



East Georgia State College

Swainsboro, Georgia

Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and Violence Prevention Biennial Report

2020-2022

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Purpose of the Report

Institutions of Higher Education (IHEs) receiving federal funds or financial assistance must develop and implement a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. The program must include annual notification of the following:

- Standards of conduct
- Description of sanctions for violating federal, state, and local law and campus policy
- Description of health risks associated with AOD use
- Description of treatment options
- Biennial review of the program's effectiveness and the consistency of the enforcement of sanctions.

Certification

For certain forms of federal funding or assistance, IHEs must certify that they have an AOD prevention program. The certification is often included in the "Representations and Certifications" section of an application or proposal. East Georgia State College has been certified.

Requirement to Comply

IHEs must provide a copy of their biennial report to the U.S. Department of Education or its representative on request. The Secretary or his/ her designee may review the report and supporting documentation as necessary. When an IHE is noncompliant, the Secretary or his/her designee may provide technical assistance to help the campus come into compliance or terminate all forms of federal financial assistance. East Georgia State College is currently in compliance with the U.S. Department of Education.

Other Legal Obligations

IHEs may also be subject to related requirements under state and federal law and judicial rulings. IHEs should seek advice on this point from the institution's general counsel or other relevant national resources. Legal Counsel for East Georgia State College is regularly involved in meetings and decisions regarding the adoption of alcohol and drug policies.

Annual Notification

To comply with the Part 86 regulations, IHEs must notify all students and employees annually of

certain information. The notification must include the following: (1) standards of conduct; (2) possible legal sanctions and penalties; (3) statements of the health risks associated with AOD abuse; (4) the IHE's AOD programs available to students, staff, and faculty; and (5) disciplinary sanctions for violations of the standards of conduct. IHEs must make the notification in writing and in a manner that ensures all students and employees receive it. It is a priority for East Georgia State College to give annual notification of all alcohol and drug policies to its faculty, staff, and students.

East Georgia State College Alcohol and Drug Prevention Plan

East Georgia State College has made a commitment to provide an alcohol and drug free environment for its entire employee and student body. The college is following through with that commitment. There are active policies and procedures for employees and students that support our efforts to make the well-being of the entire campus community a priority.

East Georgia State College Alcohol Policies

Information on how East Georgia State College manages situations involving alcohol and drugs can be found on the EGSC Policies and Procedures page. The Drug and Alcohol Policy and the Code of Conduct (Alcohol and Drug Offense and Sanctions) can be found in section 4 under Student Affairs. The Employee Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Policy is in Section 8 under Human Resources.

Description of the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Program Element

1. Alcohol-Free Options:

East Georgia State College by policy provides an alcohol and drug-free environment with alcohol-free options using the following suggested strategies.

- a. Alcohol and drug-free events are promoted and conducted.
 - i. Student Life provides a variety of in-person student events such as Open Mic Nights, Daytime Kick Backs, intramural sports, and movie nights.
 - ii. The East Georgia State College Game Room is a 16,250 square foot facility in the Jean Anderson Morgan Student Center (JAM Center) designed to give students an opportunity for positive social interaction in an alcohol and drug-free environment. The facility is supervised by student workers under the direct supervision of our Coordinator of Student Life. Students are provided with a variety of options:
 1. Video gaming systems with seating for multiple spectators and participants
 2. Fuzeball tables

3. Shuffleboard
 4. Ping-Pong
 5. A pool table
 6. Arcade games
 7. A life-size version of Battleship
 8. Video arcade games
 9. A movie theater
 10. A multi-purpose room equipped with basketball goals and a walking track for indoor pick-up games of basketball, dodgeball, and walking.
 11. A meeting room designed for club and student meetings, as well as a wide selection of board games.
 12. Hours of operation are Monday – Friday 9 AM – 5 PM unless otherwise posted.
- iii. **Physical Education Complex:** The East Georgia State College Physical Education Complex is designed to provide health and recreational services to students, faculty, staff, and community residents of Emanuel County. The recreation center serves as a supportive and active service to the diverse college community. Through our programs and facilities, which are recreational, educational, and sporting in nature, we promote and develop healthy lifestyle choices and activities. Our goal is to provide all participants with the opportunity to enjoy recreational activities in a clean and safe environment that encourages challenge and growth. A Bobcat Card is required for access during closed hours. A fitness center is available to students, faculty, and staff to promote wellness on campus. The fitness center is available during the following hours:

