

Kennesaw State University Drug and Alcohol Policy

I. Introduction

National statistics reveal that the leading causes of death among the 18-23 year-old population are alcohol-related accidents, alcohol-related homicides, and alcohol-related suicides. A high percentage of campus disorderly conduct, disruptive behavior and property destruction, and academic failures on a national level is alcohol-related. The abuse of alcohol and other drugs can alter behavior, distort perception, impair thinking, and impede judgment. Alcohol and drug abuse might also result in various diseases, illnesses, and even death. The Georgia legislature, in response to these disturbing facts, has provided by law certain measures to reduce those dangers associated with alcohol abuse. These measures include statutory provisions which provide that no person below the age of 21 years may use, purchase, or possess alcoholic beverages. The law also prohibits serving alcoholic beverages to any intoxicated person. These considerations, among other things, are equally applicable to the use and abuse of illicit drugs. In response, federal and state laws regarding the manufacture, use and distribution of illicit drugs have been enacted and are applicable to all full-time, part-time, and temporary faculty, staff, students, and administrators. The University supports and endorses these provisions of federal and state laws and insists on strict compliance with these statutes by its students, staff, faculty, and administrators at all levels.

II. Alcohol Policy

Kennesaw State University expressly prohibits the use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcoholic beverages on campus by any campus constituency. Alcoholic beverages may be served at off-campus activities to adults of legal drinking age for the state in which the activity is being held, providing that a responsible club or organization representative acknowledges responsibility for monitoring alcohol consumption. Student Activity funds or institutional funds may not be used for the purchase of alcoholic beverages. Kennesaw State University is committed to recognizing, upholding, and enforcing the laws of the state of Georgia. Violation of those state laws, incorporated into the Kennesaw State University Alcohol Policy shall not be condoned on the campus or at any activity held off campus by any constituency. Exceptions to the policy of no alcohol on campus may from time to time be permitted at the discretion of the president, and there are other limited exceptions to this policy within the residence halls by those aged twenty-one or older who do not reside in substance-free communities. See the Residential Code of Conduct for more information. <http://www.kennesaw.edu/residencelife/body/code.htm>

Official state regulations regarding the use, sale, or possession of intoxicating beverages are as follows:

3-1-2 Defines "alcoholic beverages" to mean all alcohol, distilled spirits, beer, malt beverages, wine, or fortified wine.

3-2-36 Provides for criminal process against any person who violates the law in counties and municipalities where the sale of alcoholic beverages is not authorized or where alcoholic beverages are being sold contrary to law.

3-3-21 Provides that no person knowingly or intentionally may sell or offer to sell any wine or malt beverages within 100 yards of any school building, school grounds, or college campus. Provides further that distilled spirits may not be sold within 200 yards of a school building, educational building, school grounds, or college campus.

3-3-22 States that no alcoholic beverage shall be sold, bartered, exchanged, given, provided, or furnished to any person who is in a state of noticeable intoxication.

3-3-23 Prohibits the furnishing to, purchasing of, or possession of alcoholic beverages by persons under 21 years of age.

3-3-23.1 Provides that any person furnishing or possessing alcoholic beverages in violation of the previous Code Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. Establishes procedures for arrest by law enforcement officers.

University judiciary policies and procedures require that all student organizations planning to serve alcohol at any off-campus function must submit an "Acknowledgment of Alcohol Policy" form to the vice president for student success and enrollment services during the first week of classes each fall semester and each time there is a change in either the president or advisor of the organization. By their signatures, the president and advisor are assuring Kennesaw State University that they and the individuals responsible for the group's social events understand the Kennesaw State University Alcohol Policy and state laws regarding the service and consumption of alcoholic beverages. Alcoholic beverages will be allowed for functions at which alcohol is not the focal point, reason for, or the "drawing card" for the event. Organizations choosing to advertise the service of alcoholic beverages at functions will not make reference to the quantity of or overindulgence in alcoholic beverages. Reference will also be made to serving of food and alternative beverages, and the checking of drivers' licenses. Any activity (especially those competitive in nature) contributing to the overindulgence of alcohol is, by these guidelines, prohibited. Any violation of this policy at any club or organization activity shall be reported to the vice president for student success and enrollment services by the designated monitor(s) verbally within 24 hours of returning to campus and followed by a written report within 3 working days. The Kennesaw State University Department of Public Safety shall report any violation of this policy, whether at an activity or on an individual basis, to the vice president for student success and enrollment services within 24 hours of the occurrence. The vice president for student success and enrollment services shall then be responsible for disciplinary action according to established university nonacademic disciplinary procedures. Possible sanctions shall be the same as those for other violations of nonacademic university rules and regulations as provided for in the university student code of conduct.

