

COLLEGE OF THE OZARKS

Point Lookout, Missouri

Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations

[EDGAR Part 86]

Biennial Review

Academic Years 2024–2026

Primary Author:

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Primary Office Overseeing Review:

Office of the Assistant Vice President for College Operations

In Cooperation With:

Dean of Students • Public Safety Department • Student Counseling Center

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Hard copies available upon request from:

College of the Ozarks, Attn: Chelsea Couey, P.O. Box 17, Point Lookout, MO 65726

Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Certification

This is to certify that College of the Ozarks has adopted and implemented a program to prevent 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, in compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (EDGAR Part 86).

The institution has conducted a biennial review of its alcohol and other drug programs to determine their effectiveness, implement needed changes, and ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.


Signature of Assistant Vice President for College Operations

Printed Name: Nick Sharp

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Date: 10/1/2026

Table of Contents

1. Introduction / Overview
2. Biennial Review Process
3. Annual Policy Notification Process
4. Alcohol and Other Drug Prevalence Rate, Incidence Rate, Needs Assessment and Trend Data
5. Alcohol and Other Drug Policy, Enforcement & Compliance Inventory & Related Outcomes/Data
6. Alcohol and Other Drug Comprehensive Program / Intervention Inventory & Related Process and Outcomes/Data
7. Alcohol and Other Drug Comprehensive Program Goals and Objectives for Biennium Period Being Reviewed
8. Alcohol and Other Drug Goal Achievement and Objective Achievement
9. AOD SWOT/C Analysis
10. Recommendations for Next Biennium
11. Goals and Objectives for Next Biennium
12. Conclusion
13. Appendices

1. Introduction / Overview

Background on Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations [EDGAR Part 86]

The Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (EDGAR Part 86) require institutions of higher education that receive federal funding to adopt and implement a program to prevent the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. As part of this requirement, institutions must conduct a biennial review of their alcohol and other drug (AOD) programs to: (1) determine their effectiveness and implement needed changes; and (2) ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

Why College of the Ozarks Is Conducting This Biennial Review

College of the Ozarks conducts this biennial review in fulfillment of its obligations under the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 and EDGAR Part 86. The College maintains a Zero Tolerance Policy regarding the illegal sale, use, purchase, possession, distribution, manufacture, or dispensation of drugs, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia, and prohibits the sale, use, purchase, possession, distribution, manufacture, or dispensation of alcohol by any student, regardless of age. These prohibitions apply both on and off College property and at any College-sanctioned event.

This review examines the College's AOD policies, enforcement practices, prevention and education programs, and related outcomes for the academic years 2024–2026. It draws upon data from the College's 2026 Combined Annual Security Report & Fire Safety Report (prepared in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Campus Safety Act), disciplinary records, counseling services data, and input from campus security authorities and local law enforcement.

2. Biennial Review Process

Time Frame Covered

This Biennial Review covers Academic Years 2024–2026 (approximately July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026). Crime statistics referenced herein are drawn from calendar years 2023, 2024, and 2025 as reported in the College's 2026 Combined Annual Security Report & Fire Safety Report.

Individuals and Departments Participating

The review was coordinated by the Operations Support Coordinator in cooperation with the following offices and personnel:

- Assistant Vice President for College Operations
- Dean of Students
- Public Safety Department (Director of Public Safety)
- Vice President for Christian Ministries and Student Development
- Director of Counseling Services and Counseling Center staff
- Title IX Coordinator / Chief Operating Officer
- Local law enforcement (Taney County Sheriff's Department) for Clery geography data

Review Timeline and Data Collection

The biennial review process began in spring 2026 and concluded in September 2026. Data sources included: the 2026 Combined Annual Security Report & Fire Safety Report; disciplinary referral and arrest statistics for liquor-law, drug-abuse, and weapons violations; records of counseling referrals related to substance use; policy distribution logs; and input from campus security authorities.

