

2011 Biennial Review of Montgomery College Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program

Introduction

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Amendment Act of 1989 (the "Act") required institutions of higher education to design and implement alcohol and illicit drug programs. Montgomery College (the "College") adopted a drug and alcohol abuse prevention policy in May 1989. As stated in College Policy, 35001, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, the Board of Trustees is committed to the education of students, employees, and community members regarding substance abuse prevention, detection, and treatment services; to the continuation of a collegewide substance abuse prevention program and other ongoing efforts which foster such education; and to the maintenance of a drug-free environment throughout the College.

The Act also requires an institution to conduct a biennial review to determine the effectiveness of and to implement any needed changes to its prevention program, and to ensure that sanctions developed for violating standards of conduct are enforced consistently. This biennial review was prepared in July 2011 and focuses on calendar years 2009 and 2010.

Highlights of Prevention Programs for 2009 and 2010

1) STUDENTS

A. Germantown Campus

Spring Semester 2009

Health and Wellness Fair, March 2009

Drawing the Line- A Montgomery County program that targets underage drinking and provides extensive literature to students through information tables

Narcotics Anonymous (ongoing)

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (ongoing)

Safe Summer Send Off- distribution of information on alcohol awareness, smoking and drugs (May)

U.S. Army on campus to display the awareness of drinking and driving (May)

Goggle Simulators (May)

Fall Semester 2009

Video Board display- information regarding the effects of drinking and driving (ongoing)

Drawing the Line- A Montgomery County program that targets underage drinking and provides extensive literature to students through information tables. (November)

Wrecked car displayed on campus that was damaged due to drunk driving (November)

Information tables- illustrating the effects of drinking and driving (September and November)

Mock-tails- Served alternative drinks, handed out recipes for mock-tails and handed out additional information regarding the effects of excessive drinking, drinking and driving, and underage drinking (November)

Tar Jar and 3-D Display of lungs and the effects of smoking (November)

Breathe Free Club- week-long program with videos on the effects of smoking

Spring Semester 2010

Video Board display- information regarding the effects of drinking and driving (ongoing)

Drawing the Line- A Montgomery County program that targets underage drinking and provides extensive literature to students through information tables (May)

Information tables- illustrating the effects of drinking and driving (May)

Mock-tails- Served alternative drinks, handed out recipes for mock-tails and handed out additional information regarding the effects of excessive drinking, drinking and driving, and underage drinking (May)

Tar Jar and 3-D Display of lungs and the effects of smoking (March)

Breathe Free Club- week-long program with videos on the effects of smoking

Narcotics Anonymous (ongoing)

Mothers Against Drunk Driving (ongoing)

Safe Summer Send Off- distribution of information on alcohol awareness, smoking and drugs (May)

Fall Semester 2010

Video Board display- information regarding the effects of drinking and driving (ongoing)

Free bracelets distributed and information regarding the effects of drinking and driving; the bracelets represented a pledge to sustain from drinking and driving (November)

B. Rockville Campus

Spring Semester 2009

Active Minds Club – Provided information to students on mental health issues, including self-medication through use of alcohol and drug use.

Fall Semester 2009

Wellness Wednesdays – Kaiser Permanente conducted health sessions for students that included information about alcohol and substance abuse.

Spring Semester 2010

Wellness Wednesdays – Kaiser Permanente conducted health sessions for students that included information about alcohol and substance abuse.

Behavioral & Mental Health Sessions – Provided workshops on mental health issues that can lead to substance abuse.

Kaiser Permanente sponsored a session on drinking and driving. They conducted “drunk driving” goggle tests to emulate the effects of drinking while driving.

Fall Semester 2010

No alcohol or drug related activities

C. Takoma Park / Silver Spring Campus

Spring Semester 2009

New Student Orientation – during sessions, drug & alcohol free campus addressed (January 2009)

Pregnancy Initiative – effort addresses good choice making which may include discussions on alcohol and drug usage as relates to pregnancy Mothers Against Drunk Driving – table at Service Learning Volunteer Fair (February 2009)

Health Fair (March 2009)

Mental Health Day (April 2009)

State of Maryland Stop Smoking Pamphlets displayed on Student Life tables (ongoing)

Cancer Information Service Quit Smoking Pamphlets (ongoing)

Fall Semester 2009

New Student Orientation – during sessions, drug & alcohol free campus addressed (August 2009)

Pregnancy Initiative – effort addresses good choice making which may include discussions on alcohol and drug usage as relates to pregnancy (ongoing)

Mothers Against Drunk Driving – student court monitoring training for drunken driving cases

State of Maryland Stop Smoking Pamphlets displayed on Student Life tables (ongoing)

Cancer Information Service Quit Smoking Pamphlets (ongoing)

Spring Semester 2010

New Student Orientation – during sessions, drug & alcohol free campus addressed (January 2010)

Pregnancy Initiative – effort addresses good choice making which may include discussions on alcohol and drug usage as relates to pregnancy (ongoing)

Health Fair (March 2010)

Mental Health Day (April 2010)

State of Maryland Stop Smoking Pamphlets displayed on Student Life tables (ongoing)

Cancer Information Service Quit Smoking Pamphlets (ongoing)

Fall Semester 2010

New Student Orientation – during sessions, drug & alcohol free campus addressed – August 2010.

