

# Phoenix College Alcohol and Other Drug Programs (AOD) Biennial Review For the years 2022 and 2023

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## Background information

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) to certify it has adopted and implemented programs to prevent the abuse of alcohol and use or distribution of illicit drugs by Phoenix College (PC) students and employees on its premises and as a part of any of its activities. At a minimum, each institution of higher education must distribute the following in writing to all students and employees annually:

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

The law further requires that the institution conduct a biennial review of its program with the following objectives:

(1) determining the effectiveness of the policy and implementing changes to the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) program if they are needed; and (2) ensuring the sanctions developed are enforced consistently.

The biennial review must also include a determination as to:

(1) the number of drug and alcohol related violations and fatalities occurring on the campus or as part of its activities that are reported to campus officials; and (2) the number and type of sanctions the Institution of Higher Education (IHE) will impose on students or employees as a result of such violations or fatalities.

Phoenix College (PC), a college of Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD), acknowledges its legal obligation to conduct a biennial review of compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and authorized an administrative review to determine if the College fulfills the requirements of the aforementioned Federal regulations.

The PC Administration appointed a College Compliance Committee. One of the tasks assigned to that Committee was to review goals from the prior AOD biennial report and assess whether or not they were met. Additionally, the Committee reviewed program strengths and weaknesses that were identified in the prior report, and established new goals.

The members of PC's Compliance Committee for 2022-23 included:

### **Co-Chairs**

Andrea Johnson Molina, Manager of Conduct & Community Standards  
Cindy Ramos, Dean of Student Affairs

### **Members**

Debi Moser, Director of DRS  
Brenda Starck, Director of Admissions & Records  
Irene Ruiz, Academic Affairs/Instructional Support Services, Supervisor  
Matt Verthein, Commander of Phoenix College Police  
Michael Wainscott, Manager of Veterans' Affairs

Marc Surrarrer, Planning & Research Analyst, Sr | Planning & Institutional  
Dr Nicholas DelSordi, Academic Affairs Faculty  
Jennifer Kester, Director of Financial Aid  
Heather Kruse, Vice President of Student Affairs  
Kristin Sergeant, Counseling Faculty / Counseling Department  
Kristine Kincaid, Director of Athletics  
CJ Wurster, Vice President of Academic Affairs  
Michael Armsby, Facilities Assistant Director  
Adrianna Coronel, Dean of Academic Affairs  
Wilbert Nelson, Dean of Academic Affairs

The intent of this document is to:

1. Meet the legal requirement of conducting a biennial review.
2. Review and summarize the programs and activities related to alcohol and drug prevention during the 2022-2023 academic years.

## Program Inventory

To conduct a program inventory, IHE should list all of the activities that compose their prevention program and identify the effectiveness of these efforts at meeting prevention goals and outcomes. It is unlikely that one single staff person implements all activities and policies related to AOD prevention, so conducting this inventory is best achieved through the work of a diverse representation of campus employees. Residential life, campus security, health, judicial, athletics, and other staff should be involved.

## Alcohol-Free Events

PC offers a number of alcohol-free events, and activities are promoted throughout the campus by way of social media, posters, emails, fliers, information tables, and classroom announcements. These activities and events include, but are not limited to:

- Welcome Week activities
- Student club activities
- Commencement
- Student Success Fair
- Sponsored student government events
- Building openings and dedications
- Wellness events
- Career Days and Fairs
- University visits

Activities are put on by Student Life, Clubs, Student Government, Career Services, and the college in general.

## Alcohol and Drug Free Public Spaces

PC offers indoor and outdoor public lounge spaces at all campus sites in addition to cafés that serve breakfast, lunch, and dinner. A lactation/quiet room is open to students and staff in addition to academic support areas including the Computer Commons, Library, and

Tutoring Center. Phoenix College also offers extended hours during evenings and weekends. All public spaces are open to students during this time, and the campus is staffed with College Police until 11pm.

PC offers a Student Union where students are encouraged to use the computers, participate in student forums, and congregate with other students. There is often food and refreshments offered as well as a shared game space with both physical and electronic gaming. The Student Union is an alcohol-free setting.

## Normative Environments

Pro-health Messages Published and Visible on Campus Edits from Counseling and HR requested.

Phoenix College's Wellness Committee and Counseling Department collaborates with faculty, staff, and students to support a campus environment that makes healthy choices acceptable, affordable, and easy. Students apply knowledge of healthy habit guidelines and their impact on brain function to write SMART Goals for healthy behaviors. The program has the following five principles:

- Healthy Eating
- Healthy Sleeping
- Physical Activity
- Substance Abuse Awareness and Prevention
- Stress Resiliency

The PC Wellness Committee and Counseling Department offers many activities throughout the academic year, such as resource and classroom visits, educational programming, and guest lectures. Fitness and Wellness also collaborates with other student activities and events such as Welcome Week, Student Success Fair, Student Life Wellness Events, and Student/Staff Health Screening that all include drug and alcohol awareness Programming.

