For Parents and Families:

Supporting Your Safe and Healthy University of Tampa Student

Gina M. Firth
Associate Dean of Students
University of Tampa
YOU MADE IT!
We want your student to succeed!

We need your help.
Today’s Goals:

- **TO GET YOUR SUPPORT!**
  To enlist parental/family support for the University of Tampa’s policies that are designed to keep students safe and reach their potential.

- **OFFER SUGGESTIONS**
  How parents/family members can assist students in making healthy/safe choices while a student at the University of Tampa.
Today’s Goals:

- **THE OLD DAYS ARE GONE!**
  To understand that college drinking is different now then it was when we were in college.

- **LEARNS THE POLICIES**
  To inform parents of the University of Tampa’s policies and sanctions regarding alcohol and other drug issues.

- **GIVE YOU RESOURCES**
  To inform parents of resources available to them and their students.
Healthy and Safe Students at UT

The University of Tampa is here to support whole-person development

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Emotional
- Social
- Spiritual

Interconnected
Healthy and Safe Students at UT

- Staying “Well” can be pretty tough for busy college students, yet it is VITAL to their success.

Please Consider:

  - Taking emotional issues seriously; encourage your student to talk with someone if necessary.

  - Touting the benefits of good sleep
Healthy and Safe Students at UT

- Please Consider:
  - Sending Healthy Snacks
  - Encouraging Community Service
  - Suggesting Ways to Work Physical Activity Into Their Schedule.
Academic and Financial Well-Being

- Financial

  Work together to set up a budget

  Set limits if you provide a credit card

  Encourage student to watch for scholarships or other financial aid
Academic and Financial Well-Being

- Academic

Express your confidence in their abilities

Don’t rush or push your student into a major

Allow your students to try and solve their own problems
The #1 Student Health Problem
The #1 Student Health Problem

High-Risk Alcohol Use
Things Today are DIFFERENT

- When we went to college, the typical college was a “safe haven” for alcohol use/some modest drug use.

- Discipline regarding alcohol /minor drug issues was extremely rare.
Things Today are DIFFERENT

- The law no longer allows for this:
  - Congress as passed a law to make it possible for students to lose their financial aid if convicted of any drug related offense.
  - Getting caught with a fake ID used to be a hand slap...now it’s a felony
Students are abusing alcohol more than ever before.

Recent surveys have shown that 52% of today’s college students drink solely to get intoxicated.
Current Picture

- National Binge Drinking Rates have increased (Currently at 45%)

- Good news: UT’s rates have declined and are below the national average (43.7%)
There are dangerous rituals and traditions that risk lives such as:
- Power hour
- The Century Club
- 21 for 21
- Drinking games, such as beer pong
College students are BIG BUSINESS.

- The alcohol beverage industry makes approximately $21.5 BILLION selling to underage drinkers.
College students are BIG BUSINESS.

- Area bars heavily market to our students with specials like:
  - Women drink free!
  - All you can drink for $10.00
  - Bladder Busters
  - Kill the Keg
Factors Encouraging Young People to Drink

- Access and Availability
  - Aggressive marketing of alcohol to minors
  - Social norms & advertising glamorize the alcohol culture
  - Alcohol industry pushes their product integrated into all areas of campus life: sports, holidays, use of free time, official events, entertainment
Factors Encouraging Young People to Drink

- Access and Availability
  - In Florida, 18–20 year olds are permitted in bars
  - Drink Specials…Very low prices or free
We are working with MADD, Tampa Alcohol Council and Tampa City officials to eliminate bar specials.

Extensive work is being done to reduce drinking and driving.

- BAT Mobile
- Florida had the largest decrease in DUI fatalities in the Nation this year (13%)
Working Hard For Change

- Coalitions

[Images of logos for TAC, CARE, and FHE-ASAP]
The University of Tampa strictly adheres to state, county and city law.
The University of Tampa strictly adheres to state, county and city law that:

- Prohibits any person under the age of 21 to consume alcoholic beverages at any time.
- Prohibits the selling, giving or serving of alcohol to anyone under the age of 21.
UT’s Alcohol Policies

The University of Tampa strictly adheres to state, county and city law that:

- Prohibits anyone from misrepresenting or misstating his/her age
- Prohibits open containers in vehicles, most public venues. Look for signs!
UT’s Alcohol Policies

- The University of Tampa strictly adheres to state, county and city law that:
  - Prohibits operating a motor vehicle on University property while impaired by alcohol or other drugs.
Tragic Effects of Drinking and Driving
Florida is a NO TOLERANCE State

- If a student is under 21 and gets pulled over with a .02 or greater, his/her license will be suspended for 6 months.

