

BIENNIAL CAMPUS ALCOHOL & DRUG REPORT

Fiscal Years 2023 & 2024



Mississippi University
for Women

FOUNDED 1884 COEDUCATIONAL SINCE 1982

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 01** Reporting an Incident
- 01** Contact Information
- 02** About Biennial Report
- 03** Student Code of Conduct
- 07** Campus Data
- 08** Employees
- 09** It's the Law
- 09** Health Risks
- 10** Programs & Education
- 11** Treatment
- 12** Hotline Numbers
- 12** Crime Awareness

REPORTING AN INCIDENT

All students, faculty and staff are encouraged to report incidents of alcohol and drug abuse. If you are unsure if Mississippi University for Women is aware of a potential incident regarding a violation of laws of the State of Mississippi and/or Mississippi University for Women policy, please contact the Vice President for Student Affairs, Human Resources, or Campus Police. When calling, please provide as much information as possible about the person being reported, location, time and date.

To report an incident, please complete the online report form at <http://www.muw.edu/reporting>.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Vice President for Student Affairs

Cochran Hall, Suite 400
662.329.7129

Dean of Students

Cochran Hall, 405
662.329.7129

MUW Counseling Center

11th Street South & 4th Avenue
662.329.7748

MUW Police Department

McDevitt Hall
662.241.7777

Student Health Center

Eckford Hall
662.329.7289

Housing and Residence Life

Cochran Hall, 2nd Floor
662.329.7127

Human Resources

Shattuck Hall
662.329.7222

ABOUT BIENNIAL REPORT



In accordance with the requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act of 1989, institutions must publish a biennial report. The review must include a determination of the number of drug and alcohol-related violations and fatalities that occur on the institution's campus or as part of the institution's activities and number and type of sanctions imposed by the institution as a result of drug and alcohol-related violations and fatalities that occur on the institution's campus or as part of the institution's activities. MUW strives to maintain a safe and healthful environment for its students, faculty, and staff. High risk behaviors related to drug and alcohol abuse can lead to decreased productivity, serious health problems, strained social interactions, and impaired learning. An academic community is harmed in many ways by the abuse of alcohol and other drugs.

MUW recognizes students as adults, expected to obey the law and rules and regulations of the university. Students must take personal responsibility for conduct, respect the rights of others, and have regard for the preservation of state and university property. Students whose

conduct threatens to cause disorder, public disturbances, danger to themselves or others, or property damage will be disciplined. Those students found responsible for violating the law or rules and regulations of the university may receive a maximum sanction of expulsion from the university.

MUW is committed to maintaining a drug-free workplace and workforce in conformity with federal laws as set forth in the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Department of Defense (DOD) Drug-Free Workforce Rule of 1988. As a result of these laws and policy of this institution, the campus of Mississippi University for Women be a drug-free workplace. Faculty and staff members are specifically prohibited from possessing, using, manufacturing, selling, distributing, or in any other way involving themselves with controlled substances both on and off campus, except as permitted in the relevant legislation.

Visit <https://web1.muw.edu/hr/employees/wellness/workplace> for additional information.

CODE OF CONDUCT

GENERAL REGULATIONS OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINARY SANCTIONS

The following is a list of rights and responsibilities of the student body of Mississippi University for Women. Also contained herein are the sanctions that can be imposed as the result of an infraction.

Standards of Student Conduct

All students shall be free to exercise all constitutional rights guaranteed by the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Mississippi. Nothing contained herein shall supplant, supersede, override, or infringe upon the authority of the aforementioned documents.

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Students at The W are members of a community designed to encourage academic excellence. The privilege of belonging to this community requires that students assume responsibility for themselves and others. Every student must respect the rights and privileges of others and federal, state, and local statutes. Upon enrollment at The W, students must assume the responsibility for being fully acquainted with published rules and regulations and for complying with them in the interest of an atmosphere conducive to the pursuit of knowledge. It is the responsibility of students to serve on University committees as appointed by University officials.

Authority

Section 615, of the Bylaws and Policies of the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning delegates to the President of Mississippi University for Women “full authority in all matters concerning student affairs.” In accordance with this responsibility, the aim of disciplinary action is the redirection of student behavior toward the achievement of academic, community and student developmental goals. This Code of Conduct applies to all official university sanctioned activities including off campus programs. The President has delegated this function to the Vice President for Student Affairs (VPSA) or designee(s). It is the responsibility of the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee(s) to initiate, implement, and supervise the disciplinary process for students.



DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY



Purpose: To provide appropriate developmental/educational experiences for students who violate the university's policy regarding drugs and alcohol and to support the sections of the Student Code of Conduct which relate to drugs and alcohol.

MUW does not currently provide drug/alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation programs for students. Referral to community treatment facilities may be made in appropriate cases. For a list of drug and alcohol programs in the community, contact The W's Counseling Center at 662.329.7748.

MUW will impose sanctions against individuals who are determined to have violated rules prohibiting the use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs or alcohol. Sanctions for students using or possessing illegal drugs or alcohol may include disciplinary probation, and in appropriate cases, suspension from the University. The university reserves the right to contact parents of students who violate rules and regulations regarding the use, possession, or distribution of drugs or alcohol, when deemed appropriate. In addition, residence hall students may be removed from the housing system for the use or possession of illegal drugs. Referral for criminal prosecution may be made in appropriate cases. Individuals involved in the sale or distribution of illegal drugs may be suspended from the University and referred to the appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. All employees, including student workers, agree as a condition of employment they must abide by this policy as defined in the Drug and Alcohol Free Workplace Act of 1988 found at <http://www.muw.edu/hr/employees/wellness/workplace>.

It is the policy of Mississippi University for Women to maintain a safe and healthful environment for its students, faculty, and staff. Therefore, the university has established policies for students concerning alcohol use on campus. It is a violation of the Mississippi University for Women Student Code of Conduct for a student to possess, consume, or sell alcohol on campus. It is incumbent on students to become knowledgeable of these policies, whether for individual decision-making or for the planning of programs and events for student organizations.

Alcoholic Beverages

No student may consume or possess any alcoholic beverages, containers, or bottles in the residence halls, at student events in university buildings, or on any property or public location belonging to Mississippi University for Women.

- The possession, sale, distribution or furnishings of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in the residence halls, at student events in university buildings, or on any property or public location belonging to Mississippi University for Women for any student function.
- Students who behave in an intoxicated manner as a result of the use of alcohol or require staff assistance shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- The playing of games (or competitions) involving the use or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the campus or at events sponsored or supervised by the university.
- Common source containers are prohibited in residence halls and on University owned property.
- Possession of any alcohol paraphernalia is prohibited.
- Empty alcoholic beverage containers (bottles, can, etc.) are prohibited in/on University owned or controlled property.

Drinking Age Law, Mississippi

Effective October 1, 1986, it is illegal for any person under the age of 21 to possess or be sold, given, or furnished beer or light wine. This law has serious consequences for persons who provide or sell beer and light wine to individuals under 21, as well as for underage drinkers.

Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act of 1989

Mississippi University for Women acknowledges and adheres to the laws of the state of Mississippi. The University also complies with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act Amendments of 1989. In compliance with federal and state laws, at Mississippi University for Women the following will apply:

- The possession of any drug controlled by federal or state laws on or off campus is prohibited.
- In compliance with state and federal law, it is illegal to possess, consume, use, or distribute (or intend to distribute or use) any drug controlled by federal or state laws on the campus of Mississippi University for Women or at events sponsored or supervised by the University.
- The manufacture, intent to manufacture, to furnish, or intent to furnish drugs controlled by federal or state law is prohibited.
- The sale, intent to sell, purchase, intent to purchase, deliver, or intent to deliver drugs controlled by federal or state law is prohibited.
- Possession or use of any drug related paraphernalia is prohibited. The University reserves the right to initiate judicial action if drug violations occur on or off-campus. Students found to be in violation of the drug policy will be subject to disciplinary action which may result in suspension or expulsion.
- Over the counter or prescription medications should not be used in any way except the manufacturer's intended purpose or as prescribed.



INFRACTIONS



Alcohol Policy Infraction

A student who is found guilty of an alcohol policy infraction will receive sanctions. Sanctions may include but are not limited to the following:

- *First Offense* – The student will attend a meeting with the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee(s). The student will receive a verbal reprimand, educational program, description of the consequences for future infractions, and will be placed on administrative probation.
- *Second Offense* – The student will be required to complete an education program, community service, and administrative probation will be extended or reissued.
- *Third Offense* - The student will be suspended from the university for a specific period of time. A student suspended under this portion of the policy will be placed on indefinite administrative probation when he/she re-enrolls.