PC Wellness employees were encouraged to participate in the PC Bear Bucks program that includes the PC Bear Soles Walking Club and the PC Fitness Center Mile Club. Employees were presented with sit-to-stand desks.

The other activities are Wellness Maricopa related, such as the annual:

- Health screenings
- Flu shots
- M.O.M. (Mobile Mammography)
- P.O.P. (Prostate exam) unit,
- Maintain Don't Gain activity for all campuses from Nov - Jan

The substance abuse component addressed:

- The definition of substance abuse: Use of a substance that results in a problem.
- MCCC and PC policies: Campus is completely substance, smoke, and tobacco-free.

- Prevention Practices: Healthy Sleep, Physical Activity, and taking time for Healthy Productive Pleasure.
- Prevention/Recovery Resources: PC Counseling and External Community Resources.

The campus encourages students and employees to pursue and support high academic standards. The PC Wellness Committee and Counseling Department supports this philosophy by encouraging engagement in healthy eating, healthy sleeping, physical activity, stress resiliency, and healthy pleasure in order to avoid unhealthy substances. The Counseling Department will work with students individually on connecting them with substance abuse or chemical dependency services in the community, including inpatient and outpatient treatment facilities and individual treatment providers. Referrals to off-campus resources can include preventative resources. The Counseling Department has a number of funding resources available to students, and can work with or without insurance to connect students to needed support.

The Fitness Wellness Program also collaborates with the PC Service Learning Program to create opportunities for students to engage fellow students and encourage healthy choices. The philosophical base is that peer messages are more effective at motivating positive behaviors than authoritarian messages. Drug and Alcohol awareness and abuse prevention Service Learning projects typically occur during spring semester to coincide with Alternative Spring Break efforts, thus presenting a cohesive approach of prevention and service.

### Faculty Encouraged to Engage in Higher Level Contact with Students

All students are valued, and student success is of utmost importance. PC provides an Early Alert System called the CARE program to facilitate student success and retention through early detection and intervention when students experience problems affecting academic performance. Faculty and staff are educated about behavioral indicators, student norms, and cultural attitudes related to high-risk or illegal alcohol or drug use. Appropriate referrals are made to PC's Counseling Department for assistance with issues arising from smoking, drugs, or alcohol. Although it is designed as an early alert system, the CARE program also functions as a referral system and can connect students who are experiencing substance abuse or chemical dependency concerns with needed resources in the community and on campus.

The "I Will Graduate" fair encourages students to get to know faculty, staff, and classmates. Students who are connected are more likely to find support and encouragement resulting in successful completion of their educational goals. Faculty provide students with enriched learning experiences and opportunities by incorporating service learning, community service, and civic responsibility into their curriculum.

### Student Leadership Promotes Positive, Healthy Norms

Student Life and Leadership (SLL) partners with PC Nursing staff and students to provide students with poster sessions on drugs and alcohol abuse and smoking/vaping. SLL provides workshops on domestic violence, sexual assault awareness and prevention. Student leadership hosted several events during this timeframe that provided information on drug and alcohol abuse, smoking/vaping, domestic violence, sexual assault awareness, and

prevention.

## Alcohol Availability

### I. Alcohol is Banned or Restricted on Campus:

Serving of alcoholic beverages is restricted at PC. In the years for which this report is concerned, no event(s) occurred in which alcohol was available. This required the express consent of the Chancellor of the Maricopa County Community College District (MCCCD). PC personnel are not permitted to purchase or transport alcohol. Administrative Regulation 4.13 prohibits the use of funds to purchase alcohol and the use of alcohol at College sponsored events. State law also regulates the service, sale, distribution, and consumption of alcoholic beverages. In light of the law, Phoenix College does not permit the use, sale, or distribution of alcoholic beverages.

### II. Alcohol Use is Prohibited in Public Places:

PC maintains a drug, alcohol, and tobacco-free campus. No alcohol is permitted in public places or elsewhere on campus.

### III. Delivery or Use of Kegs or Other Common Containers is Prohibited on Campus:

PC prohibits alcohol on campus in any form.

## Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol

### I. Alcohol Advertising on Campus is Banned or Limited:

The PC campus banned advertisements of alcohol or alcoholic beverages.

### II. Alcohol Industry Sponsorship for On-Campus Events is Banned or Limited:

There are no events on campus, which are alcohol-industry sponsored.

### III. Alcohol Promotions with Special Appeal to Underage Drinkers is Banned or Limited:

PC does not participate in promotions related to drinking, underage or otherwise. Phoenix College's main campus and sites are located in neighborhood settings, including bars, restaurants, hotels, and other establishments that are licensed to serve liquor to their customers. However, PC does not participate in any promotions related to drinking, underage or otherwise.