Mondays	6:00 am-6:00 pm (open until 12 am with Bobcat card)
Tuesdays	6:00 am-6:00 pm (open until 12 am with Bobcat card)
Wednesdays	6:00 am-6:00 pm (open until 12 am with Bobcat card)
Thursdays	6:00 am-6:00 pm (open until 12 am with Bobcat card)
Fridays	6:00 am-6:00 pm (open until 12 am with Bobcat card)
Saturdays	6:00 am- 12:00 am (card access only)
Sundays	6:00 am- 12:00 am (card access only)

- b. **Athletic Events:** Athletic events are held on the campus during fall and spring semesters. EGSC offers the following sports to students: Men's Basketball, Women's Basketball, Baseball, and Softball. Alcohol and Drug use is not permitted at any athletic event.
- c. **Statesboro Campus Alcohol-Free Options:** East Georgia State College offers classes on the Georgia Southern University (GSU) campus in Statesboro. East Georgia State College students who take four or more hours pay all the GSU student services fees, which enable them to receive all services, excluding Greek life, NCAA sports, counseling services, and tutoring services. The EGSC Counseling Center provides routine counseling services for the Statesboro campus virtually five days a week and provides face to face counseling at least one day per week. Currently, student services on the GSU campus are not hosted, created, funded, or staffed by EGSC faculty and staff.
- d. **Augusta Campus Alcohol-Free Options:** East Georgia State College students taking classes at Augusta University - Summerville Campus (AU) pay all of AU student services fees, which enable them to receive all student services except Greek life, NCAA sports, and routine counseling services. Students experiencing a mental health crisis receive services from the Augusta University Counseling Center. The EGSC Counseling Center provides routine counseling services for the Augusta campus virtually five days a week and intends to provide face to face counseling at least twice monthly beginning with Fall Semester 2022. Student events at AU campus are hosted by, created, funded, and/or staffed by EGSC faculty and staff and with permission from Augusta University

2. Normative Environment:

East Georgia promotes healthy choices by creating an environment emphasizing the importance of healthy choices.

- a. **FYE Courses:** All freshman students are required to complete a first-year experience courses (FYE) that is designed to teach students how to be successful. The course is offered during fall and spring semesters.
- b. **Tobacco-free environment:** East Georgia State College promotes a tobacco-free environment by banning the use of tobacco products on all 3 campuses.
- c. **Counseling availability and promotion:** Students are provided with information about counseling resources available on campus and off campus. Beginning in 2020, students were also provided tele-mental health services.
- d. **Education in Personal Health:** East Georgia State College requires all students to

take a health class to satisfy the requirements for graduation. The course includes education on alcohol, drugs, and tobacco use.

- e. **Local Partnerships:** East Georgia State College partners with local agencies such as Emanuel Medical Center, East Georgia Healthcare, Care Partners of Georgia, CSB (Community Service Board) of Middle Georgia, etc. to offer services to students, faculty, and staff.
 - f. **Tutoring:** EGSC offers free tutoring services to students in selected instructional areas including mathematics and writing to students who need assistance at all three campuses (Augusta, Statesboro, and Swainsboro) through the Academic Center for Excellence (ACE). The ACE is staffed by faculty, staff, and student tutors. Additionally, all students may access Tutor.Com at no charge 24/7, and EGSC faculty and staff offer tutoring in the Bobcat Villas.
 - g. **Faculty Office Hours:** East Georgia State College full-time faculty maintain a minimum of 10 office hours a week for students who need assistance outside of class. Some faculty provide some of those hours in the ACE.
 - h. **Low Student-Faculty Ratio:** East Georgia State College maintains a low student-faculty ratio, enabling faculty to get to know their students and to assist in making referrals to appropriate resources (such as the counseling center) when students are experiencing personal, career, or academic problems.
3. **Alcohol Availability:**
- a. Alcohol and drugs are prohibited on the campus of East Georgia State College.
 - b. The possession, consumption, distribution, manufacturing, or sale (without valid medical or dental prescription) of alcoholic beverages, illegal or dangerous drugs on East Georgia State College property or at institutional approved events on or off campus is prohibited.
4. **Marketing and Promotion of Alcohol:**
- a. Alcohol advertising and promotion on campus are prohibited by faculty, staff, and students.
 - b. Alcohol industry sponsorship for on campus events is not allowed.
 - c. Short glasses, beer mugs, and wineglasses are not sold at the campus bookstore.