Drunk Driving Simulated Car – October 2010

Pregnancy Initiative – effort addresses good choice making which may include discussions on alcohol and drug usage as relates to pregnancy (ongoing)

State of Maryland Stop Smoking Pamphlets displayed on Student Life tables (ongoing)

Cancer Information Service Quit Smoking Pamphlets (ongoing)

2. Employees

While Montgomery College's drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs were not a primary focus for employees in 2009 and 2010, in June 2011, employees were invited to attend an Alcohol and Drug Education Lunch and Learn for all employees interested in learning more about drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace, as well as employees who have concerns about family members. Two additional sessions are planned for the summer, including July 29 and August 12, 2011. The announcements will run in Inside MC Online from July 21-29, 2011 and from August 5-12, 2011.

The objectives of the training were to inform employees about the College's drug-free workplace policy; the prevalence of alcohol and drug abuse in the workplace, the impact of alcohol and drug abuse on the workplace; the connection between poor performance and alcohol and/or drug abuse; the progression of the disease of alcohol and drug addiction; types of assistance and types of leave available to employees; and privacy of medical documentation.

Distribution of Information Regarding Procedures and Programs

The Annual Security Report, which is posted annually on the College's website, includes information regarding the College policies regarding drugs and alcohol and a description of the College's drug and alcohol abuse prevention program.

The Office of Human Resources has included the College Policy, 31005, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention, as part of the electronic onboarding process in which all newly hired employees review specific policies and procedures in which the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention policy is included.

Various pamphlets and posters are on display in various areas of the campus to educate and inform students about the effects of drug and alcohol abuse and how to get help for issues related to drug and alcohol abuse. Bulletin boards are used on occasion to highlight programs or provide additional visibility to materials. The student handbook, Student Insider's Guide, also has a section on "how to get help" with referral sources, both within the College and externally.

Sanction Enforcement

1) STUDENTS

2009

Germantown Campus- none

Rockville Campus – one incident, three students involved. Students were caught smoking marijuana on campus. One student chose to transfer because she admitted to being involved and did not want to be in the company of the other two. Another student denied being involved, but there was evidence of her involvement, resulting in a requirement that she participate in substance abuse counseling. She has not complied so the disciplinary hold remains on her record. The third student did not respond to the request to meet letter so the disciplinary hold remains on her record.

Takoma Park/Silver Spring-none

2010

Germantown Campus- none

Rockville Campus- one. Possession of marijuana. Sanction – proof of completion of substance abuse counseling. Student was required to provide documentation that he participated in the court mandated substance abuse program. He provided the information and was allowed to register for classes the following semester.

Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus- three.

Sanctions:

August, 2010-Disciplinary warning

November, 2010-Disciplinary probation for one student; disciplinary suspension for one semester and required counseling for second student.

December, 2010-Disciplinary probation for one semester and required counseling.

7/29/2011

2) EMPLOYEES

No disciplinary cases in 2009 or 2010.

EVALUATION OF PROGRAM

Strengths:

There are both campus-based and college-level programs, activities, and written materials.

There is a multi-pronged approach to drug and alcohol prevention and education.

Weaknesses:

No biennial review had been conducted.

Lack of detailed procedures to accompany College Policy 35001.

Need for more drug and alcohol related programs.

Health risks are not clearly stated in the student handbook.

BIENNIAL REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS

1) STUDENTS

- Include information on drug and alcohol risks and prevention in the Student Insider's Guide and Montgomery College web site.
- Conduct at least one workshop per semester at each campus through Student Life or First Year Experience Program. Student athletes and other at-risk student groups will be required to attend.
- Continue to increase enrollment in the First Year Seminar, where drug and alcohol prevention is a part of the curriculum.
- Regularly display information on alcohol and substance abuse on MyMC, Facebook, and other appropriate electronic means.
- Ask the student newspapers to have an article at least once a year on drug and alcohol prevention.
- Seek a standard method of delivery through electronic means of health issues related to students, such as E-Magazine.

2. EMPLOYEES

- Develop a brochure as part of the orientation process.
- Produce a recorded training module based on the current Lunch and Learn content.
- Ensure that appropriate information is included in the Employee Handbook.
- Research professional organizations and other college and university programs in an effort to adopt best practices with regard to drug and alcohol abuse awareness and prevention.
- Disseminate a Collegewide communication memo, developing informal presentations targeted to specific work environments (i.e. work groups directly engaged with students vs. minimal student contact),
- Conduct presentations and disseminating information at the annual Staff Professional Day Conference.
- Present information at administrative and academic unit meetings, and
- Establish a defined referral process for drug and alcohol related incidents.