

MESA COMMUNITY COLLEGE Alcohol and Other Drug Programs (AOD) Biennial Review For the years 2022 and 2023

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Description of the AOD program elements

Maricopa County Community College District closely aligns with the Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1989 and other relevant substance abuse laws. Mesa Community College fosters, promotes, and upholds federal, state, and District laws and policies limiting or restricting drug and alcohol use and abuse on campus. See the applicable MCCCDC Administrative Regulations which address an Abuse-Free Environment and the Use of Alcoholic Beverages are listed as follows:

- AR 2.4.7 – Abuse-Free Environment – see attached policy
- AR 4.13 – Use of Alcoholic Beverages – see attached policy
- 2.5.2 Student Conduct Code

In an effort to educate our constituents on alcohol use and substance abuse, Mesa Community College offers a variety of alcohol-free events, programs, and activities to achieve AOD program goals and outcomes. AOD program elements include strategic intervention that affect the five environmental strategies: social, legal, economic, and physical environment. Listed below are MCC alcohol-free events and activities created and promoted via social media (i.e., Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn etc.), webpages, Canvas, posters, emails, fliers, informational tables, and classroom announcements. Such activities and events include, but not limited to the following:

- New Student Orientation, which includes special populations (i.e., Disability Services, TRiO, International Education, etc.)
- Welcome Week Activities
- Health and Wellness Fair
- Thunderbird Kickoff
- Club Rush
- Student Life (i.e., campus events, student government, clubs, etc.)
- Phi Theta Kappa, International Education
- Group sponsored events (i.e., Male Empowerment Network; Women Rising, American Indian Institute, Veteran's Services, etc.)
- Athletic, theater, and music events,
- Commencement
- Campus sponsored vendor fairs (i.e., Annual Health Fair, Career and Transfer Fair, etc.)

Creation of Service Learning/Volunteer Opportunities/Required Community Service Work

Service-learning opportunities are available to students via classroom/faculty participation. The Center for Community and Civic Engagement offers service-learning opportunities which are integrated into some classes and campus activities. For example, the Counseling Department facilitates a volunteer student-driven program that provides alcohol and other drug abuse prevention information to the campus community. The diverse student group seeks to educate and increase awareness of the negative consequences of alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use/abuse, as well as related issues while promoting healthy life choices among students, faculty, and staff in creating a healthy campus and community environment. Listed below include, but not limited to other highlighted focus areas:

- Career Exploration
- Social and personal development
- Building connections with community partners
- Critical thinking and problem solving

Alcohol Free Campus Facilities

All MCC buildings and properties are alcohol and drug-free. Free spaces with high incidence of alcohol-free activities available to students for studying purposes or leisure meeting spaces when the college is open to the public include the following:

- Athletic Department and fields
- Cafeteria and other food services areas
- Center of Civic and Community Engagement
- Educational Labs
- Enrollment Center
- Kirk Student Center
- Paul Elsner Library
- Student Life and Leadership
- Veteran's Services

College operating hours can be found on the MCC website: <https://www.mesacc.edu> [Mesa Community College \(mesacc.edu\)](#)

Nonalcoholic Beverages Promoted at Events

Mesa Community College is committed and dedicated to alcohol-free events and activities for its student population. No mention of or promotion of alcohol or other drugs were identified at the time of this report.

Normative Environments

MCC creates academic and social environments that promote healthy lifestyles.

Pro-health Messages

Messaging is composed to promote a healthy lifestyle and is publicized by means of college and departmental websites, social media, on-campus message boards, e-bulletin boards, columbus and organization flyers, flyers, brochures and outside marquee. A very notable program previously mentioned is the MCC "Prevention" Volunteers managed by MCC's Counseling Department, which plans, implements, and hosts campus-wide activities, speakers and events. The volunteers are trained in substance abuse prevention issues and nationally certified as Peer Educators through Boost Alcohol Consciousness Concerning the Health of University Students (BACCHUS).

Academic Standards

The academic schedule offers a variety of classes the week and semester to meet the needs of a growing student body. This schedule includes weekend and late start classes and provides the opportunity for students to learn in a safe and drug and alcohol-free environment. Secondly, on-line and in-person academic support services are available: The Writing Center, Math Foundations Center, embedded tutorial services and the Physical Science Tutoring Center. Lastly, the Center for Teaching and Learning offers MCC faculty and staff instructional and non-instructional support.

Faculty Encouraged to Engage in High Level Contact with Students

- Full-time Residential Faculty are required to the following:
 - On-campus presence a minimum of 2 days per week
 - Post office hours and off availability for individual appointments
 - Use MCCC CD email and/or office phone when communicating with students
- Adjunct Faculty:
 - Assigned departmental space for student meetings
 - Use MCCC CD email and/or office phone when communicating with students
- 27 Faculty are currently serving as advisors to student clubs
- Faculty participate in research with students

Student Affairs Programming and Student Leadership Promotes Positive, Healthy Norms

- Established an endowed scholarship for American Indian Institute, in which awarding can begin in 2 years.
- American Indian Institute is a long-standing program that serves as an integral part of the American Indian student experience, providing social, academic, cultural, and social justice activities for opportunities to engage and retain this student population.
- Student Life seeks and achieves the goal of providing extraordinary and specific programs and services that develops the "whole" student and inspires them to learn and live powerfully. In addition, the department provides a safe place for students to engage in numerous activities designed to increase communication skills, conflict/problem-resolution, and socialize with diverse groups to introduce and promote cultural awareness/sensitivity and healthy relationships. The activities and programs also foster opportunities to self-awareness for a healthier mental health of our students.
- Early Alert and Care Team provides well-being and academic success support via campus and community resources for students demonstrating need. For instance, while prioritizing learning, the team recommends referrals for academic advising, tutoring, writing center services, etc. In addition, develops support strategies, such as counseling, accessibility and community services. In summary, the Care Team promotes overall mental, emotional, and physical health strategies. As well as, the team independently and in collaboration

with internal and external partners to resolve academic, behavioral, social and other underlying issues that may impede or disrupt the student experience.