5. Policy Development and Enforcement:

- a. East Georgia State College Swainsboro on-campus functions have been scheduled through the campus event planner.
- b. The Swainsboro campus police department provides security for all on-campus events/activities in Swainsboro. Georgia Southern University police provide security for events for EGSC Statesboro students that occur on the Georgia Southern campus. Augusta University police provide security for events for EGSC students that occurs on the Augusta University campus.
- c. Disciplinary violation of campus AOD policies are imposed if violation occurs. East Georgia State College Statesboro students are subject to the student code regulations for EGSC and Georgia Southern University. EGSC Augusta students are subject to the student code of conduct regulations for EGSC and Augusta University.
- d. The East Georgia State College police department compiles incident reports on any student observed to be "under the influence" of alcohol or drugs. Incident reports are forwarded to the Office of Conduct & Title IX.
- e. Disciplinary sanctions for student conduct can be found in the student handbook. These conduct policies address alcohol and drug use.
<https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/04-student-code-conduct-disciplinary-process.html>
 - i. East Georgia State College Statesboro students are subject to EGSC Swainsboro and Georgia Southern policies. The GSU code of conduct can be found: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/student-affairs/4/> These conduct policies address alcohol and drug use.
 - ii. The AU code of conduct can be found: <https://www.augusta.edu/student-life/conduct/documents/au-codeofconduct-2021.pdf> These conduct policies address alcohol and drug use.
- f. EGSC Statesboro students attend EGSC classes in Georgia Southern University's (GSU) classrooms and have access to GSU's campus facilities and activities. The Associate VP for Conduct & Title IX for EGSC and Georgia Southern University's Judicial Affairs Office coordinate disciplinary

hearings regarding EGSC Statesboro students on GSU's campus.

- g. East Georgia State College Augusta students attend EGSC classes in Augusta University (AU) classrooms; the students have access to AU's campus facilities and activities. The Associate VP for Conduct & Title IX for EGSC and AU's Judicial Affairs Office coordinate disciplinary hearings regarding EGSC Augusta students on the Augusta University campus.

Statement of Goals and Achievement Program Goals

1. Educational Information:

East Georgia State College provides information (of educational nature) to students, faculty, and staff regarding health risks, legal consequences, and treatment resources.

2. Enforceability:

EGSC maintains AOD policies that are responsive and enforceable.

3. Referrals:

EGSC provides referral information to students, faculty and staff who report or indicate a potential AOD addiction(s).

- a. EGSC provides counseling services to students who have addiction problems and provides referrals for further treatment, if needed.

4. Records:

EGSC maintains appropriate records of AOD issues.

Goal Achievement

1. East Georgia State College formed the Alcohol, Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention Task Force in fall of 2014. The task force was formed to review and revise college policies in this area for students and employees and to plan training and awareness activities and meet regularly to ensure all reporting and compliance in this area is completed in a timely manner.
2. The Office of Counseling and Disability Services provides education on drugs/alcohol and sexual assault to freshman students. This information includes health risks and legal consequences of alcohol and drug use.
3. Information on local resources is provided as well as contact information for counseling and disability services. Institutional and legal sanctions for alcohol and drug use is communicated to students during this workshop. Employees are provided with the AOD policy during new

employee orientation. This information is provided in a written format on the EGSC Policies and Procedures webpage Section 8. The Office of Human Resources has instituted training videos (with associated quizzes) for all faculty and staff that provide information on AOD issues. There are post-tests associated with the training.

4. EGSC AOD policies are reviewed bi-annually for compliance with applicable laws and relevant student issues. These policies are reviewed by the Chief of Staff and Legal Counsel.
5. Students with alleged or reported AOD violations are referred to licensed counselors. The counselors complete an assessment to determine if such students should be treated within the center or they need to be referred for further treatment outside of the colleges' counseling center (inpatient or outpatient AOD provider). Employees with alleged or reported AOD problems are referred to the Director of Human Resources for assistance.

