

Biennial Review in compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

Submitted by the Department of Health Promotion, Prevention & Recovery December 2024

Certification of the Biennial Review:

As President of St. Cloud State University, I have read this report and support the Alcohol and Other Drug Policy.

Signature_	Jany	A. Ili	D	ate:	1/6/25
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Introduction

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act requires institutions of higher education to conduct a biennial review of their alcohol and other drug policies and prevention programs in order to identify and implement needed changes.

The Biennial Review has two objectives:

- 1. To determine the effectiveness of, and to implement any needed changes to the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) prevention program, and
- 2. To ensure that campuses enforce the disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct consistently.

The following is the report resulting from the Biennial Review of the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) prevention program implementation and policy development/enforcement at St. Cloud State University (SCSU) for the 2022-2023 (FY23) and 2023-2024 (FY24) academic years.

The Biennial Review report(s) can be found on the UChoose website. Reports from previous years can also be found in this same location or can be requested by contacting the Director of Health Promotion, Prevention & Recovery. The link to the website where the Biennial Review can be found is: https://www.stcloudstate.edu/uchoose/default.aspx.

SCSU AOD Prevention Program Goals

St. Cloud State University's AOD prevention program goals include:

- Comply with federal and state laws and statutes concerning AOD use and AOD abuse prevention;
- 2. Provide ongoing evidence-based education and prevention strategies for the university community for the purpose of preventing alcohol abuse and other drug use;
- 3. Improve academic success, well-being, and retention of students;
- 4. Educate students in making informed lifetime personal choices regarding healthy behaviors; and
- 5. Provide a safe and welcoming campus environment where students in recovery can receive support while working to obtain a college degree.

St. Cloud State University's Prevention Program Brief History

In 2005, the high-risk drinking prevalence rate at St. Cloud State was 58.9% (CORE Survey). The 2006 University President Dr. Earl Potter committed to change and making campus a safer place for students. Efforts taken included: prioritizing Town-Gown relationships, restructuring leadership positions in the Student Life & Development office to focus on alcohol prevention and safety of students, making drastic changes to the Student Code of Conduct for Alcohol & Other Drugs, and adopting best-practices and data-driven approaches. The implementation of these best-practices occurred through the UChoose program. The U-Choose program was developed and implemented during the 2007-08 academic year. U-Choose is an evidence-based

prevention effort that focuses on reducing high-risk alcohol use, and empowering students to make informed choices about alcohol and other drugs.

St. Cloud State University is committed to working with our collaborative partners to reduce high-risk and underage drinking and any use of illegal substances. Given the nature of the pervasiveness of alcohol misuse and abuse, we have intentionally focused our prevention efforts around alcohol education and prevention.

CollegeAIM Utilization and Strategy Implementation

Individual-Level Strategies

Individual-level strategies aim to produce changes in attitudes or behaviors related to alcohol use rather than the environments in which alcohol use occurs. Expected outcomes, in general, are that a strategy may decrease an individual's alcohol use (e.g., frequency, quantity, or blood alcohol concentration) and/or alcohol-related risk-taking behaviors, thereby reducing harmful consequences.

Brief Motivational Intervention – UChoose Presentations & Impact Classes

Health Promotion, Prevention & Recovery (HPPR) staff facilitate education outreach via UChoose presentations, programs and training across campus. Presentations occur in classrooms (particularly first-year classrooms), Residential Life trainings, and student leader meetings (orientation staff, student organizations.

