

Alcohol and other drug policies

2026



Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program

Biennial Review of AU Alcohol and Other Drug Programs 2025-2026

The Drug Free Schools and Campus Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) require an institution of higher education (IHE) such as Atlantis University to certify it has implemented programs to prevent the abuse of alcohol and use or distribution of illicit drugs both by AU students and employees, both on its premises and as a part of any of its activities.

At a minimum each institution of higher education must annually distribute the following in writing to all students and employees:

Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees;

A description of the legal sanctions under local, state, or federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;

A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation or reentry programs that are available to employees or students; and

A clear statement that the institution will impose sanctions on students and employees and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct.

The law further requires that the institution conduct a biennial review of its program with the following objectives:

Determining the effectiveness of the policy and implementing changes to the alcohol and other drug programs if they are needed; and

To ensure that the sanctions developed are enforced consistently.

The biennial review must also include a determination as to:

The number of drug- and alcohol related violations and fatalities occurring on the campus or as part of their activities that are reported to campus officials;

The number and types of sanctions the IHEs impose on students or employees as a result of such violations or fatalities.

Atlantis University acknowledges its legal obligation to conduct a biennial review of compliance with the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act and authorized an administrative review to be conducted to determine if the institute fulfills the requirements of the previously mentioned Federal regulations. The President and the Administration, is responsible for conducting the review and reporting on the findings. The purpose of this report is to comply as best as possible, using data collected over the past two years, and to give evidence of the procedures in place for subsequent biennial reports.

The intention of this document is to meet the legal requirement of conducting a biennial review and also to summarize the programs and activities related to alcohol and drug prevention on the Atlantis University campus during the 2026-2027 academic years.

The following information was examined for the biennial review:

Alcohol and drug policies at similar institutions.

Alcohol and drug information provided students.

Student Handbook policies related to drug and alcohol use on campus and the sanctions imposed for failure to comply

Employee Handbook policies related to drug and alcohol use by the Atlantis University employees and the sanctions imposed for failure to comply

Atlantis University on/off campus expectations related to student behavior

Various resources available to students and employees regarding drug and alcohol abuse

Incident reports in the Office related to any possible infractions of the drug and alcohol policy presented to students

Local, State and Federal Mandates

Compliance with Drug Free Schools and Communities Act:

Atlantis University strives to remain in compliance with the requirements of the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. The institute has adopted and implemented programs to prevent the abuse of alcohol and use or distribution of illicit drugs both by students and employees both on its premises and as a part of any of the University activities. AU has a written policy on alcohol and illegal drugs distributed to students during orientation, through access to the online Catalog/Student Handbook. The Employee Manual also contains the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Policy. The materials are located on our website contain the following:

Standards of conduct that prohibit unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school property or as a part of its activities;

A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and abuse of alcohol;

A description of counseling or treatment programs.

A clear statement and description of the disciplinary sanctions the institution will impose on students and employees.

The federally mandated policy about alcohol and other drugs will be discussed in more detail with students during orientation. In addition, the alcohol and drug policy will be presented to all employees with the distribution of the Employee Handbook.

Alcohol and Drug Free Campus Workplace Policy:

Atlantis University is committed to providing students, faculty, staff, and visitors a safe campus and workplace. The University recognizes the health risks associated with controlled substance use and alcohol misuse and is committed to supporting students and employees who seek treatment for these conditions.

The University also recognizes that controlled substance use and alcohol misuse diminish workplace and campus safety and undermine the Institute ability to fulfill its mission of providing quality education for all students in an atmosphere that promotes intellectual pursuit, spiritual growth, and social, personal responsibility. Compliance with this policy is considered a condition of employment and attendance at AU and monitored by the Administration. All employees and students have been notified of this policy by print publication and on our website.

INCIDENTS REPORTS FOR STAFF

Year	Incidents in Workplace	Outcome
2024-2025	0 Incidents	Not Applicable
2025-2026	0 Incidents	Not Applicable

Student Life Summary:

All Atlantis University students are responsible for complying with Florida State laws and policies of AU. These guidelines establish that:

- No person under 21 years of age may use or be in possession of alcoholic beverages.
- Alcoholic beverages may not be available to minors.
- Misrepresentation of age for the purpose of purchasing alcoholic beverages is a violation of state law.
- Personal possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted at social events attended by students, on the Institute's grounds.