Summary of Strengths and Weaknesses

1. Strengths:

- a. East Georgia State College has a detailed policy identifying prohibited actions on the premises of students, and procedures for addressing violation of policies.
- b. EGSC alcohol and drug policy is communicated annually to all students, with mandated modules and/or in-person presentations to residents and athletes.
- c. The AOD Policy for Student Athletes is found at the following link:
<https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/04-athletes-substance-abuse-policy.html>
- d. The AVP of Conduct & Title IX reviews the college's code of conduct policy at least annually which also addresses alcohol and drug usage.
- e. The AVP of Conduct & Title IX maintains records of alcohol and drug related offenses, and subsequent penalties.
- f. The AOD standing committee's coordinated work has contributed to the success of the programs, and the compilation of the final report.
- g. EGSC currently has a Licensed Professional Counselor to provide counseling, intervention, and assessments, as needed, to all three EGSC campus sites.
- h. EGSC students currently have access to virtual Licensed Professional Counselors 24/7 through USG's Mental Health Initiative to provide counseling, intervention, and assessments, as needed, to all three EGSC campus sites.
- i. EGSC is currently a JED Campus.

2. Weaknesses:

- a. EGSC has limited financial resources devoted to the AOD program.
- b. The impact of COVID-19 as of March 2020 meant that many of our planned programs moved to a virtual environment, which reduced participation and compliance.
- c. The impact of COVID-19 as of March 2020 severely impacted our ability to hold face-to-face and in-person meetings, and we moved to a virtual housing orientation and delivery of our AOD EverFi modules beginning Spring 2020.
- d. For the years in question, EGSC lost several key staff members who have not been replaced. Currently, EGSC's housing is operating with a single Director of Housing and a part-time safety assistant, plus student resident assistants. EGSC's Counseling Services is operating with a single Interim Director of Counselor. EGSC's Student Life is operating with a single Coordinator of Student Life, plus student assistants.
- e. For the years in question, EGSC did not have a Single Sign On integration with the EverFi platform. The automatic delivery of assignments from the EverFi platform required students, faculty, and staff to respond to an email that could arouse suspicions of spam in order to register a new account. Compliance rates suffered because of the friction points associated with these steps.
- f. The high percentage of students who do not reside on campus limits the ability to effectively detect and address AOD related issues.
- g. Dual enrollment students are not enrolled in FYE courses due to state funding regulations, so those students would not receive AOD information delivered solely through FYE courses.
- h. EGSC does not have designated staff to address solely alcohol and drug issues on campus.

AOD Policy

1. For Students

- a. Current alcohol and drug use policy for EGSC can be found at <https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/04-drug-and-alcohol-policy.html>
- b. Current alcohol and drug use policy for GSU can be found at <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1003&context=student-affairs>

- c. Current alcohol and drug use policy for AU can be found at <https://www.augusta.edu/compliance/policyinfo/policy/drug-alcohol-policy.pdf>

2. For Faculty and Staff

- a. Current alcohol and drug use policy for faculty and staff can be found at <https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/08-employee-alcohol-and-other-drug-prevention-policy.html>
- b. Policy Distribution:
 - i. The alcohol and drug policy for EGSC faculty and staff can be found online at <https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/08-employee-alcohol-and-other-drug-prevention-policy.html>
 - ii. All employees have access to the employee handbook, which includes the policy <https://www.ega.edu/about/at-a-glance/policies-and-procedures-of-the-college/08-employee-alcohol-and-other-drug-prevention-policy.html>
 - iii. All new employees are expected to read and become familiar with AOD policy. All employees suspected of having substance abuse issues are referred to the Director of Human Resources. The Director of Human Resources will refer the individual for outside treatment, if deemed necessary.

Recommendations for Revising AOD Prevention Program

1. Integration with EGSC's Digital Learning Management System (LMS):

EGSC has already begun the process of integrating the EverFi platform with our LMS so that students, faculty, and staff will be able to access the AOD modules without creating a separate account on a separate platform.

2. Direct Notification of Module Availability Prior to First Day of Classes:

EGSC should send notifications of EverFi AOD modules' availability to all students from an EGSC email account (preferably from the Office of Student Conduct or Enrollment Management) to notify students that these modules need to be completed ASAP.

3. Continued Virtual Delivery of AOD Educational for 1st Offense Sanctions:

East Georgia State College is currently utilizing an educational program on drug and alcohol

which is viewed by students who are referred for mandatory counseling for violating AOD policies. We recommend continuing with that approach. For first offenses, students can access the free EverFi Alcohol EDU Sanctions module. Second offenses would require a module on a different platform at a small cost to the student

4. Return of Supplementary In-Person Activities for AOD education:

Beginning with Fall of 2022, we strongly recommend that all athletes and residential students be required to attend in-person AOD educational activities, and that supplementary in-person options be available to residential students, commuters, and online-only students.