UChoose education and prevention is also incorporated into various large-scale campus events (described later in the report).

eCHECKUP TO GO

St. Cloud State purchases an annual subscription to the eCheckup To Go tool. This is an interactive, confidential web survey that allows students to enter information about their drinking patterns and receive personalized feedback about their alcohol use. It enables students to monitor changes in their drinking patterns and alert them to potentially dangerous habits. Whether or not students choose to drink, it is a valuable tool to understand personal drinking patterns and/or empower students to help someone they care about who may be drinking at a level that is concerning. The online assessment takes 15 minutes to complete and is self-guided. The personalized feedback include information about: quantity and frequency of alcohol use, SCSU student drinking habits, physical health information, consequences or high-risk drinking, and explanations, advice, and local referral information.

eCheckup To Go Utilization

ALCOHOL

2022-2023: 65 entries were recorded between July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023

2023-2024: 68 entries were recorded between July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024

CANNABIS

2022-2023: 8 entries were recorded between 7/1/2022-6/30/2023 2023-2024: 4 entries were recorded between 7/1/2023-6/30/2024

Other Educational Outreach Activities:

- Faculty and staff members can have substantial impact on the campus culture around alcohol use. The negative academic impacts students experience as a result of higher use and abuse of alcohol can include: more missed classes, less time spent studying, & lower GPAs. Lowering student alcohol consumption is one effective way to increase academic success. <u>The U-Choose website</u> has helpful information *specifically* for faculty and staff. We offer classroom presentations, syllabi content suggestions, and strategies to talk with students and offer assistance. **Appendix B** includes a screenshot of the website content.
- Student conduct administrators utilize motivational interviewing techniques when meeting with students for alcohol or other drug related incidents.

Environmental-Level Strategies

Environmental-level strategies aim to change the alcohol use environment in the campus, community, or both, and thus can affect the student body as a whole or in large subgroups such as those under age 21.

Social Messaging/Social Norms

Through the College Student Health Survey (CSHS), facilitated annually by Boynton Health Services at the University of Minnesota, we regularly assess the health behaviors of a random sample of SCSU students. Our <u>most recent data set</u> is from 2023. Social norms theory suggests that students make decisions about alcohol use based on their perceptions or misperception of other students' use. The theory states that students often misinterpret the alcohol use of their peers in an unhealthy manner. After assessment of actual behaviors via the CSHS, if the data is sufficient, we market various healthy norms utilizing various print and social media platforms. (See examples included in **Appendix C**).

Orientation Programming

August 2023 Orientation – Huskies 1st 4 - had a new required session for students entitled "Navigating New Beginnings" where they learn about campus mental health resources and alcohol safety. They learn about the <u>Good Samartian policy</u>, that <u>48% of SCSU students</u> <u>choose not to drink</u>, and participate in an interactive standard pour demonstration to learn about standard drink sizes.

Options for Students in Recovery

The Recovery Resource Center supports St. Cloud State University students who have struggled with substance misuse and addiction and are now committed to sobriety. The Recovery Resource Center (RRC) is open to all students. The RRC hosts weekly AA and All

Recovery meetings. There are an average of 30 AA meetings offered within the St. Cloud community each week and approximately 10 weekly NA meetings.

Campus Policy and Enforcement

St. Cloud State University aspires to foster an academic community that promotes the intellectual, personal, social, and ethical development of its students. To achieve this, the University expects all members of the educational community to create safe environments conducive for the learning, growth, and success of all.

<u>The St. Cloud State University Student Code of Conduct</u> documents our commitment to upholding these standards and expectations. It ensures both fair and educational processes for determining responsibility when student behavior may have deviated from these expectations and provides appropriate educational sanctions when a student, student organization, or club has not met these standards as set forth in the Student Code of Conduct.

Any student, student organization, or club alleged to have violated an established University policy, no matter when discovered, is subject to the student conduct process, according to the provisions outlined in the St. Cloud State University Student Code of Conduct. Regulations and policies should be interpreted broadly and are not designed to define misconduct in exhaustive terms. Additionally, allegations of violations of local ordinances, state, or federal laws may subject a student, student organization, or club to the University student conduct process. The Student Code of Conduct does not replace or reduce the requirements of civil or criminal laws.

