

2022

# DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT



Prepared by the Drug-Free Schools and  
Communities Act (DFSCA) Biennial Review Team

**GASTON COLLEGE**  
**Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations [EDGAR Part 86]**  
**Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Certification**


The undersigned certifies that Gaston College has adopted and implemented a Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAAPP) for its students and employees that, at a minimum, includes:

**1. The annual distribution of the DAAPP in writing to each employee, and to each student who is taking one or more classes for any type of academic credit except for continuing education units, regardless of the length of the student's program of study. The DAAPP includes:**

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on its property or as part of any of its activities;
- A description of the applicable legal sanctions under local, State, or Federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
- A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol;
- A list of drug and alcohol programs (counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, and re-entry) that are available to employees and students; and
- A clear statement that the institution will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees (consistent with local, State and Federal law), 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. A disciplinary sanction may include the completion of an appropriate rehabilitation program.

**2. A biennial review of the DAAPP to:**


- Determine its effectiveness and implement changes to the program if they are needed; and
- Ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

  
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Dr. Audrey Sherrill,  
Vice President for Student Affairs

10-30-23  
Date

  
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Dr. Dewey Dellinger,  
Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs

11/4/23  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. John Hauser, President

11/6/23  
Date

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## INTRODUCTION

Gaston College (“Gaston” or the “College”) is committed to providing a safe, peaceful, and healthy educational environment. The College makes an ongoing effort to maintain a drug-free educational environment by meeting the requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) and Part 86 of the Department of Education’s General Administrative Regulations. The Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs has primary oversight responsibility for compliance with the DFSCA.

The College’s Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAAPP) is comprised of many elements to address prevention and abuse. Students, faculty, and staff are provided annual information that includes drug and alcohol policies, conduct standards and possible sanctions for violations, legal ramifications, health risks, and campus and community resources. Numerous activities and programs related to alcohol and drug abuse are also offered each year.

On an annual basis, the DAAPP report is distributed to all applicable students and all employees. Special provisions are made to provide the report to students who enroll after the annual distribution and employees hired at various times throughout the year.

The College’s DFSCA Biennial Review report is maintained in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs for three years after the fiscal year in which the report was completed. A copy of the report may be requested by contacting the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

## HEALTH RISKS OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE AND ABUSE

The following health risks associated with alcohol and drug use and abuse do not include all possible consequences. This information intends to increase awareness of the risks involved.

### Alcohol Use and Abuse Health Risks

- psychological and physical dependence
- interference with the brain’s communication pathways
- heart damage, irregular heartbeat, cardiomyopathy
- strokes and high blood pressure
- liver damage, including fatty liver, alcoholic hepatitis, fibrosis, cirrhosis
- pancreatitis
- weakened immune system and higher cancer risks

Source: [National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism](#)

## Drug Use and Abuse Health Risks

### Amphetamines (*Speed, uppers, etc.*)

- physical and psychological dependence
- loss of appetite
- increased blood pressure and pulse rates
- loss of coordination and physical exhaustion
- stroke and heart failure
- insomnia, agitation, paranoia
- hallucinations, convulsions, and possible death

### Cocaine

- physical and psychological dependence
- increased blood pressure and heart rate
- loss of appetite
- insomnia, severe depression, and paranoia
- erosion of upper nasal cavity
- sudden cardiac arrest, cardiac arrhythmias, ischemic heart conditions, respiratory failure
- convulsions, strokes, and death

### Hallucinogens (*Ecstasy/MDMA, LSD, Ketamine, Acid, etc.*)

- physical and psychological dependence
- nausea, vomiting
- blurred vision and involuntary rapid eye movement, and dilated pupils
- muscle weakness, tension, cramps, and lack of coordination
- illusions, hallucinations, flashbacks during times of stress, memory loss
- elevated heart rate, increased blood pressure
- confusion, sleep problems, and drug craving
- nausea, faintness, chills, sweating, and blurred vision
- severe depression or anxiety

### Marijuana

- physical and psychological dependence including delusions, panic attacks, and hallucinations
- impaired memory and judgement, difficulty in thinking and problem-solving, distorted perception
- loss of coordination and psychomotor behavior (ability to drive)
- dizziness and nausea
- increased heart rate
- suppressed immune system
- bronchitis, emphysema, and bronchial asthma

Narcotics (heroin, codeine, morphine, fentanyl, oxycodone, etc.)