Drug Policy Infraction

A student who is found guilty of a drug policy infraction will receive sanctions. Sanctions may include but are not limited to the following:

- *First Offense* – The student will attend a meeting with the Vice President for Student Affairs or designee(s). The student will receive a verbal reprimand and an educational program. If the student is living on campus, he/she will be suspended from the residence halls. The student will be placed on administrative probation. Students found guilty of selling or distributing controlled substances may be suspended.
- *Second Offense* – The student will be suspended for a specific period of time.

CAMPUS DATA

Listed below is a summary of the number of alcohol and drug related student conduct cases which were adjudicated by the VPSA/Dean of Students office. The following data represents individuals sanctioned for incidents that involve drugs and alcohol.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Alcohol Policy						
Alleged Violations	9	1	4	4	1	4
Sanctions	6	1	1	1	0	3
Drug Policy						
Alleged Violations	8	2	5	4	0	1
Sanctions	5	2	2	0	0	0
Alcohol Educational Sanctions						
Online Education Program	5	0	1	1	0	3
Disciplinary Probation	5	0	0	0	0	0
Additional Sanction	0	1	0	0	0	0
Drug Educational Sanctions						
Online Education Program	4	2	2	0	0	0
Disciplinary Probation	4	2	0	0	0	0
Additional Sanction	1		1	0	0	0

EMPLOYEES

For employees, the MUW Faculty and Staff Drug and Alcohol Policy – PS 6704 can be found online in the Employee Handbook at <https://www.muw.edu/hr/employees/wellness/workplace>.

PS #6704: MUW Faculty and Staff Drug and Alcohol Policy

Mississippi University for Women is committed to maintaining a drug-free workplace and workforce in conformity with federal laws as set forth in the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 and the Department of Defense (DOD) Drug-Free Workforce Rule of 1988. As a result of these laws and of the policy of this institution that the campus of Mississippi University for Women be a drug-free workplace, faculty and staff members are specifically prohibited from possessing, using, manufacturing, selling, distributing, or in any other way involving themselves with controlled substances both on and off campus, except as permitted in the relevant legislation. For purposes of this policy, the terms "faculty and staff members" shall specifically include all personnel employed by the University, whether full-time or part-time. The terms "controlled substances" shall mean those drugs and substances set forth in Schedules I through V of Section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812), and as further defined by regulation at 21 C.F.R. 1300.11 through 1300.15. The term "workplace" is any location where faculty or staff is functioning within their job capacity.

Sanctions

1. Depending upon the facts relating to any drug conviction or use, the employee may be: suspended pending further investigation; required to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program; issued a formal warning; or terminated. For disciplinary actions, up to and including termination, the applicable procedure will apply, based upon the status of the employee (i.e. faculty/staff, within 90-Day Review period/outside 90-Day Review period, temporary/permanent, level of responsibility, etc.). Any action will be initiated within thirty (30) days after the facts have become known by the University.
2. If a faculty or staff member fails to notify his/her immediate supervisor of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace within five (5) days after such conviction, he/she will be suspended pending investigation with termination possible.
3. For purposes of this policy, "conviction" means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the federal or state criminal drug statutes.

IT'S THE LAW

Numerous federal, state, and local laws provide for a variety of legal sanctions and penalties for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol. These sanctions include, but are not limited to, incarceration and monetary fines. State laws and local ordinances also prohibit illicit drugs and alcohol. Copies of university policies and regulations are available at the following locations: Office of Human Resources, MUW Police Department, & Dean of Students Office.

HEALTH RISKS

The use, misuse, and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, both legal and illegal, can have serious consequences to health and well-being. Alcohol and other drug use can lead to psychological and/or physiological dependence and addiction. Information on specific health risks associated with alcohol and other drugs is summarized below and is available in more detail at the following campus locations: The W Health Center and The W Counseling Center.

Interaction between various drugs, legal and illegal, may have serious consequences to the user. Various combinations of drugs may work at cross purposes within the body, and the combined effects of two or more drugs may be more potent than the effect of a single drug.

If an overdose is suspected, contact 911 immediately.

Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant that can impair coordination, inhibitions, self-control, memory, judgment, and reflexes. Large quantities may produce staggering, slurred speech, mood changes, unconsciousness and possibly death. Prolonged use can damage many organs of the body including the heart, liver, stomach, and pancreas.

