

Drug Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA)

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) of 1989 - also known as the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Act - requires institutions of higher education to establish [policies](#) that address unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and illicit drugs. The DFSCA also requires the establishment of a drug and alcohol prevention program.

All students, faculty, staff and visitors of Alvin Community College are encouraged to review the following information. This information will also be distributed electronically on an annual basis.

More information about the Drug Free Schools and Campuses Review can be obtained by contacting the [Vice President of Student Services](#) or the [Executive Director of Human Resources](#).

I. Standards of Conduct

Use of illegal drugs, and the illegal use of alcoholic beverages, is identified as "conduct which adversely affects the college community." ACC's legal and local policy for students and employees is available at <http://pol.tasb.org/Policy/Search/214?filter=alcohol%20and%20drugs>

II. Student Discipline

This information is available in the [student handbook](#) or [ACC's Policy Manual](#).

III. Employee Penalties

Alvin Community College employee policy and penalties are in [ACC's Policy Manual](#).

IV. Health Risks

Specific serious health risks are associated with the use of alcohol and illicit drugs. Some of the risks are listed below. For more information, review the [Drug Fact Sheet](#) on the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) website and the [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

a) Alcohol

Alcohol affects every organ in the drinker's body and can damage a developing fetus. Intoxication can impair brain function and motor skills; heavy use can increase risk of certain cancers, stroke, and liver disease. Alcoholism or alcohol dependence is a diagnosable disease characterized by a strong craving for alcohol, and/or continued use. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

b) Cocaine

Short-term effects: Narrowed blood vessels; enlarged pupils; increased body temperature, heart rate, and blood pressure; headache; abdominal pain and nausea; euphoria; increased energy, alertness; insomnia, restlessness; anxiety; erratic and violent behavior, panic attacks, paranoia, psychosis; heart rhythm problems, heart attack; stroke, seizure, and/or coma.

Long-term effects: Loss of sense of smell, nosebleeds, nasal damage and trouble swallowing from snorting; infection and death of bowel tissue from decreased blood flow; poor nutrition and weight loss from decreased appetite. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

c) Hallucinogens

Hallucinogens and dissociative drugs—which have street names like acid, angel dust, and vitamin K—distort the way a user perceives time, motion, colors, sounds, and self. These drugs can disrupt a person’s ability to think and communicate rationally, or even to recognize reality, sometimes resulting in bizarre or dangerous behavior. Hallucinogens such as LSD, psilocybin, peyote, DMT, and ayahuasca cause emotions to swing wildly and real-world sensations to appear unreal, sometimes frightening. Dissociative drugs like PCP, ketamine, dextromethorphan, and *Salvia divinorum* may make a user feel out of control and disconnected from their body and environment.

In addition to their short-term effects on perception and mood, hallucinogenic drugs are associated with psychotic-like episodes that can occur long after a person has taken the drug, and dissociative drugs can cause respiratory depression, heart rate abnormalities, and a withdrawal syndrome. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

d) Heroin

Short-term effects: Euphoria; warm flushing of skin; dry mouth; heavy feeling in the hands and feet; clouded thinking; alternate wakeful and drowsy states; itching; nausea; vomiting; slowed breathing and heart rate.

Long-term effects: Collapsed veins; abscesses (swollen tissue with pus); infection of the lining and valves in the heart; constipation and stomach cramps; liver or kidney disease; and/or pneumonia. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

e) Inhalants

Short-term effects: Confusion; nausea; slurred speech; lack of coordination; euphoria; dizziness; drowsiness; disinhibition, lightheadedness, hallucinations/delusions; headaches; sudden sniffing death due to heart failure (from butane, propane, and other chemicals in aerosols); death from asphyxiation, suffocation, convulsions or seizures, coma, or choking.

Nitrites: enlarged blood vessels, enhanced sexual pleasure, increased heart rate, brief sensation of heat and excitement, dizziness, headache.

Long-term effects: Liver and kidney damage; bone marrow damage; limb spasms due to nerve damage; brain damage from lack of oxygen that can cause problems with thinking, movement, vision, and hearing.

Nitrites: increased risk of pneumonia. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

f) Marijuana (Cannabis)

Short-term effects: Enhanced sensory perception and euphoria followed by drowsiness/relaxation; slowed reaction time; problems with balance and coordination; increased heart rate and appetite; problems with learning and memory; hallucinations; anxiety; panic attacks; and/or psychosis.

Long-term effects: Mental health problems, chronic cough, frequent respiratory infections. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

g) Steroids (Anabolic)

Short-term effects: Headache, acne, fluid retention (especially in the hands and feet), oily skin, yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes, infection at the injection site.

Long-term effects: Kidney damage or failure; liver damage; high blood pressure, enlarged heart, or changes in cholesterol leading to increased risk of stroke or heart attack, even in young people; aggression; extreme mood swings; anger (“roid rage”); paranoid jealousy; extreme irritability; delusions; impaired judgment. See [National Institute on Drug Abuse](#).

h) Tobacco

Short-term effects: Increased blood pressure, breathing, and heart rate.

Long-term effects: Greatly increased risk of cancer, especially lung cancer when smoked and oral cancers when chewed; chronic bronchitis; emphysema; heart disease; leukemia; cataracts; pneumonia.