### IV. Alcohol Promotions that Show Drinking in High-Risk Contexts is Banned or Limited:

PC does not participate in promotions related to drinking.

### V. Pro-Health Messages that Counterbalance Alcohol Advertising are Required:

PC maintains a drug, alcohol, and tobacco free campus. Please see

## Policy Inventory

### Alcohol and Drug Related Policies

#### II. Alcohol-Free Campus Facilities

All campus spaces and facilities as are all MCCCD buildings and properties that are alcohol and drug-free in accordance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) Amendments of 1989, Public Law 101-226, and comply with all federal, state,

and local laws pertaining to controlled substances, including alcohol.

As stated in the Abuse-Free Environment, AR 2.4.7, MCCCDCD closely aligns with the Drug-Free School and Communities Act of 1989 and other relevant substance abuse laws. As a college of MCCCDCD, PC upholds all federal, state, and District laws and policies limiting or restricting drug and alcohol use and abuse on campus.

Listed below are the MCCCDCD Administrative Regulations that address an Abuse-Free Environment and the Use of Alcoholic Beverages:

- AR 2.4.7 – Abuse-Free Environment <https://district.maricopa.edu/administrative-regulations/2-students/2-4#:~:text=2.4.7,October%2022%2C%202008>
- Alcoholic Beverages-Usage Regulation <https://district.maricopa.edu/administrative-regulations/4-auxiliary-services/4-13>

### Crimes/Incidents Reported

For purposes of this Alcohol and Other Drug Biennial Report, statistics are combined for all college locations. There were 2 liquor law violations in 2022 and 2023 for a total of 4 violations during the reporting years. There were no violations or referrals for the following during the 2022 and 2023 reporting years: drug abuse violation, liquor law referrals, drug law violation referral use, possession, manufacturing or distribution of illegal or other controlled substances except as expressly permitted by law, or illegal use, possession, manufacturing or distribution of alcoholic beverages or public intoxication.

\*These statistics include incidents with non-students and non-staff community members.

### Description of the AOD program elements

Rather than pursuing stand-alone AOD programs, wellness is approached on a holistic basis where all five principles (Healthy Eating, Healthy Sleeping, Physical Activity, Substance Abuse Awareness and Prevention, and Stress Management and Resilience to Stress) are incorporated into the various programs and events that are hosted. In addition to the message encouraging building resilience to the temptation for using substances, the PC Wellness Committee and Counseling Department also reinforces to students and employees that MCCCDCD and PC policies prohibit substance use on campus and that there are disciplinary processes for violations. These policies are in place to support the optimal healthy learning environment for everyone on campus.

### AOD Activities available to all students

All student activities sponsored by PC, according to MCCCDCD policy, prohibit alcohol. All campus events that are alcohol and drug free include, but are not limited to:

- Monster Ball
- Friendsgiving
- My College Orientation
- PC Baby Shower (once a semester)
- Career Fairs
- FOI Fair
- All PC Sporting events

## Summary of AOD program strengths and weaknesses

### AOD Program Strengths

PC prides itself on inclusivity and student support. As listed above student support in regards to drugs and alcohol is approached holistically and as a matter of health. Due to the strong anti-drug and alcohol policies of MCCCDC, PC welcomes all students to participate in non-drug and alcohol related activities. The approach with putting student and staff health first allows for a more proactive approach. It also shows a strong commitment to prevention.

### AOD Program Weaknesses

Although Phoenix College's system of student support is varied with many methods of referral there is a place for more targeted outreach for students actively dealing with addiction. Resource fairs are a regular public on campus activity and a potential for addiction specialists and programs to share information and resources to our community. Another possible channel for proactive outreach is our Adulting 101 series targeted directly to students regarding student issues such as budgeting, consent, and professionalism when career searching. A course surrounding fighting addiction, resources, and the impact of drugs and alcohol on relationships would be beneficial to consider.

## Procedures for distributing annual AOD notification to students and employees

Annual Notifications are sent out to all students and staff via their maricopa.edu email or their staff email at phoenixcollege.edu. The policies are also prominently listed within our administrative regulations.

### Policies distributed to students and employees

Link to policies:

[MCCCDC Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programs Annual Notification](#)

Informational Only Recommendation for revising AOD programs

Phoenix College's program for Drug and Alcohol Use prevention is strong in its inclusivity and connection to overall wellbeing and health. There is space for growth in more discussion, resources, and collaboration around the impacts of addiction and resources to fight it.

## References

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/sites/default/files/hec/product/dfscr.pdf>

Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act Regulations (EDGAR Part 86)

<https://safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/resources/complying-drug-free-schools-and-campuses-regulations-edgar-part-86-guide-university-and>