The Office of Community Standards resides within the Dean of Students Office and Division of Student Affairs. Personal conduct on University premises or at University activities is subject to University jurisdiction. The University also may enforce the Student Code of Conduct, regardless of where misconduct occurs, when conduct by a student, student organization, or student club directly, seriously, or adversely interferes with or disrupts the educational mission, programs, or other functions of the University. The University reserves the right to take necessary action to protect the safety and welfare of the University community.

University Student Conduct procedures have been established to guide the fair and equitable interpretation and enforcement for any student, student organization, or club alleged to have violated the Student Code of Conduct. Student conduct procedures are designed to allow for fact finding, decision making in the context of an educational community, and to encourage students to accept responsibility for their actions. The intent is to provide adequate procedural safeguards to protect the rights of the student, student organization, or club and the legitimate interests of the University.

The Student Code of Conduct outlines the following as prohibited conduct specifically related to alcohol and other drugs:

• Unauthorized use, possession, manufacture, or distribution of any controlled substance or illicit drugs and/or drug paraphernalia. This definition is applicable for alleged

- violations of the St. Cloud State University Alcohol and Other Drug Policy. www.stcloudstate.edu/ policies/categories.
- Use, possession, or distribution of alcohol on University premises or University-sanctioned or sponsored events except as expressly permitted by University policy. Violation of local and state alcohol laws off-campus, including but not limited to, underage consumption or sale, hosting or provision of alcohol to underage individuals. This includes any violation of the St. Cloud State University Alcohol and Other Drug Policy.

<u>SCSU's Alcohol and Other Drug Policy</u> further clarifies expectations for students' on and off-campus, prohibits disruptive use of alcohol (aimed at students drinking off-campus and causing problems on-campus), and restricts alcohol advertising on campus.

On Campus Enforcement

The training model for Public Safety officers and Residential Life staff has been consistent in training all staff to:

- 1. Uphold University policy, local and state law regarding alcohol and other drugs and
- 2. To enforce University policy regarding alcohol and other drugs.

All staff are instructed to document situations that may involve alcohol or other drugs. Staff are instructed to call local authorities if the situation warrants police involvement.

To ensure consistency, professional staff from Public Safety, Division of Student Affairs and Residential Life routinely review conduct cases respectively.

SCSU provides each student an opportunity to respond to allegations of alcohol/drug violations during a conduct hearing. Students are sanctioned on a case-by-case basis, after evaluation of the totality of the given incident with consideration of conduct history. Following a hearing, students who are found responsible for a first-time alcohol or drug violation are given a letter with optional educational resources. Subsequent sanctions may result in being assigned educational courses on campus. Students may face additional sanctions including, but not limited to:

- IMPACT programming
- Probation
- Housing Contract Cancellation

- Suspension
- Expulsion

The Department of Residential Life has a policy that strictly prohibits the use of any illegal drugs in the residence halls, including cannabis. Students found responsible for violations of this policy are subject to Housing Agreement Termination.

Off Campus Enforcement

Staff and conduct officers from the Office of Community Standards and Dean of Students Office enforce the Student Code of Conduct. SCSU works with the St. Cloud Police

Department in the enforcement and education regarding alcohol and other drug policies and laws.

Annual Campus Security and Fire Report

The data below is from the University's <u>Annual Campus Security and Fire Report</u> required by the *Clery Act* (Submitted by Public Safety Department). This shows the number of persons arrested for liquor and drug law violations and referred for alcohol or other drug policy violations during the *calendar* years of 2022-2023.

The decline in alcohol related violations are inconsistent with the increases we have seen in self-reported peak BACs among our student population. and our campus high risk drinking numbers.

Offense	Year	Total
Liquor Law Arrests: Per guidance provided by the Minnesota Attorney	2022	1
General's Office, individuals cited for underage and minor consumption offenses are not considered to be in possession of alcohol and therefor are not in violation of a liquor	2023	1
law under the Clery Act.		
	2022	41
Liquor Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action	2023	33
	2022	0
Drug Law Arrests	2023	0
Drug Law Violations Referred for Disciplinary Action: Per	2022	5
guidance provided by the Minnesota Attorney General's Office, individuals cited for possession of a small amount of marijuana or possession of drug paraphernalia have	2023	0
not committed a crime and therefore are not in violation of a drug law under the Clery Act.		