NOTE: [ACC Policy](#) prohibits the possession or use of tobacco products or e-cigarettes (including vapor products) on college property without authorization. "E-cigarette" means an electronic cigarette or any other device that simulates smoking by using a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit to deliver nicotine or other substances to the individual inhaling from the device. The term does not include a prescription medical device unrelated to the cessation of smoking. The term includes:

- a. A device described by this definition regardless of whether the device is manufactured, distributed, or sold as an e-cigarette, e-cigar, or e-pipe or under another product name or description; and
- b. A component, part, or accessory for the device, regardless of whether the component, part, or accessory is sold separately from the device.

More information can be found at [ACC's Smoking Cessation page](#). Cessation programs, workshops and tools are available to all ACC faculty, staff and students through the Office of Student Activities. To learn more call 281-756-3688.

For information on smoking cessation provided by the [Texas Department of State Health Services](#), go to www.yesquit.org.

V. Counseling and Treatment Options

A variety of resources exist for alcohol and other drug prevention education, counseling and referral. For detailed information concerning these resources available from the College and community agencies, students may contact an [ACC Counselor](#) or review resources at the [United Way](#) or on [ACC's Counseling and Wellness](#) page.

VI. Other Resources

- In an emergency, call 911
- [ACC Campus Police](#)

- 281-756-3700
- Located in H132
- [Narcotics Anonymous](#) of the Houston Area 713-661-4200
- [Alcoholics Anonymous](#)
- [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#)
- [Gulf Coast Center](#) (also has a 24 hour hotline, 866-729-3848)

ACC Counseling Services - 281-756-3531

Professional, confidential consultation/screenings and short-term [counseling and referral services](#)

ACC Campus Police Department – 281-756-3700 (Available 24/7)

The Alvin Community College [Police Department's](#) primary goal is to provide a safe environment for all persons who use the campus. The department is staffed with police officers who are commissioned by the State of Texas and are charged with the responsibility of receiving, investigating, and reporting all criminal activities. Department policies require that officers immediately respond to and investigate any criminal offenses or incidents. All investigations that involve students or employees are reported to the appropriate offices for disciplinary action. The College Police Department also provides a variety of services to students and employees, such as motor assists, first aid, lost and found, information, campus escort, and other services.

College Police Department

Building H, Room 132

To report an emergency:

281-756-3700 or 911

Vice President of Student Services – 281-756-3517

Addresses student code of conduct, enforces policies and procedures, and provides students and faculty with resources necessary to resolve personal disputes.

VII. Alcohol and Drug Laws and Policies

Alvin Community College Policies and Procedures

a) See Student and Employee Conduct in the [ACC Policy Manual](#).

Local (City)

a) [City of Alvin Code of Ordinances](#)

Texas State Drug and Alcohol Laws

a) [Alcoholic Beverage Code Title 4. Regulatory and Penal Provisions Chapter 101. General Criminal Provision](#)

b) [Alcoholic Beverage Code Chapter 106. Provisions Relating to Age](#)

c) [Health & Safety Code Subtitle H. Public Health Provisions Chapter 161. Public Health Provisions Subchapter E: reports of gunshot wounds and Controlled Substance overdoses, section 161.042 - 161.403](#)

- d) [Health & Safety Code Subtitle C. Substance Abuse Regulation and Crimes Chapter 481. Texas Controlled Substances Act](#)
- e) [Government Code Chapter 2113. Use of Appropriated Money; Subchapter A. General Provisions](#)
- f) [TABC Underage Drinking Laws](#)

Federal

- a) [United States Drug Enforcement Agency](#)
- b) [National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism](#)
- c) [21 U.S.C. § 841: US Code - Section 841](#)
- d) [Title 21 United States Code \(USC\) Controlled Substances Act](#)

Legal Resources

- a) [Texas State Bar](#)
- b) [Lone Star Legal Aid](#)

VIII. Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program

Each semester, the Office of Student Activities provides information and programming to help students make wise choices about alcohol use and drug use prevention. Activities and programs include, but are not limited to the following.

a) Fall Wing Fling

“Wing Fling” is held each fall during the month of October. Students have the chance to visit with community partners and experts to learn more about the dangers of drug use and unsafe drinking practices. In addition, participants get to see first-hand how dangerous drunk driving can be in a drunk driving simulator.

b) Spring Break Bash

Held the week before spring break, the ACC Spring Break Bash gets students ready for a week away from school by providing information about safe partying. Students learn about safe drinking, how to prevent sexual violence, and other general tips to make spring break a fun and memorable experience.

c) Additional Alcohol and Drug Abuse Information

- Available at: <http://www.alvincollege.edu/Students/CurrentStudents>
- Multiple alcohol and drug abuse brochures located in campus restrooms as well as several widely used campus buildings.
- Signs, "Notice Regarding Steroids, Texas Education Code 51.921" have been placed in conspicuous locations in the ACC gym. This information is in the [ACC Student Handbook](#) as well.
- [ACC's Counseling, Wellness and Community Resources webpage](#)
- New Student Orientation at ACC includes topics regarding alcohol and drug abuse and prevention.

IX. Employee Information

Alvin Community College Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Alvin Community College believes that the personal life of each employee should remain private. Yet the increasing pressures and changing influences of society show that very few employees get through life without some personal stress. There is concern about the welfare of employees because each employee is viewed as a valuable asset. With this in mind, the [University of Texas Employee Assistance Program \(UTEAP\)](#) is in place to provide solutions to problems. The EAP is available to all full-time employees and provides personalized confidential attention to each employee and family members who access the program.

ACC Faculty and staff members may contact the [University of Texas Employee Assistance Program \(UTEAP\)](#) or ACC's Executive Director of Human Resources, Karen Edwards at 281-756-3639.