Campus Summary:

Students are prohibited from consuming, transporting, and distributing alcohol; possessing or being in the presence of alcohol while on campus; or exhibiting disruptive behavior caused by alcohol consumption.

Alcohol found by staff will be disposed of immediately. Persons found in violation of this policy will be subject to administrative or disciplinary sanctions listed in the Student Handbook/university Catalog and can include:

- Warning and/or probationary period (Disciplinary)
- Contact with parent/guardian
- Referral to an alcohol education program
- Counseling services
- Suspension from AU
- Termination from AU
- Possible arrest, imprisonment, or fine according to state alcohol laws

Intoxication from, or the use, display, or possession of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance (drug) is prohibited unless the student has a valid prescription for the use of the controlled substance. Furthermore, intoxication from, or the use, display, or possession of alcoholic beverages or any controlled substance (drug) on any area of the AU campus is prohibited. This includes the presence of empty or full alcoholic beverage containers.

Atlantis University Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program Goals and Achievement

Atlantis University strives to be a drug and alcohol-free campus. Therefore, the ultimate goal of our Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program is to help us achieve that high standard. The University realizes that this may not always be possible and that students or employees can have struggles with drug and/or alcohol abuse from time to time. Because our prevention program was only developed a few years ago, it's difficult to fully ascertain whether the program is helping us to meet and achieve our long-term goals.

The following program goals outlined below have been developed.

- To establish a drug and alcohol-free campus
- To educate the campus on the importance of abstaining from drugs and alcohol and the dangers of the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol
- To ensure that all disciplinary action taken in regards to a violation of any drug and alcohol policy is administered fairly and consistently.
- Highlight the effects of primary and secondary consequences of alcohol use.
- Identify consistent university message regarding alcohol.
- Promote alcohol and drug preventive education initiatives that contribute to student success.
- Ensure that all disciplinary actions taken in regards to a violation of any drug and alcohol policy are administered fairly and consistently

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program Strengths and Weaknesses

Atlantis University Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program was developed on October, 2015. This 2026 biennial review has provided us an opportunity to fully assess the program. Outlined below are several strengths and weaknesses that the University has ascertained for our Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program.

Strengths

Atlantis University standards help prevent the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol by students and employees. Many prevention programs are reactionary in nature. These programs tend to focus on education, and they encourage the campus to only drink in moderation and to avoid illegal drugs. Because a large number of college students experiment with drugs and alcohol on college campuses across the country, typical prevention programs often focus greatly on

how to help someone after they have abused drugs or alcohol. These are all good and necessary components of any program. However, Atlantis University also focuses on prevention from the start. Students and employees are required to commit to abstaining from all drugs and alcohol. Even students or employees that are of legal drinking age are required to refrain from drinking any alcohol and to commit to living by that standard prior to enrollment or employment. As such, the vast majority of students and employees are not currently using drugs or drinking alcohol before ever arriving on campus. Students that are of a legal drinking age would not violate an alcohol policy at many other schools, but they would show as an offender of Atlantis University policy. A stricter policy will always produce more violations, but we see this unique aspect of our campus as a strength.

Weaknesses

Students and employees are required to completely abstain from the use and abuse of drugs and alcohol; it could be possible for the University to assume there is not a drug or alcohol problem on the campus. These kinds of assumptions should be proven by empirical data. The University will continue to monitor its prevention program to evaluate its effectiveness.

Life and customs outside the campus facilities. Atlantis University needs to continue to develop programs and improve the prevention program so that drug and alcohol abuse is also reduced or eliminated outside the institution. Practical trainings need to be developed and implemented to help students avoid drug and alcohol abuse and to also track when those things were done.

Procedures for Distributing Annual Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program Notification to Students and Employees

Atlantis University will notify all students and employees through Atlantis University email accounts of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program following late registration each fall semester. The notification will be sent by October 1 of each year. Because all students (including applicants) and staff members are provided a university issued email account and are expected to access Atlantis University email on a regular basis, providing the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program through email is the most efficient, effective and all-inclusive method of communication. In addition, new employees will be provided a copy of the program during or following their new employee orientation. The full program is also available on Atlantis University website at <https://new.atlantisuniversity.edu/DAAP/> and is available for viewing online at any time to students, staff, parents, prospective students and the general public.