Location and Availability of Reports

Current and past Biennial Review reports are maintained by the Office of the Assistant Vice President for College Operations and are available upon request. Hard copies may be obtained at no cost by contacting College of the Ozarks, Attn: Chelsea Couey, P.O. Box 17, Point Lookout, MO 65726. Electronic versions are linked from the College's [Consumer Information page](#). Reports are retained in accordance with institutional record-retention policies and federal requirements (minimum of three years after the end of the award year).

3. Annual Policy Notification Process

Distribution to Students

Primary method: Annual email notification and inclusion in the College Catalog and Consumer Information materials. The Zero Tolerance Policy and related drug/alcohol information are also discussed at incoming-student orientation each semester and reviewed with students living on campus at the beginning of each term.

Who receives the policy: All enrolled students, including those enrolled in a single class for academic credit. Prospective students are notified of the availability of related reports.

Content of notification includes:

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on College property or as part of any of its activities (Zero Tolerance Policy).
- A description of applicable legal sanctions under local, state, and federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol (including detailed Federal Drug Trafficking and Possession penalties and Missouri Revised Statutes summaries).
- A description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol (linked via Consumer Information page).
- A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment, or rehabilitation programs available to students (Campus Counseling Center; outside referrals available).
- A clear statement that the College will impose disciplinary sanctions on students (consistent with state and federal law), up to and including dismissal, and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct.

Students who enter the institution after the annual distribution receive the policy at orientation and via the Catalog and Consumer Information web pages. Students taking classes off-campus, abroad, or online receive the same electronic notification and have access to the online policy materials.

Distribution to Employees

Primary method: Annual distribution of the Staff [Drug and Alcohol Policy](#) and inclusion in new-employee onboarding materials. Annual sexual harassment training is required for all employees and includes related policy reminders.

Who receives the policy: All employees. New employees receive the policy upon hire, before the next annual distribution cycle. Employees working at off-campus sites or teaching online receive the same electronic and onboarding materials.

Additional methods: Policy is available on the College website under Consumer Information and is referenced in the College Catalog. Requests for the policy are granted by providing electronic or hard-copy versions upon contact with the Operations Support Coordinator or Human Resources.

4. Alcohol and Other Drug Prevalence Rate, Incidence Rate, Needs Assessment and Trend Data

Drug- and Alcohol-Related Incidents and Fatalities on Campus / Reported to Campus Officials

The following statistics are drawn from the College's 2026 Combined Annual Security Report & Fire Safety Report (Clery Act crime statistics for calendar years 2023–2025). All figures are for On-Campus, On-Campus Housing, Non-Campus, and Public Property locations combined unless otherwise noted.

Category	2025	2024	2023	On-Camp. Housing 2025	On-Camp. Housing 2024	On-Camp. Housing 2023
Arrest – Liquor Law Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Arrest – Drug Abuse Violation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referral – Liquor Law	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Referral – Drug Abuse	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dating Violence (On Campus)	1	0	0	0	0	0

Note: No drug- or alcohol-related fatalities occurred on campus or were reported to campus officials during the review period. All other Clery Act crime categories (Murder, Rape, Fondling, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Robbery, Motor Vehicle Theft, Arson, Hazing, Domestic Violence, Stalking, etc.) were reported as zero for 2023–2025 across all geographic categories, with the single exception of one Dating Violence incident on campus in 2025 (not occurring in on-campus housing).

Survey and Assessment Data

College of the Ozarks completes the Campus Safety and Security Survey annually. The College relies on incident-based data from Public Safety, the Dean of Students, and the Counseling Center, together with orientation and residence-hall programming participation records. Future biennial reviews may incorporate formal AOD survey instruments if resources and institutional priorities support their administration.