- a. Housing Orientation: Residential and/or athletic students should have a mandatory in-person orientation that includes AOD educational information prior to the start of classes. Plans are underway for that to begin with Fall 2022.
- b. Outreach to Local Public Safety and Health Resources: Student and Residential Life staff should reach out to local law enforcement and health care partners and to obtain assistance through the [Georgia State Patrol for safety training](#) and the [Governor's Office of Highway Safety's Georgia Young Adult Program](#).

5. Filling of Vacant Positions:

EGSC should fill all available vacant positions as soon as practicably possible. EGSC is currently in the process of filling all available vacant positions, including a counselor to serve on our Statesboro campus, an Assistant Director of Housing, and a Resident Life Coordinator.

6. Continued Collaboration:

Collaboration between the Campus Police, Director of Housing, Director of Student Conduct, and others to work directly with students, is important for continued monitoring of the program. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to report any incident of AOD policy violation.

Review of AOD/Mental Health Programming 2020-2022

1. Fall Semester Activities for 2020

- a. Required Alcohol Education online education class for all new students (freshman and transfer).
- b. Presentation modules in Housing student orientation program regarding the Alcohol and Drug Policy and the risks and effects of abusing both.

- c. The Office of Counseling and Disability provided education on the dangers of alcohol, drugs abuse, and sexual assault to freshmen students.
- d. Presentation modules of the EGSC Code of Conduct to athletes and all students living in the residence halls.
- e. Planned supplemental in-person activities were suspended due to Pandemic and continuation of hybrid or virtual classes beginning March 2020.

2. Spring Semester Activities for 2021

- a. Required Alcohol Education online education class for all new students (freshman and transfer).
- b. Presentation modules in Housing student orientation program regarding the Alcohol and Drug Policy and the risks and effects of abusing both.
- c. The Office of Counseling and Disability provided education on the dangers of alcohol, drugs abuse, and sexual assault to freshmen students.
- d. A presentation of the EGSC Code of Conduct was given to all new students living in the residence halls.
- e. Office of Conduct & Title IX completed in-person Code of Conduct presentations to FYE classes as faculty requested, depending on faculty comfort level.

3. Fall Semester Activities for 2021

- a. Required Alcohol Education online education class for all new students (freshman and transfer).
- b. Virtual Presentation of the EGSC Code of Conduct to athletes and all students living in the residence halls.
- c. Presentation modules in Housing student orientation program regarding the Alcohol and Drug Policy and the risks and effects of abusing both.
- d. Beginning Summer Semester 2021, the Office of Counseling and Disability provided a series of 15 mental wellness educational events through the USG Mental Health Initiative on the dangers of alcohol, drug abuse, and sexual assault to freshmen students, bringing live speakers on campus to address mental health issues that students, faculty,

and staff could attend in person or virtually.

- e. EGSC hosted a virtual presentation for students to attend in-person of a speaker from Active Minds to address mental wellness strategies.
- f. Office of Conduct & Title IX completed in-person Code of Conduct presentations to FYE classes as faculty requested, depending on faculty comfort level.
- g. Programming continued to be hampered by the social distancing.

4. Spring Semester Activities for 2022

- a. Required Alcohol Education online education class for all new students (freshman and transfer).
- b. Presentation modules in Housing student orientation program regarding the Alcohol and Drug Policy and the risks and effects of abusing both.
- c. The Office of Counseling and Disability provided education on the dangers of alcohol, drugs abuse, and sexual assault to freshmen students.
- d. Virtual presentation of the EGSC Code of Conduct to athletes and all students living in the residence halls.
- e. Office of Conduct & Title IX completed in-person Code of Conduct presentations to FYE classes as faculty requested, depending on faculty comfort level.

EGSC Student Code of Conduct Violations from August 2020 to July 2022

Fall Semester 2020	Spring Semester 2021	Summer Semester 2021	Fall Semester 2021	Spring Semester 2022	Summer Semester 2022
1 alcohol	2 alcohol	1 alcohol	7 alcohol	4 alcohol	0 alcohol
2 assaults	0 assaults	0 assault	4 assault	3 assault	0 assault
3 drugs	5 drugs	0 drugs	4 drugs	0 drugs	0 drugs
1 arrests	2 arrests	0 arrests	1 arrests	2 arrests	0 arrests