- A refusal to take a breath test will result in a license suspension of 1 year.
Minimum penalty/costs of a DUI in Florida are:
- Costs and fines over $800
- DUI school
- Substance abuse screening
- 50 hours of community service
- Two 6–12 month driver’s license suspensions; one effective on day of the arrest, the other upon conviction.
- Expect insurance to be cancelled or the rates to skyrocket!
Penalty for DUI in Florida

- If you are arrested for a DUI anywhere in the community (on or off campus) you will also have charges from the University and will have to go through the Student Conduct Process.
Fake IDs – Florida law states that possession of any driver’s license or state identification card not lawfully produced by the appropriate governmental agency is a FELONY punishable by 5 years in prison and a $5,000.00 fine.
Lending one’s ID to another or using someone else’s ID—punishable up to 60 days in jail, $500.00 fine.

Identifying self to a police officer with a false name and/or ID—punishable up to 1 yr. in jail and $1000 fine.

A fake ID charge in the community, it is also a violation of university policy.
Students/guests over the age of 21 may consume alcohol in their rooms ONLY in the following halls:

- Kennedy Place
- Straz
- Brevard
- Res Com
The following halls are DRY residence halls at all times, even for those who are over 21:

- Austin
- Vaughn Center
- Smiley
- McKay
- Hyatt
- Boathouse
- Stadium Center
Hosting individuals involved in underage consumption within one’s own hall space constitutes a social host violation, regardless of age.

- Students who are 21 and hosting, should check ages of all students present and ask those underage to leave.
Open House Parties – Defined as a social gathering at a house, condo, apartment or dwelling unit

- Law: A person in control of house (anyone 18 and over) and who knows alcohol is being used by a person under the age of 21 may be charged with a 2nd degree misdemeanor (punishable by up to $500 fine and 60 days in jail)
Students can be found responsible for the presence or consumption of alcohol whether or not they are in the room at the time of violation.
Drinking outside of Residence Hall rooms is prohibited, even for students 21 and older.

- No outdoor drinking is allowed on UT’s campus at any time, regardless of age.
UT’s Alcohol Policies

Constructive Possession Policy—Students are cautioned that possession of alcohol can be “constructive”, which exists if students have both:

- **Knowledge** of alcohol in rooms, vehicle or common area
- There is enough OPEN alcohol for them to consume (over a 1–1 alcohol to legal drinker ratio)
Students can be “constructively possessing” alcohol even if they have not actually consumed any alcohol themselves.
UT’s Alcohol Policies

- Common source containers of alcohol, including, but not limited to:
  - kegs
  - pony kegs
  - beer balls
  - box wines
  - containers greater than 750 ml.
  - mixed alcoholic punch

are prohibited on University Grounds at ANY time, either empty or full (unless it’s a licensed vendor in an approved location), whether the containers are empty or full.
UT’s Alcohol Policies

- Intoxication by any student, regardless of age, whether in public or in private, is prohibited. Symptoms of intoxication include:
  - slurred speech,
  - impaired motor coordination and balance,
  - loss of good judgment, or
  - Nausea

- Symptoms of severe intoxication include:
  - inability to walk or stand,
  - loss of consciousness
  - vomiting.
Devices designed for the rapid high-risk consumption of alcohol are prohibited. These include but are not limited to:

- funnels
- beer bongs
- drinking games
Conduct that is disruptive to the community while a student is intoxicated is a violation of the University’s alcohol policy, regardless of age. This may include, but is not limited to:

- Excessive noise
- Vandalizing property
- Abusive or suggestive speech
- Vomiting
- Urinating in inappropriate places
- Inappropriate gestures
UT’s Alcohol Policies

- All events that have alcohol present must be in a location properly zoned for the distribution and consumption of alcoholic beverages.
  - The Ratskeller is the only venue on campus that is zoned for alcohol (for special events only)
There are more specific policies for student organizations that can be found in the University of Tampa Organization Handbook or on-line at www.ut.edu.
1st Violation:
- Student is required to complete a full alcohol/other drug assessment from a licensed Alcohol and Other Drug Counselor and comply with all recommendations plus costs.
- If student is financially dependent or under the age of 21, parents or guardians are notified.
- Residential student is placed on “pending termination of residency status”
- $75.00 Prevention fee
2nd Violation:

- Residential student is terminated from campus housing, and may receive restricted access from all residential areas. Off campus students will receive restricted access from all residential areas.