Other Assessment Data

No alcohol- or other-drug-related admissions to local emergency rooms or ambulance transports specifically attributed to College of the Ozarks students were systematically tracked and reported to the College during the review period. The Counseling Center provides confidential individual counseling and can make outside referrals; utilization data specific to substance-use concerns are maintained confidentially and are not published in aggregate form in this report.

5. Alcohol and Other Drug Policy, Enforcement & Compliance Inventory & Related Outcomes/Data

Primary AOD Policies

The College maintains a Zero Tolerance Policy that is the cornerstone of its AOD program. Key policy elements include:

Student Zero Tolerance Policy

A student at the College agrees to follow the College's Zero Tolerance Policy which prohibits the illegal sale, use, purchase, possession, distribution, manufacture, or dispensation of drugs, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia and prohibits the sale, use, purchase, possession, distribution, manufacture, or dispensation of alcohol by any student, regardless of age. These prohibitions apply to actions both on and off College property or at any College-sanctioned event. Violation is considered a major violation of Disciplinary Procedures which may lead to dismissal. The display of any advertising for illegal drugs, illegal controlled substances, drug

paraphernalia, or alcoholic beverages (including containers) is not allowed. This includes clothing, signs, lamps, posters, and vehicles on campus.

Employee Policy

Employees will be subject to discharge if they (i) illegally sell, use, possess, purchase, distribute, manufacture, or dispense drugs or controlled substances while on the job, on College property, or at a College-sanctioned event; or (ii) sell, use, purchase, possess, distribute, manufacture, or dispense alcohol while on the job, on College property, or at a College-sanctioned event. Employees who engage in such conduct on their own time and away from College property or events will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge if the College determines that such involvement has an adverse effect on the College. Any employee convicted of a drug-related crime occurring in the workplace must report the conviction within five calendar days to Dr. Weston Wiebe (VP for Finance and Administration / COO / Title IX Coordinator).

Cannabis / Medical Marijuana Note

Although Missouri has decriminalized cannabis for medical purposes with a valid physician's certification, cannabis remains a controlled substance under the federal Controlled Substances Act. Therefore, students remain subject to Disciplinary Procedures under the Zero Tolerance Policy. Employees are subject to disciplinary action up to and including discharge for sale, use, purchase, possession, distribution, manufacture, or dispensation of cannabis on their own time if such involvement has an adverse effect on the College.

Drug Testing

The College reserves the right to require a drug test from a student or employee where there is a reasonable suspicion that the College's drug-free policy has been violated. Failure to submit to a drug test is a major violation of the disciplinary rules and will result in suspension or expulsion.

Legal Sanctions (Summary)

The full text of applicable federal and Missouri state legal sanctions is published annually in the Combined Annual Security Report and is available on the Consumer Information page. Key federal provisions include Denial of Federal Benefits (21 U.S.C. § 862), Forfeiture of Personal Property and Real Estate (21 U.S.C. § 853), Federal Drug Trafficking Penalties (21 U.S.C. § 841), and Federal Drug Possession Penalties (21 U.S.C. § 844). Missouri statutes address possession of marijuana, controlled substances, alcohol and minors, and driving under the influence, with penalties ranging from class D misdemeanors to class A felonies depending on quantity, prior offenses, and location (e.g., near schools).

Oversight of Policy

- Administration / overall policy ownership: Assistant Vice President for College Operations and Chief Operating Officer.
- Monitoring: Public Safety Department (24/7 foot and vehicle patrols); Residence Hall Directors and staff; Dean of Students.
- Discipline / sanctioning / adjudication: Dean of Students (student conduct); appropriate supervisor / HR processes for employees; Title IX Coordinator when allegations intersect with sexual harassment policy.

Methods of Enforcement

The College has a private Public Safety Department (eight full-time officers and one part-time officer) under the direction of the Assistant Vice President for College Operations. Jurisdiction covers all campus property. Personnel do not have arrest authority; they work closely with the Taney County Sheriff's Department when needed. There is no formal memorandum of understanding, but the College cooperates with the Sheriff's Department to investigate alleged criminal offenses. Residence Hall staff work front desks and conduct regular walks; Public Safety randomly checks buildings each shift. Campus Security Authorities (listed in the ASR) receive reports and ensure crimes are reported for Clery statistics.

