

Alcohol and Drug Information

In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, ASU discourages the abuse of alcoholic beverages. All members of the university community are responsible for their own behavior within the context of civil law and university regulations. Those responsible for organizing and overseeing social events must be aware of, and adhere to, all university and civil laws and regulations. The university is committed to educating its constituencies on alcohol and drug use and abuse. The legal drinking age in Colorado is 21 years old. No one under the age of 21 may purchase, consume, or possess any alcoholic beverage.

Adams State University operates in compliance with all laws of the State of Colorado pertaining to alcohol and illicit drugs. Those laws include the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, Article 18, Title 18, Colorado Revised Statutes; the Uniform Beer Code, Article 46, Title 12, Colorado Revised Statutes; the Drug Free School and Campuses, 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 86, Subpart B.

Adams State University will not permit possession, consumption, and/or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol of any kind on campus. The exception to this is when the university President allows, in accordance with Colorado law, alcoholic beverages at official functions and special events. The following actions constitute violations of the ASU Alcohol and Drug Policy:

1. Visible intoxication on campus and/or creating a disturbance after having consumed alcohol
2. Consumption of alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs in campus residence halls, public, during intercollegiate events, intramural recreation events, or in any area or event where such consumption is prohibited.
3. Use of university funds for unauthorized purchase of alcoholic beverages of any kind.
4. Possession of paraphernalia

- Evidence of drug violations within a room may result in the student(s) being held responsible for a violation. Examples of such evidence may be but not limited to: odor, fan reversed in window, paraphernalia, towel under door, etc. The Office of Housing is not bound by the “beyond a reasonable doubt” language of the legal system and operates on a standard of it being “more likely than not” that a violation took place

Students violating alcohol and drug regulations will be subject to disciplinary action by the university, which may include, but is not limited to:

- Reprimand, verbal or written
- Parent and/or Coach notification
- Educational modules
- Fines (and possible account holds until this is fulfilled)
- Individual or group counseling
- Inpatient rehabilitation

- Probation
- Suspension
- Group/organization being barred for further use of facilities
- Referral for criminal action
- Dismissal from the academic program or university
- Other disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the Office of Housing or Vice President of Student Services

Non university personnel, while on campus property, are subject to the laws of Colorado and regulations of the university. Persons violating regulations shall be asked to leave campus. All guests of university students are the responsibility of their host(s). Any violation by guests (including family members or friends) will subject the university host to any of the aforementioned disciplinary actions.

Notation of the alcohol or drug violation will be entered into the student's permanent education record.

The university Police Department is mandated to enforce state law and appropriate criminal charges will be filed whenever the case referred to the department is supported by probable cause.

If the student refuses to enter the mandatory drug education or mandatory counseling program as directed by the Housing officials or the Vice President of Student Services, further disciplinary action may be imposed including but not limited to referral to the university Magistrate with recommendation for suspension or expulsion for failure to comply with an administrative mandate. Total hours mandated, if not completed during the same semester when imposed, due to insufficient days left in the semester, and may be completed the semester immediately following. If sufficient days remain in the semester but the student does not comply with the mandate, the case may be referred to the Magistrate with recommendation for additional sanctions or suspension/expulsion. Depending on severity, the Vice President of Student Services may upgrade the sanction to whatever level fits the situation, and bypass lower sanctions.

Health risks associated with alcohol and drug abuse include but are not limited to:

- Mental health disorders
- Stroke
- Cardiovascular disease
- Cancer
- Liver and/or lung disease
- Hepatitis B and C
- Contraction of sexually transmitted infections
- Lower academic performance
- Lower athletic performance
- Lowered level of motivation
- Higher rates of depression and anxiety
- Lower success getting and maintaining employment

The Adams State University Counseling Center does offer individual counseling services and group psychoeducation drug and alcohol counseling. The cost of these services is included in a student's tuition and fees, thus there is no cost at each visit. The ASU Counseling Center also reserves the right to refer students to outside agencies for the appropriate level of care. These agencies include but are not limited to: San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group, Crossroads' Turning Points, Inc., and other outpatient drug and alcohol practitioners.

Medical Marijuana

Possession of a valid and appropriately held Medical Marijuana Registry identification card does NOT authorize a resident, student, and their guests to possess, use, or distribute marijuana on or in any university-owned property. Students who have a valid and appropriately held Medical Marijuana Registry identification card during the term of the Residence Halls Contract, may be granted an exception to reside off campus by the Director of Auxiliary Services and Housing.