III. Drug-Free Workplace and Campus Policy

As a recipient of Federal funds, Kennesaw State University supports and complies with the provisions of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988. The unlawful possession, manufacture, distribution, dispensation, and use of illicit drugs and alcohol by employees or students on the university campus is prohibited and violations of this policy will result in appropriate disciplinary action. Faculty, staff and students are expected to adhere to the policies of the university and observe the basic standards of good conduct, meet appropriate standards of performance, and observe all local, state and federal laws relative to unlawful use of illicit drugs and alcohol. Penalties for violations of these standards range from warnings and probation to expulsion, loss of academic credit, suspension, temporary or permanent suspension and withdrawal of organization recognition, referral to the legal system for prosecution, demotion, and termination of employment. Detailed sanctions are defined in the Student Handbook (Student Code of Conduct), Board of Regents' Policy Manual, Classified Employee Handbook and in the complete policy statement available in the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs upon request.

IV University Sanctions for Violations of the Alcohol and Drug Policy

A. Any faculty, staff member, administrator, or other employee who violates the policy on alcohol and drugs, shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including the possibility of dismissal and referral to the appropriate federal, state or local authorities for prosecution in the courts.

B. Any student or student organization that violates the policy on alcohol and drugs, shall be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the Kennesaw State University Student Code of Conduct up to and including educational sanctions, possible loss of on-campus housing, suspension and/or expulsion from the university and referral to the appropriate federal, state, or local authorities for prosecution in the courts. A student organization shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including educational sanctions, suspension and/or revocation of its registration with Student Activities and referral to the appropriate federal, state, or local authorities for prosecution in the courts.

C. When there is an alcohol or drug infraction, in addition to any criminal prosecution or university judicial code sanction, a student who is a member of a university athletic team may face additional sanctions based on rules established by the team.

V. Drug and Alcohol Education Programs and Assistance Available

A combination of several campus offices will provide assistance or act as a referring agency for Kennesaw State University. Included in the campus efforts to assist those with substance abuse problems are:

The CAPS Center, (770) 423-6600, is located on the second floor of Kennesaw Hall. The Center currently has nine professional counselors qualified to work with those persons who have problems associated with alcohol and drug abuse. At present, two counselors are certified as Prime for Life facilitators. The counseling center offers in-house counseling and educational alcohol and drug abuse programs. CAPS counselors use the Bacchus Gamma on-line educational program as needed. CAPS also performs in house evaluation for alcohol and drug abuse and uses the SASAA-3 Substance Abuse Subtle Screening Inventory as well for alcohol abuse screening. It also maintains a listing of referral agencies for off-campus assistance when such assistance is more appropriate. CAPS Center services are available to students, faculty and staff. CAPS works closely with the KSU Health Clinic, Wellness Center, and the Residence Life Department to provide alcohol and drug education programming across campus.

The Department of Human Resources, (770) 423-6030, is located in the Campus Services Building. The Drug-Free Workplace coordinator is the Director of Human Resources. Employee Assistance Programs (EAP) relating to drug and alcohol abuse are available for KSU employees (staff and faculty). KSU's EAP is provided by EAP Consultants, Inc. Employees and their family members may contact them at 770-951-8021 or 800-869-0276 or online at www.eapconsultants.com or see <http://www.eapconsultants.com/drugfree.html>

The Department of Public Safety, (770) 423-6206 (non-emergency number), is located in the Public Safety Building #20 near the West Parking Deck. The KSU police are a co-sponsor of annual National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness week in October and will speak to groups or classes upon request about safety and alcohol and drug awareness issues.

The Wellness Center, (770) 423-6394, is located in the Student Recreation and Wellness Center, Bldg. 3, RM 131. The mission of the Center for Health Promotion and Wellness is to improve the health and well being of students and employees through awareness and education, and the Center makes available computer programs, Alcohol 101, and prescription drug information to further this mission. The Wellness Center also participates each year in National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness week in October, sponsoring many interactive programs designed to educate students, faculty, and staff to issues associated with alcohol use and abuse.

The KSU Health Clinic, (770) 423-6644, is located on Campus Loop Road, House 52, across from University Place Housing. The clinic provides services to KSU students, faculty, and staff. Alcohol and drug use and abuse programming is presented in conjunction with the Wellness Center.

The Department of Residence Life (770) 420-4388, is located on the first floor of the Carmichael Student Center (room 156). It provides alcohol and drug education to residential students on a continuing basis throughout the year through programs presented to small groups of residents. The Residential Life professional staff together with staff from the CAPS Center also conducts a monthly two-hour alcohol education course for all interested students. Students who are first time violators of campus alcohol rules generally are required to attend.

VI. Annual Distribution of KSU Drug and Alcohol Policies Required

The Office of the Dean of Student Success is responsible for ensuring that Kennesaw State University's Drug and Alcohol Policy is distributed annually to each student and employee (faculty and staff).