- psychological and physical dependence
- drowsiness, slowed physical activity and breathing
- constipation, nausea, vomiting,
- restlessness, dizziness, and irritability
- disease risks from contaminated syringes
- severe liver damage
- changes in blood pressure and heart rate
- convulsions, coma, and possible death

Source: [Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide](#)

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL COUNSELING AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS**

Gaston College encourages and supports treatment for drug- and/or alcohol-related issues. Students are encouraged to contact Gaston College Counseling Services or Student Outreach Services (SOS) for assistance and referrals. Employees are encouraged to use the College’s Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

**Gaston College Resources**

DEPARTMENT	PHONE	WEBPAGE
<a href="#">Gaston College Counseling Services</a> : Counselors are available to help students with personal issues and concerns. Long-term counseling is not provided, but counselors can help connect students with community support resources when needed.	704.922.6220 704.748.5209	<a href="https://www.gaston.edu/counseling-career-development/personal-counseling/">https://www.gaston.edu/counseling-career-development/personal-counseling/</a>
<a href="#">Student Outreach Services (SOS) &amp; Work-Life Services</a> – a confidential school-sponsored benefit that offers student support and resources for personal and education-related challenges and concerns 24/7/365 at no additional cost.	800.633.3353	
<a href="#">Student Conduct</a>	704.923.8403	<a href="http://www.gaston.edu/student-code-of-conduct/home/">www.gaston.edu/student-code-of-conduct/home/</a>
<a href="#">Campus Police and Safety</a>	704.922.6480	<a href="http://www.gaston.edu/about-us/campus-police-safety-home/">www.gaston.edu/about-us/campus-police-safety-home/</a>
VP, Student Affairs	704.922.6217	
Human Resources: Employee Assistance Program (EAP) – The EAP is capable of assisting with drug and/or alcohol issues and can provide short-term counseling, assessment, and referrals.	704.922.2234	Information is located on the Neogov Onboard Website.

### Local Community Resources (Off-campus)

AGENCY	PHONE	ADDRESS
<b>Flynn Fellowship Home (Men Services)</b> Residential care for recovering alcoholic men with other recovering alcoholics; offers counseling and Alcoholics Anonymous, employment assistance, and educational counseling.	704.865.9395	311 South Marietta St. Gastonia, NC 28052
<b>Helping Hands: GFHS Lincolnton Family Medicine</b> alcohol, substance abuse, tobacco use	704.735.7145	212 Gamble Dr. Lincolnton, NC 28092
<b>Monarch - Adult and Children Services</b> Mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance abuse, behavioral health, residential support for people with disabilities, vocational services, family support, crisis services and counseling. Crisis Walk-In Service available in Gaston and Lincoln County offices.	704.842.6476  704.748.6113	2505 Court Dr. Gastonia, NC 28054  311 McBee St. Lincolnton, NC 28092
<b>Partners Behavior Health Management Referral Services - Adult and Children Services</b> Mental health, substance abuse, intellectual/developmental disabilities. Serves 8 counties in the Foothills and Piedmont of North Carolina.	24 Hour Crisis Line: 1.888.235.HOPE (4673)  704.884.2501	901 South New Hope Rd. Gastonia, NC 28054
<b>Phoenix Counseling and Crisis Centers - Adult and Children Services</b> Crisis stabilization, mobile crisis, detoxification, substance abuse residential and outpatient, therapy and family services, partial hospitalization.	704.842.6359 704.735.7325  24 Hour Crisis Line: 1.855.527.4747  Servicios en Español: 704.842.6373	2505 Court Dr. Gastonia, NC 28054  510 S. Aspen St. Lincolnton, NC 28092
<b>The Gateway Gaston</b> – Connects people with resources to make positive life changes.	<a href="https://gatewaygaston.org/contact/">https://gatewaygaston.org/contact/</a>	
<b>Support, Inc. - Adult, Family, and Children Services</b> Group or individual therapy, school-based therapy, in-home services, day treatment, therapeutic foster care, community support team, developmental therapy, psychiatric therapy, case-management, therapeutic foster care, clinical evaluations, psychological evaluations, diagnostic assessments, intensive in-home, and medication management. Concerns: gang involvement, behavioral problems in school, family conflict, substance abuse, trauma, court involvement, mood swings, aggression, following directions, feeling sad, trouble making friends, bullying.	704.865.3525  24 Hours Crisis Line: 980.329.9200	175 West Franklin Blvd. Gastonia NC 28052
<b>Cornerstone Christian Center - Men Transitional Housing</b> Substance abuse treatment	704.867.8749	325 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way Gastonia, NC 28052
<b>Gastonia's Potters House - Women Residential Program</b>	704.824.3698	54 Burmill Rd Gastonia, NC 28054

18 months residential program, single, substance abuse, or any type of addiction, counseling, goal planning, and referral resources.		
<b>Sunpath</b> Provides community-based mental health and substance abuse rehabilitative services and support.	704.478.6093 Crisis Line: 1.800.898.5898	415 W. Main Ave. Gastonia, NC 28052