Recommendations

After review of the university alcohol and other drug policies and programs, the primary recommendations are as follows:

- Continue to improve communication and coordination of campus alcohol and drug programs
- Continue to provide a variety of student activities that offer student safe and alcohol-free alternatives
- Continue to provide student activities focusing on drug and alcohol education
- Continue to incorporate alcohol and drug policies and resource information into employee orientation and new student orientation programs.
- Continue annual notification to students.
- Create a new survey to assess student, faculty and employee attitudes and perceptions about drug and alcohol abuse.

Enforcement:

The primary sources on campus that enforce the alcohol and drug policies are the employees. The Administration of the University handles interventions and/or sanctions. It is the primary responsibility of the Review Committee which will recommend any necessary sanctions.

For 2024-2025, and 2025-2026 no referrals were made to the Disciplinary Review Committee for Drugs and/or Alcohol violations.

Atlantis University had no first offenses that were reported to Campus Security for drug and alcohol.

CAMPUS INCIDENT REPORTS

Year	Number Of Offenses	Outcomes
2024-2025	0 Incidents	Not Applicable
2025-2026	0 Incidents	Not Applicable

Intervention:

Atlantis University has several options available for students and staff members who need to address alcohol and other drug abuse issues. The Institute works with local community health organizations to provide counseling for students and staff members.

Drug Free Workplace Policy:

In compliance with the drug free workplace requirements of Public Law 100-690 for recipients of federal contracts and grants, the following policy is in effect for Atlantis University and published in the Employee Handbook and AU Catalog each year:

1. The unlawful manufacture, distribution, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited by AU on any property owned, leased, or controlled by AU or during any activity conducted, sponsored, authorized by, or on behalf of Atlantis University. A controlled substance shall include any substance defined as a controlled substance in Section 102 of the Federal Controlled Substance Act (21 U.S. Code 802).
2. Atlantis University has and shall maintain a drug free awareness program to inform employees concerning the following:
 - a) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace
 - b) Maintenance of a drug -free workplace
 - c) Drug counseling and rehabilitation programs
 - d) Possible penalties for drug abuse and rehabilitation violations.

Health Risks and Effects:

Alcohol and drug usage causes a number of marked changes in behavior. Even low doses significantly impair the judgment and coordination required to drive a car safely. Low to moderate doses of alcohol also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts, including domestic violence and date rape. Moderate to high doses of alcohol cause marked impairments in higher mental functions, severely altering a person's ability to learn and remember information. Very high doses cause respiratory depression and death.

Repeated use of alcohol and drugs can lead to dependence. Sudden cessation of alcohol intake is likely to produce withdrawal symptoms, including severe anxiety, tremors, hallucinations, and convulsions. Long term consumption of large quantities of alcohol and drugs, particularly when combined with poor nutrition, can also lead to permanent damage to vital organs such as the brain and the liver.

Resources for Assistance services and other initiatives:

Alcohol-Free Activities Atlantis University offers a broad range of alcohol-free activities, including guest speakers, music and, student club/organization events, academic opportunities, social programs, and others. Some of these activities specifically target evening audiences so as to divert high-risk evening drinking into pro-social activities.

All student activities are alcohol-free events. There are a number of student activities throughout the year that encourage student participation while in a fun, alcohol-free environment. A sample of student activities that took place over the last two years include poetry night, student club activities, movie nights, music and theatre productions, guest speakers on various topics, etc.

All students and employees are encouraged to seek early help if they feel they have a problem with alcohol and/or other drugs, and to learn how to assist others with substance abuse problems. With early assistance it is less likely that serious consequences will result from an alcohol or other drug problem. There are resources on campus and in the community for assistance. Questions should be directed to Administration.

SOME OTHER RESOURCES INCLUDE:**National**

- Alcoholics Anonymous -<https://www.aa.org>
- Al-Anon (Miami-Dade) – <https://alanonsofla.org>
- Narcotics Anonymous – <https://na.org>
- Focus on Recovery Helpline (alcohol/drugs) – 1-800-374-2800 or 1-800-234-1253
- Suicide & Crisis Lifeline – Dial **988**
- National Alliance on Mental Illness – 1-800-950-6264
- Department of Health & Human Services Drug & Alcohol Treatment Referral Routing Service: 1-800- 662-4357

Local - Miami Community

- <https://www.therecoveryvillage.com>
- <https://www.transitionsrecovery.com>
- <https://www.sunrisedetox.com>
- <https://drugabuse.com> > usa > drug-abuse > Miami-FL
- <https://harborvillageflorida.com> > contact-us
- <https://adaptivecenter.net/>