

Point University

Biennial Review

2013-2014

2014-2015

TABLE OF CONTENT

I.	Overview.....	2
II.	Policy.....	5
III.	Data Collection.....	8
IV.	Services	10
V.	Summary & Recommendations.....	10

Overview

The Drug Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) require an institution of higher education (IHE) such as the Point University to certify it has adopted and implemented programs to prevent the 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:

- Determining the effectiveness of programs and policies and make changes as needed.
- Ensure that disciplinary sanctions developed are enforced consistently.

The following campus units provided information for this report:

- Student Life
- Office of Safety & Security
- Athletics
- Financial Aide
- Enrollment Management

Materials Reviewed

The following materials were examined for this review:

- A Covenant for a Christian Community
- Point University Personnel Policy
- Point University Discipline Policy
- Point University Substance Abuse Program

Compliance with Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

Point University complies with the requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. Point University has implemented a variety of services to prevent the abuse of alcohol and use, unlawful possession, and distribution of illicit drugs both by students and employees, as demonstrated through this biennial review.

Policy

In accordance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendment of 1989, the following information pertains to the use and/or possession of illegal drugs, prevention of drug abuse and illicit drug use and the abuse of alcohol. Point University will not tolerate the use or possession of illegal drugs. This is not only against policies stated in this code, but it is also against the law. The judiciary system, as stated above, will discipline students who are caught with any such substances.

Alcohol Consumption

Even in state universities, the abuse of alcohol is being recognized as a serious problem for college students. Many state universities in Georgia and Alabama are adopting strict guidelines regarding the use of alcohol. As Christians committed to behavior that is above reproach, Point University recognizes the importance of providing clear guidelines to our students.

- Alcoholic beverages of any kind are strictly prohibited on campus.
- Alcoholic beverages of any kind are strictly prohibited at any function – on or off campus – sponsored by Point University.
- Any student under the legal age of consumption is strictly prohibited from the use of any alcoholic beverage.
- Students of legal age are strongly urged to avoid the use of alcoholic beverages while enrolled at Point University, and the use of alcohol in the company of underage persons will be considered a serious breach of our community standards.
- Point University reserves the right to be directly involved in the lives of students who fail to live up to these guidelines and/or who indicate problems in this area of life.
- Violations of alcohol laws, including public drunkenness, violating open container laws, providing alcohol to minors, and other such activities could result in suspension from the University community.

The University recognizes that our current culture often encourages the use and abuse of alcohol, and that students may very well be victimized by this cultural attitude. Our goal in this area is redemptive, and our desire will always be to work with students to help them overcome any difficulties associated with alcohol abuse. We want students to allow us to help in this area and seek the help that we are most willing to give. At the same time, we must recognize that the general health of our entire community is always a matter of great importance; continued disregard for any University expectations, including the abuse of alcohol, cannot be tolerated and will be addressed appropriately.

Tobacco Products Point University strongly discourages the use of any and all tobacco products. The negative health consequences alone make the use of such products counterproductive. That reality, coupled with the negative images the use of such products often creates, should be ample motivation for students who are a part of this community to avoid any use of tobacco products. It is important for our students to realize the following expectations:

- The use of tobacco products in any form is strictly prohibited on the campus of Point University.
- The use of tobacco products in any form is strictly prohibited at any event sponsored by Point University, on or off campus, including athletic events.

- The use of tobacco products by underage members of this community is strictly prohibited.
- The use of tobacco products off campus by students considered to be of legal age by the state is strongly discouraged.
- The abuse of tobacco products by students or flagrant violation of these guidelines could result in the suspension of a student from this community.

Use of Illegal Substances

Point University prohibits the use of illegal substances by its students – both on campus and off. Students who live off campus, either at home or in apartments, are not exempt from the total ban on the use of illegal substances.