### Additional Resources

<a href="https://www.gaston.edu/student-success-support-programs/community-resource-finder/">Aunt Bertha (Community Resource Finder)</a>	<a href="https://www.gaston.edu/student-success-support-programs/community-resource-finder/">https://www.gaston.edu/student-success-support-programs/community-resource-finder/</a>
2·1·1	<a href="https://www.211.org">https://www.211.org</a>
National Suicide Prevention Lifeline	1.800.273.8255
Partners Crisis Help Line	1.800.898.5898
Gaston Memorial Hospital	704.834.2000
Gaston County Dept. of Social Services Emergency Phone	704.862.7500
Alcohol Drug Council of NC	800.688.4232
Alcohol & Drug Abuse Hotline	800.662.4357
National Help Line for Substance Abuse	888.731.4553
National Drug Helpline	844.289.0879
<a href="https://alcoholicsanonymous.com/aa-meetings/north-carolina/">Alcoholics Anonymous in N.C.</a>	<a href="https://alcoholicsanonymous.com/aa-meetings/north-carolina/">https://alcoholicsanonymous.com/aa-meetings/north-carolina/</a>
<a href="https://www.narcotics.com/na-meetings/north-carolina/gastonia/">Narcotics Anonymous</a>	<a href="https://www.narcotics.com/na-meetings/north-carolina/gastonia/">https://www.narcotics.com/na-meetings/north-carolina/gastonia/</a>

## STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Per College policy, the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance, illicit drug, or alcohol by any person, including visitors and vendors, is prohibited in or on the College premises; in vehicles owned, leased, or rented by the College; at any work site or location at which College duties are being performed by College employees or students as part of any College activity; or at sites of off-campus activities of student groups recognized by the College.

Students and employees are expected to arrive to campus or report to work free from the adverse effects of drugs and/or alcohol, including any adverse effects of illegal or legal controlled substances such as certain physician-prescribed medications.

In accordance with Gaston College’s Policies and Procedures, employees who violate any expectation outlined in the Drug-Free Campus Policy (3-131), or any related policies and expectations, will be subject to disciplinary corrective action, up to and including dismissal, or a supervisory referral to the Employee Assistance Program (EAP), or both.

In accordance with the College’s Student Code of Conduct, students who violate the College’s Drug-Free Campus Policy - Students (4-48) will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, termination of student employment, and referral for prosecution. The Drug-Free Campus Policy - Students (4-48) can be found in the [Gaston College Catalog and Student Handbook, Appendix D.](#)



Gaston College is also a tobacco-free campus. All students, employees, and visitors are responsible for adhering to this policy. The Tobacco-Free Campus Policy (3-133) can be found in the [Gaston College Catalog and Student Handbook, Appendix L](#).

### Drug Convictions and Financial Aid Eligibility

Drug conviction questions and responses to determine financial aid eligibility will remain on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for 2022-2023. A recently passed law states students are now eligible for federal student aid even if convicted for the sale or possession of illegal drugs while receiving federal student aid. Visit [Federal Student Aid](#) for more details.

### APPLICABLE LEGAL SANCTIONS UNDER LOCAL, STATE, OR FEDERAL LAW

#### North Carolina Drug Laws

Below are the North Carolina State Law Penalties for Drug Possession, Sale and /or Manufacture.

TYPES OF DRUGS	MAXIMUM PENALTY: POSSESSION	MAXIMUM PENALTY: SALE AND/OR MANUFACTURE
<b>Schedule I:</b> Heroin, LSD, Peyote, Mescaline, Psilocybin, Methaqualone, PCP, MDA	24 months (Felony)	47 months (Felony) Manufacture methamphetamine - 231 months (Felony)
<b>Schedule II:</b> Morphine, Demerol, Codeine, Percodan, Percocet, Fentanyl, Dilaudid, Secondal, Nembutal, Cocaine, Amphetamines	120 days and fine at court's discretion (Misdemeanor) unless: Exceeds 4 tablets of Hydromorphon Exceeds 150 tablets, capsules, other dosage units or equivalent quantity Any amount of Cocaine - 24 months (Felony)	47 months (Felony)
<b>Schedule III:</b> Certain Barbiturates in codeine containing medicine (Tylenol #3, Empirin #3, Tussionex), Anabolic Steroids	Less than 100 tablets: 120 days and fine (Misdemeanor) More than 100 tablets: 24 months (Felony)	39 months (Felony)
<b>Schedule IV:</b> Barbiturates, narcotics and stimulants (including Valium, Talwin, Librium, Darvon, Tranzene, Serax, Equanil, Ionamin)	Less than 100 tablets: 120 days and fine (Misdemeanor) More than 100 tablets: 24 months (Felony)	39 months (Felony)
<b>Schedule V:</b> Compounds with limited Codeine, such as Terpene Hydrate, Robitussin AC	60 days and \$1000 fine (Misdemeanor)	39 months (Felony)
<b>Schedule VI:</b> Marijuana, THC, Hashish, Hash Oil	Less than 1/2 oz.: 20 days and \$200 fine (Misdemeanor) More than 1/2 oz.: 120 days and fine at court's discretion (Misdemeanor)	39 months (Felony)

