with the exception of the Maxwell Student Union Lounge where events may be held until 1:00 a.m.

g. If registered student organizations plan to serve alcoholic beverages during the social event (no sale is permitted on state property) they must be served no later than 30 minutes prior to the termination time, and within the following guidelines:

1) Alcoholic beverages may be served outside only at the J. Michael Peeler Athletic Complex picnic area and the Lake Laurel Lot on East Campus.

2) Alcoholic beverages are served inside only within the Maxwell Student Union, Student Activities Center, and the Lake Laurel Lodge.

3) Whenever alcoholic beverages are served, equally accessible, alternative, nonalcoholic beverages, snacks, or food must also be served.

h. Specific regulations for use of alcoholic beverages by registered student organizations must be followed.

i. Violations of the Social Functions Policy will result in the termination of further privileges and may include other possible disciplinary actions or sanctions.