

A message from The Office of the University Registrar



**September 28, 2016**

**TO:** UA Students

**FROM:** Dr. Kevin Whitaker, Provost

All students have the right to pursue their individual and collective goals in a safe and healthy educational and work environment that is free from the effects of alcohol and drug abuse. The Capstone Creed sets the standard for individual and civic responsibilities. Therefore, The University of Alabama has adopted the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy and the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy for Students to inform students about the dangers of substance abuse. A summary of these policies is attached.

Students have a personal responsibility to adhere to all the applicable laws, policies, and regulations governing the use of alcohol or other drugs. The complete text of the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy is available at [www.policies.ua.edu/drugfree.html](http://www.policies.ua.edu/drugfree.html) and the complete text of the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy for Students is available at [www.sc.ua.edu/index.cfm](http://www.sc.ua.edu/index.cfm) (select Resources, then Alcohol and Other Drug Policy). Please insure you are familiar with these policies. Students who violate these policies will be held accountable for their behavior and will be subject to appropriate disciplinary sanctions. In addition, students who, while receiving federal financial assistance, have a drug offense for selling or possessing illegal drugs that leads to a conviction may no longer be eligible to receive additional federal aid (see Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations, accessible at <http://financialaid.ua.edu/faq/drug-law-violation.php>).

A wide range of student education, prevention, and assistance programs are available through many University offices, including the Counseling Center, Student Health Center, and the Dean of Students' office. Students are encouraged to take advantage of the preventive, diagnostic, referral, and counseling services that are provided by the University. More information is available on the AOD Prevention website at [www.aodprevention.ua.edu](http://www.aodprevention.ua.edu).

**File attachments:**

[Drug Free Campus Summary.pdf](#)

**THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA**  
**DRUG-FREE CAMPUS AND WORKPLACE POLICY SUMMARY FOR STUDENTS**

All members of the University community have the right to pursue their individual and collective goals in a healthy work and educational environment, one that is free of the effects of alcohol and substance abuse. Such abuse adversely affects the University's achievement of its mission and will not be condoned. As part of its effort to promote a drug-free work and educational environment, the University has a Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy (applicable to students and employees and available at [www.policies.ua.edu/drugfree.html](http://www.policies.ua.edu/drugfree.html)) and an Alcohol and Other Drug Policy For Students (available at [www.sc.ua.edu/index.cfm](http://www.sc.ua.edu/index.cfm) - select Resources, then Alcohol and Other Drug Policy). The University urges you to read these policies and become familiar with their provisions. Collectively, the policies can be summarized as follows:

- I. **Standards of Conduct**: The unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance by any student or employee of The University of Alabama is prohibited. It is also a violation of the Code of Student Conduct for a student to *unlawfully* possess or consume alcoholic beverages on campus or at University-sponsored events, or violate laws or policies regarding alcohol use or possession.
- II. **Disciplinary Sanctions**: Violation of these policies shall result in the prompt imposition of sanctions. These sanctions depend on the nature and severity of the offense and may range from a warning, loss of privileges, disciplinary probation, community service, restitution, required satisfactory participation in counseling and/or rehabilitation program, suspension, expulsion, termination of student employment and/or referral to proper law enforcement authorities for prosecution. Except with respect to employment, sanctions taken against students will be carried out in accordance with policies and procedures published in The Code of Student Conduct up to and, for very serious violations, including dismissal from The University. See [www.sc.ua.edu/commsanctions.cfm](http://www.sc.ua.edu/commsanctions.cfm) for common sanctions for alcohol and drug violations.
- III. **Education, Counseling, and Treatment Programs**: The Counseling Center offers assessment, short-term counseling, crisis intervention, and referral services for students. The Student Health Center provides medical care, psychiatry services, prevention education, brief intervention, plus three additional education/therapy programs with increasing levels of intensity to assist students with substance abuse issues. In addition, the Student Health Center has a Collegiate Recovery Community for those who have made a commitment to lead sober, healthy lives; this program provides students an opportunity to bond together in an alcohol and drug free environment. The Dean of Students provides both group education targeted to substance use/misuse and individual mentoring and behavioral contractual agreements for success. Furthermore, the Office of Student Conduct has established an on-campus drug court model, MPACT, for serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct to address the needs of those students impacted by substance abuse. This is a collaborative effort with the Student Health Center's substance abuse clinical support services. Additional Drug-Abuse and/or Substance Education and Prevention Programs are described at [www.aodprevention.ua.edu](http://www.aodprevention.ua.edu).
- IV. **Health Risks and Legal Sanctions**: Substance abuse can create serious health risks and result in the imposition of a range of criminal penalties, including large fines and imprisonment, and loss of eligibility for federal financial aid (see Notice of Federal Student Financial Aid Penalties for Drug Law Violations: <http://financialaid.ua.edu/faq/drug-law-violation.php>). Please refer to sections IV and V of the Drug-Free Campus and Workplace Policy and to Appendix A and Appendix J of the Alcohol and Other Drug Policy For Students for a more detailed description of these health risks, laws, and penalties.