Marijuana can increase heart rate, interfere with sexual development, may cause a reduction in male fertility and disrupt the female menstrual cycle. It can increase the risk of disease/damage to the body's respiratory system, impair eye-hand coordination and other essential functions needed to operate a motor vehicle safely. It can also impair the body's immune system.

Opioids are a highly addictive class of drugs found naturally in the opium poppy plant. These drugs act as depressants on the central nervous system to relieve pain, and they lower heart rate, pulse, and breathing of the user.

Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid approved by the FDA as a pain relief drug and anesthetic. It is 100X more potent than morphine and 50X more potent than heroin. Side effects include drowsiness, nausea, confusion, unconsciousness, hypoxia, and death. This drug is found in counterfeit pills that mimic pharmaceutical pills such as oxycodone. Fentanyl is the cause of many accidental overdoses and was attributed to death every 15 minutes in 2021.

Cocaine can cause feelings of depression, inability, impatience and pessimism. It can also cause severe weight loss, anxiety, hallucinations, increased heart rate and blood pressure. Cocaine has caused death by convulsion, failure of the respiratory system, and by heart attack.

Over-the-counter and prescription drugs can also cause drug tolerance, dependence, and addiction. The potential for misuse and abuse is increased with these drugs as they are easily obtainable, safe as far as ingredients and manufacturing, and the user may tend not to follow specific instructions for dosage and frequency. Many legal drugs also have a long shelf life leading to their use after they are no longer needed or for self-medication without medical supervision.

Club drugs such as MDMA (Ecstasy), GHB, LSD, Rohypnol, Ketamine and Methamphetamine can cause serious health problems and possibly death. Many of these drugs are tasteless and odorless. The chemicals, drug sources and pharmacological agents used to manufacture these drugs often vary, making it difficult to determine all of the effects, symptoms and health risks associated with club drugs. Confusion, depression, impaired motor function, amnesia, psychotic behavior, cardiac failure and permanent neurological and organ damage are some known effects associated with the use of these drugs.

PROGRAMS & EDUCATION

The University provides programs to prevent the illicit use of drugs and the abuse of alcohol by students and employees. The programs provide services related to drug use and abuse including dissemination of informational materials, educational programs, counseling services, referrals and college disciplinary actions.

- Campus Safety Day (September 2023)
- Spring Break Safety Day (March 2023)
- Athletics Policy Overview Training (August 2022 & 2023)

Alcohol and drug programs for students, faculty, and staff are offered through the following departments:

- MUW Health Center
- Housing and Residence Life
- Counseling Center
- Police Department

TREATMENT

Resource	Description	Contact
MUW Counseling Center	Staff available by appointment or on emergency basis to assist enrolled MUW students with alcohol & other drug related issues.	11th St South & 4th Ave 662.329.7748
MUW Health Center	Staff available during normal regular hours (8am to 5pm) to address concerns of alcohol or drug related questions and provide information.	Eckford Hall 662.329.7289
Employee Assistance Program (EAP)	Available for employees to obtain counseling for alcohol or drug related program.	MUW Human Resources Shattuck Hall 662.329.7222
Baptist Behavioral Healthcare	Inpatient detox & chemical dependency intensive outpatient program (8 week program, 4 nights per week, 3 hours per night)	525 Willowbrook Road Columbus, MS 39705 (662) 244-2162
Community Counseling Services (CCS)	Outpatient therapy for substance abusers and families & two residential treatment programs.	1001 Main Street Columbus, MS 39701 662-328-9225
The Pines (Male) & Cady Hill (Female)	Gender specific residential treatment program (through CCS) for substance abusers. Inpatient care provided for minimum of 6 weeks and is based on income level. Family, court, and self-referral accepted.	1011 Main Street Columbus, MS 39701 (662) 327-7916
Alcoholics Anonymous (AA)	Support for people who abuse drugs and alcohol. AA sponsors Al-Anon for the family of the abuser as well.	For more information about meeting times and locations contact AA at 662-327-8941

HOTLINES

Alcohol and Drug Abuse 1-800-729-6686

American Council of Alcoholism 1-800-527-5344

Referral and Drug Information 1-800-662-4435

CRIME AWARENESS

Crime statistics are provided as part of Mississippi University for Women's commitment to safety and security on campus and complies with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act. This information is found on our MUW Police Department web site at <http://www.muw.edu/police/reports>.