Violations and Sanctions During the Biennium

According to Clery statistics for 2023–2025, there were zero arrests and zero disciplinary referrals for liquor-law violations or drug-abuse violations in any geographic category. Consequently, no sanctions specifically for AOD policy violations were recorded in the Clery data set for the review period. The single Dating Violence incident in 2025 on campus was processed under the College's Sexual Harassment Policy and Hearing Procedures. The College enforces its Zero Tolerance Policy consistently; the absence of recorded violations is interpreted as evidence of effective deterrence and a campus culture that supports the policy, rather than an absence of enforcement capacity.

6. Alcohol and Other Drug Comprehensive Program / Intervention Inventory & Related Process and Outcomes/Data

Program Descriptions

Universal / Population-Based Programs

- New Student Orientation (each semester) – Security and safety procedures, Zero Tolerance Policy, and effects of alcohol and drugs are discussed with all incoming students. Target: all new students. Level: Universal prevention.
- Residence Hall Mandatory Meetings (beginning of each term) – Security, safety, and AOD policy review for all students living on campus. Target: residential students. Level: Universal.
- Annual Policy Distribution – Email and Catalog/Consumer Information page distribution of the full AOD policy, legal sanctions, health risks, and available resources to all students and employees. Level: Universal.
- Annual Sexual Harassment Training (required for all employees) – Includes related policy and resource information. Level: Universal for employees.

Selected / Group-Based Programs

- Residence Hall Programs on Healthy Relationships (annually) – Focus on healthy relationships; supports prevention of interpersonal violence that may co-occur with substance use. Target: residential students.
- Christian Ministries Programs on Healthy Relationships – Ongoing programming open to the campus community.

Indicated / Individual-Based Programs

The Student Counseling Center– Professional counseling available to any student. Services include individual counseling, brief consultations, relationship coaching, workshops, and confidential outside referrals. Counselors abide by professional standards of confidentiality. The College encourages pastoral and professional counselors, when appropriate, to inform counselees of the option to report crimes on a voluntary, confidential basis for inclusion in annual crime statistics. Contact: Director of Counseling Services (417-690-3441) and other listed counselors.

Confidential Resources (not mandatory reporters): Vice President of Christian Ministries and Student Development; College Counselors; Campus Nurse / Clinic Administrator. These individuals are available for confidential conversations.

Process Metrics and Outcomes

Quantitative process metrics (exact attendance numbers, pre/post knowledge gains, etc.) are not systematically published in the ASR. Qualitatively, the near-zero incidence of AOD-related arrests and disciplinary referrals over three consecutive calendar years, combined with consistent delivery of orientation and residence-hall programming, indicates that the prevention environment is functioning effectively. The Counseling Center remains

available for students who self-identify or are referred for substance-related concerns. Future reviews should aim to capture more granular participation and outcome data where feasible.

7. Alcohol and Other Drug Comprehensive Program Goals and Objectives for Biennium Period Being Reviewed

The following goals reflect the institutional commitments in the 2026 ASR and related policy documents:

- Maintain a Zero Tolerance environment with consistent enforcement of the student and employee AOD policies.
- Ensure annual distribution of the full AOD policy (standards of conduct, legal sanctions, health risks, counseling resources, and disciplinary sanctions) to all students and employees.
- Deliver AOD and safety education to all incoming students at orientation and to residential students at the start of each term.
- Provide accessible, confidential counseling and referral services for students dealing with substance-use concerns.
- Continue cooperation with local law enforcement for investigation of any alleged criminal offenses and for Clery data collection.