At Point University, students who struggle with illegal substances are encouraged to allow the University and its staff to provide the necessary help to overcome their addictions. Counseling is available, and when appropriate, small group therapy can be provided. Students who persist in the use of such substances will be suspended from Point University. When it is suspected that a student is using illegal substances, but refuses to admit to that practice, a student may be required to provide a drug test from a reputable clinic in order to remain a student in good standing.

Point University's Substance Abuse Program is available upon request.

Weapons

No weapons of any kind are to be on the campus of Point University. This includes firearms, explosive devices, or any other material deemed to be a weapon and hazardous to the welfare of our community. This ban includes weapons stored in residence halls, apartments, automobiles, etc. Violation of this ban could lead to suspension from this community

Legal Sanctions

The use of alcoholic beverages and illicit drugs is subject to federal, state and local laws. Such laws include the following sanctions for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol:

- **State laws:** State funds may be denied to nonpublic educational institutions who commit certain felony offenses involving marijuana, controlled substances or dangerous drugs during the term of conviction or acceptance by the court of a plea of nolo contendere.
- **State Trafficking Penalties:** Substance Amount Imprisonment Fine
 - Cocaine
 - 28-200 grams 10 years min. \$200,000
 - 200-400 grams 15 years min. \$300,000
 - 400+ grams 25 years min.

- \$1 million Maximum: life imprisonment
- Morphine, opium, isomer, salt of an isomer (e.g., heroin), or mixture of the above
 - 4-14 grams 5 years min.
 - \$50,000 14-28 grams 10 years min.
 - \$100,000 28+ grams 25 years min.
 - \$500,000
- Marijuana
 - 50-2,000 lbs. 5 years min.
 - \$100,000 2000-10,000 lbs. 7 years min.
 - \$250,000 10,000+ lbs. 15 years min.
 - \$1 million Methaqualone 200-400 grams 5 years min.
 - \$50,000 400+ grams 15 years min. \$250,000
- ***Federal Penalties and Sanctions:***
 1. First conviction: up to one year imprisonment; fined at least \$1,000, but not more than \$100,000; or both.
 2. After one prior conviction: at least 15 days in prison, not to exceed 2 years; fined at least \$2,500, but not more than \$250,000; or both.
 3. Special sentencing provisions for possession of crack cocaine: Mandatory minimum of five years in prison, not to exceed 20 years; fined up to \$250,000; or both, if:
 - a. First conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds 5 grams.
 - b. Second conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds 3 grams.
 - c. Third or subsequent conviction and the amount of crack possessed exceeds 1 gram.
 4. Forfeiture of personal and real property used to facilitate possession of a controlled substance if that offense is punishable by more than one year of imprisonment.
 5. Forfeiture of vehicles, boats, aircraft or any other conveyance used to transport or conceal a controlled substance.
 6. Civil fine of up to \$10,000.

7. Denial of federal benefits, such as student loans, grants, contracts and professional and commercial licenses; up to one year for first offense, and up to 5 years for second and subsequent offenses.

8. Ineligible to receive or purchase a firearm.

9. Revocation of certain federal licenses and benefits, e.g., pilot's license, public housing tenancy, etc., are vested within the authorities of individual federal agencies.

Data Collection

All students are required to adhere to the conditions of the screening and testing program as a result of being considered a student at Point University. The department of student life reserves the right to require testing of an individual student at random or at the discretion of student life. The University reserves the right to use any testing means available.

Student athletes at Point University are subjected to random testing as part of the athletics program. The University may conduct unannounced, random drug and alcohol tests of student athletes at any time. All student-athletes, including red-shirts, medical red-shirts, student athletes who are academically ineligible, and student athletes who have exhausted athletic eligibility but are still receiving financial or institutional aid, can be tested at any time during the academic year or when team practice is ongoing.

Random selection is facilitated by the head athletic trainer and communicated to the director of student life. Because student-athletes are selected randomly, they could be subject to testing more than once a year.