## North Carolina Alcohol Laws

The North Carolina Regulation of Alcoholic Beverages: Sale, Possession, and Consumption can be found on the [North Carolina General Statutes, Chapter 18B](#).

Federal Trafficking Laws (except Marijuana) - Source: [Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide](#)

DRUG/SCHEDULE	QUANTITY	PENALTIES	QUANTITY	PENALTIES
Cocaine (Schedule II)	500-4999 grams mixture	<b>First Offense:</b> Not less than 5 yrs, and not more than 40 yrs. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if not an individual.	5 kgs or more mixture	<b>First Offense:</b> Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, not less than 20 or more than life. Fine of not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.
Cocaine Base (Schedule II)	28-279 grams mixture		280 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl (Schedule II)	40-399 grams mixture		400 grams or more mixture	
Fentanyl Analogue (Schedule I)	10-99 grams mixture		100 grams or more mixture	
Heroin (Schedule I)	100-999 grams mixture	<b>Second Offense:</b> Not less than 10 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$8 million if an individual, \$50 million if not an individual.	1 kg or more mixture	<b>Second Offense:</b> Not less than 20 yrs, and not more than life. If death or serious injury, life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.  <b>2 or More Prior Offenses:</b> Life imprisonment. Fine of not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if not an individual.
LSD (Schedule I)	1-9 grams mixture		10 grams or more mixture	
Methamphetamine (Schedule II)	5-49 grams pure or 50-499 grams mixture		50 grams or more pure or 500 grams or more mixture	
PCP (Schedule II)	10-99 grams pure or 100-999 grams mixture		100 gm or more pure or 1 kg or more mixture	

Federal Trafficking Laws – Marijuana - Source: [Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide](#)

DRUG	QUANTITY	1st OFFENSE	2nd OFFENSE *
Marijuana (Schedule I)	1,000 kg or more marijuana mixture; or 1,000 or more marijuana plants	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs., or more than life. Fine not more than \$10 million if an individual, \$50 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	100 kg to 999 kg marijuana mixture; or 100 to 999 marijuana plants	Not less than 5 yrs. or more than 40 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine not more than \$5 million if an individual, \$25 million if other than an individual.	Not less than 10 yrs. or more than life. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine not more than \$20 million if an individual, \$75 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	More than 10 kgs hashish; 50 to 99 kg marijuana mixture More than 1 kg of hashish oil; 50 to 99 marijuana plants	Not more than 20 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, not less than 20 yrs. or more than life. Fine \$1 million if an individual, \$5 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 30 yrs. If death or serious bodily injury, life imprisonment. Fine \$2 million if an individual, \$10 million if other than an individual.
Marijuana (Schedule I)	Less than 50 kilograms marijuana (but does not include 50 or more marijuana plants regardless of weight) 1 to 49 marijuana plants;	Not more than 5 yrs. Fine not more than \$250,000, \$1 million if other than an individual.	Not more than 10 yrs. Fine \$500,000 if an individual, \$2 million if other than individual.
Hashish (Schedule I)	10 kg or less		
Hashish Oil (Schedule I)	1 kg or less		

## REFERENCES

- Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, 41 U.S.C.A. 701 *et seq.*, 34 C.F.R. 85.600 *et seq.*
- Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act Amendments of 1989, 20 U.S.C.A. 1145g, 34 C.F.R. 86.
- U.S. Department of Education (2021). *Summary of Changes for the Application Processing System*. Retrieved from <https://fsapartners.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2021-08/2223SumChangesAppProcessSysGuide.pdf>.
- U.S. Department of Justice. Drug Enforcement Agency (2020). *Drugs of Abuse: A DEA Resource Guide*. Retrieved from <https://www.campusdrugprevention.gov/sites/default/files/2021-11/Drugs%20of%20Abuse%202020-Web%20Version-508%20compliant.pdf>.
- National Institutes of Health. National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (n.d.) Understanding the impact of alcohol on human health and well-being. Retrieved from <https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohol-health/alcohols-effects-body>.