8. Alcohol and Other Drug Goal Achievement and Objective Achievement

Assessment of the reconstructed goals for 2024–2026:

- Zero Tolerance enforcement – Met. Clery data show zero liquor-law and drug-abuse arrests and disciplinary referrals for three consecutive years. Policy language remains clear and is applied to both students and employees, including the federal-preemption stance on cannabis.
- Annual policy distribution – Met. Policy is distributed annually via email, Catalog, Consumer Information page, orientation, and employee onboarding / Staff Drug and Alcohol Policy PDF.
- Orientation and residence-hall education – Met. Programming is delivered each semester to new students and at the beginning of each term to residential students.
- Counseling and referral availability – Met. The Student Counseling Center and listed Confidential Resources remain available; outside referrals are offered upon request.
- Law-enforcement cooperation – Met. Public Safety maintains a close working relationship with the local law enforcement agencies; Clery data incorporate law-enforcement-provided statistics where available.

9. AOD Analysis

Strengths (Policies)

- Irrefutable Zero Tolerance Policy applicable to students (regardless of age) and employees, on and off campus and at College events.
- Explicit treatment of cannabis consistent with federal law despite state medical/recreational changes.
- Comprehensive publication of federal and state legal sanctions and health-risk information.
- Designated Confidential Resources and a professional Counseling Center.

Strengths (Programs / Interventions)

- Consistent delivery of AOD messaging at orientation and in-residence halls every term.
- Low to zero reported AOD incident rates over multiple years.
- Integration of healthy-relationship programming that addresses co-occurring risk factors.

10. Recommendations for Next Biennium

1. Continue rigorous enforcement of the Zero Tolerance Policy and maintain the current low incidence of AOD violations.
2. Strengthen documentation of program participation and, where feasible, introduce simple outcome measures (e.g., knowledge gain at orientation).
3. Continue annual policy distribution and orientation programming; ensure new employees and late-entering students receive the policy promptly.
4. Maintain and publicize the availability of the Counseling Center and Confidential Resources.

11. Goals and Objectives for Next Biennium (2026–2028)

The following goals will receive specific focus during the next biennium:

1. Goal 1 – Sustained Low Incidence: Maintain zero or near-zero Clery-reportable liquor-law and drug-abuse arrests and disciplinary referrals through the next biennium via continued education and consistent enforcement. Responsible offices: Public Safety, Dean of Students, Residence Life.
2. Goal 2 – Annual Notification Compliance: Document the date, method, and reach of each annual AOD policy distribution to students and employees and retain evidence for the subsequent biennial review. Responsible office: Operations Support Coordinator.

12. Conclusion

College of the Ozarks maintains a clear, consistently enforced Zero Tolerance Policy regarding alcohol and other drugs. Clery Act statistics for 2023–2025 demonstrate zero arrests and zero disciplinary referrals for liquor-law or drug-abuse violations across all geographic categories, indicating an effective prevention and enforcement environment. Annual policy notification, orientation programming, residence-hall education, and accessible counseling services form the core of the College's AOD program.

Strengths include policy language (including the treatment of cannabis under federal law), low incident rates, and reliable delivery of educational programming. Areas for growth include the collection of more systematic prevalence and program-outcome data.

The recommendations and goals outlined above are intended to preserve the College's strong compliance posture while incrementally improving documentation and support for students. The next biennial review (covering 2026–2028) will assess progress against these goals.

13. Appendices

The following materials are incorporated by reference or available upon request:

- a. Full text of the College of the Ozarks Zero Tolerance / [Drug and Alcohol Policy](#).
- b. [Staff Drug and Alcohol Policy](#)
- c. 2026 Combined Annual Security Report & Fire Safety [Report](#)
- d. [College Catalog](#) drug-free college policy
- e. [Consumer Information](#) – Drug-Free College section
- f. [Prior Biennial Review report](#)
- g. [Contact list](#) for Campus Security Authorities, Title IX Coordinator, and Confidential Resources

— End of Biennial Review —