Any self-report or positive test will be reported to the director of student life. The student will be held accountable to the consequences of a positive test result as outlined in this document. All persons tested are subject to observation. The results of all drug screenings follow the written procedures under the Test Results section. Confidential drug test results will be kept on file for the entirety of the student's college career. All disciplinary violations and consequences are treated as cumulative and are considered in the awarding and adjusting of future institutional aid. This policy may be amended with or without notice at the sole discretion of the University.

Screening Procedure

- The student is notified that he or she has been selected for drug screening.
- The student is provided a "screening request" form indicating chain of custody and payment details. The student will need to present this form, along with 2 forms of identification (one must be their Point University student ID) to the drug screening administrator to release results to Point University.
- The student will present him or herself at the testing location at the time indicated on the screening request form.
- The screening location will be disclosed on the screening request form, or by the person communicating the screening request.

- The screening facility will return the results to the director of student life.

Safe Haven Clause

If a student wishes to address any substance use or abuse before he or she is selected for testing, that person will be allowed safe haven. A student may request a safe haven from the director of student life. A safe haven will be granted only one time during a student's career at Point University. If a student has previously received a positive test result, a safe haven may not be requested. In good faith that the student requesting safe haven desires to mature beyond substance abuse, the student will not be suspended from extra-curricular activities or athletic team participation during this period.

In this case, the student will attend a minimum of four sessions over a four-week period with the Point University counseling service. While content of counseling sessions is confidential between the student and counselor, the student will sign an authorization for the counselor to provide documentation of attendance compliance and recommendation for further course of treatment, if applicable, to the office of student life.

Also, at an undisclosed date the student will be required to provide a follow-up drug screening, at the student's expense, from a partner drug screening facility. The student will receive an email at their Point University email address from the director of student life communicating when the screening results are requested. Failure to provide test results by the date and time indicated in the communication will be considered a positive test result.

If this random test is negative after completion of the safe haven procedure, the student is eligible to return to full status. If this random test is positive after completion of the safe haven procedure, the student will be given a first positive test result and be disciplined accordingly.

Test Results

Failure of the student to cooperate with the testing procedure by not appearing for the testing process within the allotted time, not producing a sample, or attempting to falsify, alter or destroy the sample will be equivalent to a "positive" test result.

Whenever a negative test result is reported, the steps below will be followed:

- The testing agency will report the result of the test to the director of student life.
- The student will be notified of the results of the test.
- A diluted negative result from a urinalysis screening will result in re-testing.

Point reserves the right to change testing methods after receiving a diluted result. The drug test result of the re-testing will serve as the result on record.

Whenever a positive test result is reported, the steps below will be followed:

- The testing agency will report the result of the test to the director of student life.
- The student will be notified of the results of the test and a meeting time will be set to begin the steps of the consequences of a positive test result.
- The student has the opportunity to verify the validity of the test results, or request

Confirmation of the test results from the laboratory.
The director of student life will facilitate the communication with the partner screening facility.

Services

Counseling

Any member of the Point University community who has a psychological or physiological addiction to alcohol or drugs is encouraged to take advantage of free counseling services available both on and off campus. To obtain the services please email counseling@point.edu or call 706-385-1089 to make an appointment with a campus counselor.

Summary & Recommendations

Because substance abuse and violence are inextricably interrelated, identifying substance-abusing students is an important first step for intervening in both their substance abuse and their delinquent behavior. Drug testing can be a constructive means of helping students overcome denial of their substance abuse. As a part of intervention, drug testing can be used to help Point Community members achieve and maintain recovery and curtail other deviant behaviors.

Recommendations

- Identify and implement drug identification training for Managers, Department Heads and Student Leaders, followed by additional effective interventions strategies to help prevent further illicit drug use and delinquency.
- Identify and implement additional programming and services to support prevention and intervention efforts for Students and Faculty and Staff.
- Expand random drug testing to include all students' not just athletes.
- Add redemptive and mandated activities to violators to decrease repeat offenders.