Below are links to additional policies that address alcohol and other drugs on campus:

- The Department of Residential Life Student Handbook
- Student Organizations Guidebook. Updated Summer 2024.

Sanctioned Programming for Students Referred for Conduct Action

Students who are found to have violated the alcohol and cannabis policies in the Student Code of Conduct (on and off campus) may be referred to the IMPACT Program. Currently, four levels of IMPACT for alcohol are offered. An initial violation of the Student *Code of Conduct* involving alcohol usually results a letter from the Office of Community Standards with optional educational resources. Subsequent violations may result in referral to IMPACT-I, IMPACT-II, and so on. IMPACT-Community addresses high-level alcohol violations including social host and disruptive intoxication. IMPACT-M courses are for sanctioned students with marijuana-related violations. Currently there are two levels of IMPACT-M offered. IMPACT classes all utilize best practice data driven approaches. Each class utilizes theories of motivational interviewing, norms clarification, BASICS, and psycho-education.

Health Protection

We have numerous health protection facets within our AOD prevention program. These facets occur across the continuum starting from the affected individual, to the institution, and the larger community.

The Public Safety Department and the Residential Life staff are trained to be alert for students or others on campus who show signs of incapacitation and may be in need of emergency medical treatment. Prompt actions of these individuals has allowed for critical interventions in certain situations where preventing further harm from overuse or misuse of alcohol/drugs becomes necessary.

- There are numerous opportunities for students to receive counseling and other support services. Students can utilize Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) on campus. Our campus also employs a full-time Case Manager who can assist as needed and who is best able to discuss services and referrals for students who may need intervention in addressing the short-term consequences of alcohol consumption.
- We offer several free, confidential online self-assessment options for students concerned about their chemical health. Links to these assessments can be found via the following link: http://www.stcloudstate.edu/counseling/resources/assessments.aspx
- The UChoose program regularly distributes and disseminates health protection messages in the form of magnets, posters, and brochures that are distributed across campus.
- The Peer Education team (Healthy Huskies) regularly engages students while tabling in highly trafficked areas of campus. The team distributes health promoting messages throughout the academic year, but also provide targeted messages during high-risk times such as Halloween, St. Patrick's Day, spring break, and finals week.
- The Recovery Resource Center hosts Naloxone/NARCAN trainings. These trainings are widely publicized and staff, faculty, and students are encouraged to attend.
- SCSU actively educates students about our "Good Samaritan" clause. In 2013, Minnesota adopted a Medical Amnesty Law, which aligns with our policy. The law states that an individual may be immune from prosecution for violating the underage consumption law if the individual, or another person, contacts a 911 operator to report the need for medical assistance for an immediate health or safety concern, provided that the person who initiates contact is the first to make such a report, provides a name and contact information, remains on the scene until assistance arrives, and cooperates with the authorities at the scene. The U-Choose staff educates the campus community about this exception via presentations, posters, social media, etc. A sample of posters used on campus can be found in Appendix D.

Annual Notification Procedures

St. Cloud State University is required by the DFSCA to provide an annual notice regarding alcohol and other drugs to all students and employees. The annual notice must include information on:

- university policy and sanctions regarding alcohol and other drugs
- campus and community resources for assistance with alcohol and other drug issues
- legal sanctions for violating federal, state or local laws regarding illegal use, possession, or distribution of alcohol and other drugs.

