**Tacoma Community College**

**Biennial Review for Compliance with Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Regulations**

**2015-2017**

**Background**

As a requirement of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989 (PL 101-226), Tacoma Community College conducts a biennial review of our efforts to comply with the law. As a condition of receiving funds or any other form of financial assistance under any federal program, TCC "must certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees."

**Laws & Regulations Requirements (Annual Notification + Content)**

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act requires at a minimum annual distribution in writing to each employee and to each student. Content to be included in the annual notification includes the following:

* Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees
* List of applicable sanctions under federal, state, or local laws for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol
* Description of health risks associated with the abuse of alcohol or use of illicit drugs
* List of drug and alcohol programs available to employees and students
* Clear statement that the IHE will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees for violations of those standards

In accordance with the provisions of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1986 (PL 99-570, Title IV, Sub-title B) and its amendment of 1989 (PL 101-226), the college has a policy to help educate and inform students, faculty and staff about prevention and treatment of substance abuse. The policy also upholds Washington statutes and federal laws regarding the illegal possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol with possible sanctions if such conduct is found to have been in violation.

In June 2015, TCC Board of Trustees passed a Tobacco and Smoke-Free Campus Policy. This policy was converted to the Executive Order 88-06 establishing Governor’s policy on smoking in State Facilities Chapter 70.160 RCW-Smoking in Public Places.

In Fall 2016, revisions were suggested to the campus policy; however, such process was paused within campus procedural affairs.

Students are delivered this material through the following mechanisms:

* [Student Code of Conduct](https://www.tacomacc.edu/about/policies/code-of-student-conduct) Policy (WAC 132V-121-060)
* [Alcohol & Other Drug Policy Guidelines](https://www.tacomacc.edu/about/policies/alcohol-and-other-drugs-guidelines.pdf)
* Annual Email in October from Campus Security with the Clery Report which includes information regarding the policy, prevention program, risks, consequences, sanctions, and resources
* New students are provided with information in their new student orientation which is done quarterly to ensure all new students are provided this information
* Information regarding our drug prevention program and policies are available within the Student Planner distributed by Office of Student Engagement within the 15-16 and 16-17 school years

Staff & Faculty (Employees) are delivered this material through the following mechanisms:

* [Alcohol & Other Drug Policy Guidelines](https://www.tacomacc.edu/about/policies/alcohol-and-other-drugs-guidelines.pdf)
* Code of Ethics
* Annual Email in October from Campus Security with the Clery Report which includes information regarding the policy, prevention program, risks, consequences, sanctions, and resources
* New employees receive this information as part of the new employee orientation process
* Full and part time employees sign a statement acknowledging that they have reviewed the information provided regarding their responsibilities to the College as a drug-free workplace and a copy of that is kept in personnel files with Human Resources

***Findings & Recommendations***

Consistent with the options detailed in the Part 86 Compliance Checklist regarding DFSCA, it is clear that the institutions distribution strategy provides reasonable assurance that each student, staff, and faculty member received the materials and/or notification of how to access the materials on an annual basis. In fact, we find there are mechanisms quarterly to help to ensure folks receive such information, at least via email.

While the campus has a variety of mediums to ensure students, staff, and faculty have the material they need, we would recommend continuing to evaluate the overall orientation process to enhance the delivery of such materials.

**Prevention Programs**

In addition to annual written notification sent via email, included in orientation processes, and available online for our campus community, the Counseling Department in collaboration with Office of Student Engagement and other campus affiliates offer educational events during the year that promote alcohol and drug awareness.

Wellness materials and educational pamphlets outlining risks associated with substance use and campus and community resource information are distributed at such events including but not limited to the Resource Fair (Quarterly) and Wellness Fair (Spring). Such resources (pamphlets, handouts, resource guides, etc.) are also available throughout campus throughout the year for folks to grab and access, as they would like.