Alcohol Availability

Alcohol is Banned or Restricted on Campus

The serving of alcoholic beverages is restricted at Mesa Community College. MCC personnel are not permitted to purchase or transport alcohol. The use of District funds to purchase alcoholic beverages or services is prohibited according to Administrative Regulation 4.13, except in small amounts to be used in cooking for the District's culinary programs. Secondly, this regulation also prohibits the presence of alcoholic beverages on premises owned by the District, or those leased or rented by the institution. Overall, Mesa Community College does not permit the use, sale or distribution of alcoholic beverages.

Alcohol Use is Prohibited in Public Places

Mesa Community College maintains a drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free campus. No alcohol is permitted in public places or elsewhere on campus. There were no reported events during the 2022 and 2023 calendar years in which MCC hosted an event in which alcohol was served.

Delivery or Use of Kegs or Other Common Containers is Prohibited on Campus

Mesa Community College prohibits alcohol on campus in any form.

Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol

Alcohol Advertising on Campus is Banned or Limited

The promotion or marketing of alcohol is banned on MCC's campus. The college does not use alcohol industry companies to promote or sponsor events on or off campus.

Alcohol Industry Sponsorship for On-Campus Events is Banned or Limited

There are no on-campus events that are sponsored by the alcohol industry.

Alcohol Promotions with Special Appeal to Underage Drinkers is Banned or Limited

Alcohol is prohibited on campus. Subsequently, Mesa Community College does not participate in promotions related to drinking, underage or otherwise. The location of the college is within 1 mile of alcohol-serving restaurants and bars.

Alcohol Promotions that Show Drinking in High-risk Contexts is Banned or Limited

Mesa Community College does not participate in promotions related to drinking.

Pro-Health Messages that Counterbalance Alcohol Advertising are Required

Mesa Community College maintains drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free campuses. This also includes the advertisement of alcohol on campus.

For purposes of this Alcohol and Other Drug Biennial Report, statistics are combined for all college locations. During the reporting period, MCC had 1 incident of use, possession, manufacturing or distribution of illegal or other controlled substances except as expressly permitted by law in 2022 (zero in 2023), and 1 incident of illegal use, possession, manufacturing or distribution of alcoholic beverages or public intoxication in 2023 (zero in 2023) and no additional reporting including: liquor law violations, drug abuse violation, liquor law referrals, or drug law violation referrals.

Statement of AOD program goals and a discussion of goal achievement

Mesa Community College Alcohol and Other Drugs Program Goals are as follows:

- To ensure MCC employees and students are aware of federal, state, district, and campus policies and procedures regarding alcohol and other drug use.
- To identify additional innovative and engaging ways to inform employees and students about issues and dangers regarding use/abuse of alcohol and drugs.
- To develop and implement awareness campaigns in an effort to reach all who can benefit from AOD education.
- Partner with city and campus police agencies to develop programs/activities/events on alcohol and drug related matters.
- To develop monitoring processes for AOD distribution and recording of activities.
- To create awareness around early signs and symptoms of alcohol and other drug use/abuse.
- To create confidential, user-friendly, and easily accessible resources for prevention of and recovery from alcohol and other drug use/abuse.

Summaries of AOD program strengths/weaknesses

Program Strengths

- Consistent compliance and enforcement of district, Student Code of Conduct, Staff Policy Manual policies and local law regarding alcohol and illegal drug possession, distribution, and use.
- Continued prohibited alcohol use on campus and college sponsored events.
- Compliance with Drug-Free Schools and Campus Regulations.
- Maintaining tobacco-free campuses.
- Students receive AOD information at least annually via MyMaricopa email.
- MCCC maintains the benefit of Employee Assistance Program (EAP) for all employees and provides wellness programs/resources at no cost to employees.

Program Weaknesses

- Improve partnership among internal and external partners to increase awareness.
- Document activities and events in a centralized location for reference.
- Improve messaging to community members.

Procedures for distributing annual AOD notification to students and employees

- The Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programs Annual Notification is sent to new students and employees via email from the Maricopa County Community College District in which the information includes the following:
 - Standards of conduct
 - Staff Policy Manual
 - A-4 Employment Standards, 6
 - A-18 Drug Free Workplace
 - A-25 Smoke-Free/Tobacco-Free Environment
 - Administrative Regulations
 - 4.14 Motor Vehicle Usage, 3
 - 2.4.7 Abuse-Free Environment
 - 2.5 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 - Article III: Prohibited Conduct, 4. Conduct - Rules and Regulations
 - Description of health risks associated with the alcohol abuse or use of illicit drugs - available on the Maricopa County Community College District website
 - List of an applicable legal sanctions under federal, state, or local laws for unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol
 - List of alcohol programs that are available to employees and students and a clear statement that the institution will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees for violations of the standards of conduct

Recommendations for revising AOD programs

- Identify a more official AOD Review Team to manage and intentionally create a robust alcohol and other drug abuse program for continuous improvement
- New Student Orientation includes information regarding drug and alcohol prevention and abuse
- Develop a campaign plan to engage and inform students, employees, and community members.