The Division of Student Affairs sends the annual notice by email to all students once each academic year. Human Resources sends the notice electronically to all employees concurrently. The annual notification can be found on the University website via the following link: https://www.stcloudstate.edu/uchoose/annual-notification.aspx

Evidence of Program Effectiveness

SCSU has had a longstanding commitment to gathering heath behavior data related to alcohol and other drug use and its consequences. SCSU has participated in the College Student Health Survey (CSHS), facilitated by Boynton Health Services at the University of Minnesota from 2008-2023. The data collected allows us to understand behaviors related to alcohol and other drug use by our specific campus population, and monitor trends relative to campus prevention efforts. **Appendix E** outlines trend data relative to evaluating the effectiveness of our prevention strategies over time. Copies of the full College Student Health Survey reports from 2008-2023 can be found here: https://www.stcloudstate.edu/healthyhuskies/wellness/student-and-campus-data.aspx.

The U-Choose program continues to partner with the City of St. Cloud to offer the IMPACT Diversion Program. This is a joint program between St. Cloud State University, the City Attorney's office, and the St. Cloud Police Department. This program is designed to offer individuals who have been charged with an underage alcohol violation in the city of St. Cloud the opportunity to receive alcohol education and prevention services in lieu of a permanent citation and fine. These IMPACT Diversion classes cover the same content as the IMPACT classes. Individuals who successfully complete the program will not have the citation entered on their record. The IMPACT Diversion Program is an example of an environmental best practice initiative. It seeks to change the overall environment in which our students live. Our students interact, socialize, and live with similarly aged non-students. This program attempts to decrease high-risk drinking of non-students, which should change the drinking environment in a healthy direction for our students.

Recommendations/Progress from Last Biennium

- **Recommendation 1:** Redefine and repopulate the campus Alcohol & Other Drug Advisory Board.
 - Staff turnover has been prevalent at St. Cloud State over the past 2 years many people who used to be on the board are no longer at the institution. For budgetary reasons, some of these positions have not been filled. We have not re-populated the board. This is something we plan to explore as we become more stable.
- **Recommendation 2:** Create a plan to incorporate mental health & alcohol prevention curriculum into campus orientation plan.
 - This was a hugely successful endeavor! As mentioned on page 4 of this report, a required session was added to Orientation that introduces students to the mental health supports on campus, how to help a friend, and alcohol education information.
- **Recommendation 3:** Promote online alcohol assessments and alcohol education through online platforms for all students.
 - Despite efforts to share the online alcohol assessments with students via online platforms and other means of communicating with students, we saw a decrease in utilization of the platform. We feel this is in part to many assessments being available online for students. There is also no requirement for them to complete the assessment. We will continue to offer the assessment in the next biennium, as well as review what might be better ways to get the information to students.
- Recommendation 4: Participate in and review data from the 2023 College Student Health Survey. Launch a comprehensive social norming campaign with the new data.
 - We successfully participated in the 2023 College Student Health Survey. The
 data has been shared with campus via email, and posted on the student data
 website. Instead of a social norming campaign, the Summary data was shared
 with Student Government and University Cabinet, so they are aware of student
 trends and needs. Healthy Huskies also shared parts of the data via Instagram.

Recommendations for Next Biennium (FY25 & FY26)

- **Recommendation 1:** Implement a campus-wide Naloxone Policy and provide NARACAN in every building on campus.
- **Recommendation 2:** Review online alcohol assessments to determine best choice for St. Cloud State.
- Recommendation 3: Review IMPACT Program model to determine effectiveness, sustainability and strategy for future

Annual Notification Fall & Spring semester https://www.stcloudstate.edu/uchoose/annual-notification.aspx