- Student is placed on "pending suspension" status.

- Student is required to complete a full alcohol/other drug assessment from a licensed Alcohol and Other Drug Counselor and comply with all recommendations and costs.

- $100.00 Prevention fee

- If student is financially dependent or under the age of 21, parents or guardians are notified.
3rd Violation:

- Student is suspended
Possession, consumption, provision and/or sale of drugs or drug paraphernalia (except for that prescribed by a physician specifically to the student in possession and used according to the direction) is strictly prohibited.
Students can be responsible for the presence of drugs or paraphernalia in their room whether or not they are present at the time of violation if they have knowledge/access.
REMEMBER: Students convicted of violating any federal or state drug possession or sale law will become ineligible for Title IV federal financial aid (no contest or guilty).
Minimum Campus Sanctions for Drug Possession

- Parental Notification (under 21 or financially dependent)
- Termination of Housing
- Pending Suspension
  - Student is required to complete and pay for a full alcohol/other drug assessment from a licensed Alcohol and Other Drug Counselor and comply with all recommendations plus costs.
  - May be restricted from all Residence Halls
  - 2nd violation is suspension from University
Florida Sanctions for Drug Possession

- 2\textsuperscript{nd} degree misdemeanor (Max penalty 60 days in jail, $500.00 in fines)
- 2–year driver’s license suspension
What is NORMal?
Based on UT’s Fall 2008 CORE Survey

- What percentage of UT students drink 1x per week or LESS?

78%
Based on UT’s Fall 2008 CORE Survey

The Student Perception...

- 72% of University of Tampa Students **THINK** that students drink **3x a week or more**
Based on UT’s Fall 2008 CORE Survey

- How many drinks per week do the majority of UT students consume?

4 or less drinks per week! (67%)
Based on UT’s Fall 2006 CORE Survey

- What percentage of UT students have NOT used tobacco in the past 30 days?

78.4%

68.3% Nationally
Based on UT’s Fall 2006 CORE Survey

- What percentage of UT students have NEVER driven a car under the influence?

78%
What percentage of UT students have NOT used marijuana within the last 30 days?

78%
Based on UT’s Fall 2005 Core Survey Results:

- Only 11% of UT students use tobacco regularly (3x a week or more) compared to 15% nationally.
What Parents Can Do to Decrease High-Risk Drinking

- Talk to your son or daughter about alcohol use/abuse.
  - Articulate that abstinence from alcohol is an acceptable, healthy and safe decision.
  - Encourage your son/daughter to get involved with campus activities.
What Parents Can Do to Decrease High-Risk Drinking

- Talk to your son or daughter about alcohol use/abuse.
  - Refrain from GLAMORIZING alcohol use, including your own stories from college days
  - Help them understand that alcohol is a toxic, addictive substance that can fatally poison when used in excess.
What Parents Can Do to Decrease High-Risk Drinking

- Talk to your son or daughter about alcohol use/abuse.
  - Help your son/daughter to understand that any alcohol use brings with it some level of risk.
  - Be clear about your expectations!
  - Keep up the communication. Ask questions.
  - Utilize the Student of Concern Program.
HOW DOES IT WORK?

- A report comes to Associate Dean of Students, Campus Safety, Health and Counseling Center or Residence Life.

- Reports come from faculty, staff, students and parents.
If you have concerns about your son/daughter’s alcohol or other drug use, please contact:

Gina Firth
Associate Dean of Students
Phone – (813)257–1777
Email – gfirth@ut.edu

If you have any behavioral concerns about your son/daughter, please contact:

Monnie Huston Wertz
Associate Dean of Students
Phone – (813) 257–3757
Email – mhwertz@ut.edu
Resources for Parents

- College Parents of America
  www.collegeparents.org
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism
  http://www.niaaa.nih.gov/
- The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention
  www.edc.org/hec
Resources for Parents

- A Call to Action: Changing the Culture of Drinking at US Colleges
  www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov
- Facts on Tap
  www.factsontap.org