For campus events that are not explicitly related to alcohol and drug awareness, OSE ensures campus events sponsored by the college or on college grounds are drug and alcohol free creating an environment of health promoting norms. Marketing material and campus offerings do not have the sale or purchase of drugs and alcohol on them. Additionally, there are many signs noting the campus is a tobacco and smoke free campus.

In terms of intervention and support, while TCC does not have direct treatment solely for the sake of substance abuse, there is a variety of resources for our campus community who may be struggling with alcohol and drug issues.

* TCC Counseling Services is available for all students, which can provide individual and group counseling, as well as referrals for community members seeking services that are more intensive.
  + We have a designated counselor to work with students related to Chemical Dependency and recovery concerns.
* TCC offers a quarterly Recovery Group, frequently following a 12 Step model for TCC community members
* EChug is available on the TCC Counseling website in addition to other resources and information regarding drugs and alcohol
* The Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT Team) which consists of membership from Counseling, Public Safety, and Student Conduct are available for prevention and early intervention for students, which includes support when referrals are needed for assessment or treatment of alcohol or substance use disorders with accompanying support or sanction needs within the academic environment.
* Employees have access to the EAP program for more intentional interventional support for those who are afflicted by substance use and dependence disorders.

There has been some training available to help to recognize, address, support, and discipline (where appropriate) folks related to alcohol and other drugs.

* Campus Security personnel receive training related to Clery (and components connected to alcohol and other drugs) as well as reasonable suspicion training
* Spring 2017 Jason Kilmer visited and there was a brief training in SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral Treatment) to members of the Alcohol Task Force and Counseling
* Employees are also offered “Helping Students In Distress” guides, which has components related to supporting students who may be under the influence of drugs and alcohol

***Findings & Recommendations***

TCC provides a variety of opportunities for information and awareness regarding the prevention of drugs and alcohol to be shared with our campus community. TCC works hard to create a drug-free normative environment. TCC is also equipped with resources, and referrals for the campus community should issues related to drugs and alcohol arise.

We would like to continue to enhance our training and programming availability to the campus community related to alcohol and other drugs. We believe a stronger partnership across the campus community can help with broadening the messaging of prevention and intervention.

**Biennial Review (Data + Enforcement Consistency)**

Previous year’s data regarding use had been collected via the EChug Program or CORE assessment tool. Due to staffing turnover, such data on general use not specifically related to conduct and enforcement is unfortunately not available as we did not utilize those programs.

The policies and sanctions related to drugs and alcohol are largely enforced via Student Conduct (students), Human Resources (employees), and Campus Safety & Security (general campus enforcement.)

Campus Safety & Security Department collects data related to incidences on campus or within campus jurisdiction involving the use of drugs and alcohol. They work closely with Student Rights & Responsibility (Conduct) to ensure that data is up to date and violations are enforced within the parameters of our policies.

Campus Security personnel who help with enforcement receive training related to Clery and the associations of alcohol and other drugs policies. They also receive reasonable suspicion training which can aid in their ability to respond to potential incidents related to alcohol and other drugs.

Arrests Information

In calendar year 2015, the number of arrests on campus for drug law violations was 1 and the number of arrests for liquor law violations was 0. In calendar year 2016, the number of arrests on campus for drug law violations was 1 and the number of arrests for liquor law violations was 0. In calendar year 2017, the number of arrests on campus for drug law violations was 1 and the number of arrests for liquor law violations was 1 (public property).

Referrals Information

In 2015, the number of referrals for drug law violations was 6 and the number of referrals for liquor law violations was 1. In 2016, the number of referrals for drug law violations was 4 and the number of referrals for liquor law violations was 1. In 2017, the number of referrals for drug law violations was 6 and the number of referrals for liquor law violations was 2.

Data is distributed to the campus annually in October via Campus Safety. Such information is sent out via email for all and written material is available in the Campus Safety office or by request. In addition, per Clery requirements, Campus Security maintains a Daily Log available for the campus in high traffic areas.

***Findings & Recommendations***

During academic years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017, the disciplinary sanctions relative to the Drug-Free School policy were consistently enforced at TCC.