UChoose

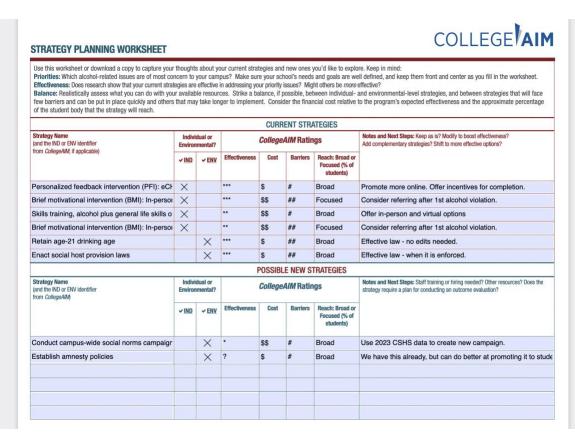
ANNUAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL NOTIFICATION

St. Cloud State University is required by law to provide an annual alcohol & other drug notification to all students and employees. This information can be found at any time via the Annual Drug and Alcohol Notification website and the Alcohol and Other Drugs policy/procedure. While we make this information available on the St. Cloud State website, the Department of Education expects that, at minimum, we provide a written notice once per year to include:

- · Standards of conduct for St. Cloud State students and employees regarding alcohol & other drugs;
- · Sanctions for violations of conduct standards up to and including expulsion or termination;
- Legal sanctions that may apply in addition to campus sanctions and federal, state, or local laws that govern drug and alcohol related violations;
- · Drug and alcohol resources and programs available to students and employees;
- · Health risks associated with alcohol abuse and illicit drug use
- + Standards of Conduct and Sanctions for Violations
- + Legal Sanctions for Violations
- + Drug and Alcohol Resources and Programs
- + Health Risks

Appendix A

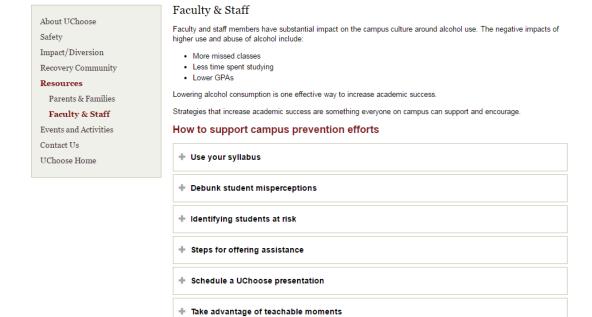
The College Alcohol Intervention Matrix is a resource from NIAAA to help schools address harmful and underage student drinking. Developed with leading college alcohol researchers and staff, it is an easy-to-use and comprehensive tool to identify effective alcohol interventions. While there are numerous options for addressing alcohol issues, they are not all equally effective. CollegeAIM can help schools choose interventions wisely—boosting their chances for success and helping them improve the health and safety of their students. Here are our selections for FY23&FY24.



Appendix B



UChoose



Appendix C

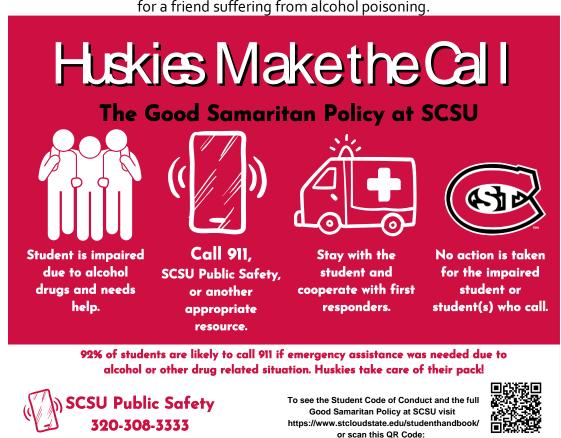
The poster below is an example of how we utilize the data gathered from the College Student Health Survey to correct misperceptions about alcohol related behaviors on campus.





Appendix D

The poster below is an example of our efforts to educate students about The Good Samaritan policy at SCSU. The chart includes data relative to students' likelihood of calling 911 to get help for a friend suffering from alcohol poisoning.



Appendix E

The next charts show longitudinal data collected from the annual College Student Health Survey. We utilize the data to assess alcohol and other drug related behaviors and implement appropriate prevention strategies.

