COLLEGE OF WESTERN IDAHO

Biennial Review of Institutional Compliance

Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act

JULY 2024 – JUNE 2026

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College of Western Idaho has conducted a Biennial Review of its Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program, as required by the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. This review covers the period of July 2024 to June 2026.

In compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA), College of Western Idaho annually distributes Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAAPP) information electronically to all students and employees. The annual distribution includes standards of conduct, applicable federal and Idaho legal sanctions, health risks associated with alcohol and controlled substance use, available counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation resources, and institutional disciplinary sanctions. Records relating to annual distribution and compliance activities are maintained by the Dean of Students Office.

A record of the Biennial Review is maintained by the Dean of Students.

Approved:

Gordon Jones

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Date: 2026.06.26 17:24:19 -06'00'

6/26/26

Gordon Jones
President, College of Western Idaho

Date

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Chad Trisler
Dean of Students, College of Western Idaho

Date

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Biennial Review Process

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA) requires Institutions of Higher Education to conduct a biennial review of their alcohol and other drug programs and policies to determine program effectiveness and consistency of policy enforcement and to identify and implement any changes needed to either. Ideally, this review is a written report that compiles information required by the regulations.

The U.S. Department of Education's regulations (EDGAR Part 86.100 [b]) do not dictate what a biennial review should include, how it should be conducted, or the format in which it should be presented. Campuses are given latitude in preparing biennial review reports to accommodate varying campus types (i.e., public, private, two- and four-year) and cultures and to honor the individuality of each institution. The required review has four objectives:

1. To ensure that campuses provide necessary information to students and employees regarding their Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program.
2. To ensure that campuses have, and consistently enforce, disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct.
3. To determine the effectiveness of the Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program.
4. To recommend changes to current practices, procedures, and policies.

To accomplish this, College of Western Idaho completes a Biennial review in even years, on a two-year review cycle ending June 30th of even-numbered years.

The DFSCA Biennial Review committee consists of the following members:
Jennifer Colley – Executive Director, Human Resources
Jodi Hickenlooper – Assistant Director, Counseling & Wellness Services
Joshua Kifer – Assistant Director, Security Operations
Chad Trisler – Dean of Students, Title IX & ADA Coordinator

Alcohol & Other Drug Violations

CLERY ACT REPORTING

College of Western Idaho complies with all aspects of the Clery Act including the publication of an Annual Security Report and the maintenance of a Daily Crime Log. The Annual Security Report is published annually in accordance with Clery Act requirements and is publicized via email to all students and employees. It is also included in information available to all potential applicants and those considering applying for a job at CWI.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL VIOLATIONS

Over the past two Clery Act reporting years, CWI has enjoyed a very low rate of drug and alcohol violations on campus. Below are the total rates of violations, by geographic location, over the past two years.

Nampa Campus

Drug Arrests: 0
Drug Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0
Alcohol Arrests: 0
Alcohol Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0

Ada Campus

Drug Arrests: 0
Drug Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0
Alcohol Arrests: 0
Alcohol Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0

Canyon County Center

Drug Arrests: 0
Drug Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0
Alcohol Arrests: 0
Alcohol Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0

Horticulture Center*

Drug Arrests: 0
Drug Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0
Alcohol Arrests: 0
Alcohol Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0

*Horticulture Center statistics reflect incidents from July of 2024 to August of 2025. The College discontinued use of the Horticulture Center in August of 2025 when the Agriculture Science programs moved to the Nampa Campus.

Tobacco-Free Campus

College of Western Idaho is committed to providing students and employees with a healthy work and learning environment and supports the efforts of all members of the CWI community to reduce or end their use of tobacco products. To further that goal, as of January 1st, 2015, CWI has prohibited the use or carrying of all tobacco-containing products (except cessation aids), as well as all paraphernalia related to the use of tobacco on campus and in college-controlled vehicles. See CWI Policy CW-030 Tobacco Use Policy, for further details.

CWI Students and employees are encouraged to reduce or end their use of tobacco products, and cessation support is available to employees through the Office of Group Insurance. Additional information about the policy, as well as support resources, are available on the CWI Tobacco Use on Campus Webpage.

Policies

The College's DAAPP materials include information regarding federal and Idaho legal sanctions associated with the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and controlled substances, as well as health risks associated with substance abuse, including physical dependency, impaired judgment, injury risk, academic and workplace impacts, and long-term health consequences.

College of Western Idaho is committed to maintaining an environment where students are able to learn and employees are free to work without the negative impacts that alcohol and drugs have on an educational community. As part of our

compliance with the requirements of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act, this document is intended to certify that CWI is actively engaged in the prevention of drug and alcohol abuse on our campus and in our community. We acknowledge that substance abuse is serious but also affirm that it is both preventable and treatable, and that those who struggle with substance abuse can, with support, be productive and integral members of the campus community. We will enforce our policies, work collaboratively with local, state, and federal resources, and strive to create and maintain a campus free from the negative effects of substance abuse.

Student Policies

The Biennial Review Committee reviewed student conduct and employee disciplinary processes during the review period and found no evidence of inconsistent application of sanctions related to alcohol or drug violations.

Under Chapter 1, Article 2.5.3 of the Student Handbook, the manufacture, production, sale, distribution, use or possession of controlled substance or paraphernalia related to controlled substance is prohibited. Similarly, Chapter 1, Article 2.5.4 prohibits the unlicensed sale or distribution, underage or public possession or consumption of alcohol. Violations of these policies will result in disciplinary sanctions, which may include educational or restorative activities or, depending on the severity and frequency of violations, may include suspension or expulsion from the College. CWI also cooperates with local law enforcement when appropriate to support a substance-free work and learning environment.

Employee Policies

College of Western Idaho is committed to providing a drug-free workplace for our employees. In furtherance of this, CWI Policy HR-030 Drug Free Workplace Policy prohibits the use of controlled substances on CWI premises, as well as working while under the influence of controlled substances. The policy provides for disciplinary measures, up to and including the suspension or termination of an employee for violations. The policy also provides safe-harbor provisions for employees who proactively seek support and treatment through Human Resources, and may, depending on circumstance, refer employees to substance abuse treatment programs.

Programming & Resources

CAMPUS RESOURCES

Counseling & Wellness Services

College of Western Idaho provides students with free mental health counseling, provided by full-time, licensed mental health counselors. Services are available to all students enrolled in academic credit-bearing or long term (1 semester or more in length) programs. In addition, Counseling and Wellness Services coordinates programming and educational campaigns around health and wellness, including around substance use and misuse. The College also provides Case Management services, including access to emergency funds, for students experiencing financial or other hardships.

CWI offers educational information and programs to students and employees who want to learn more about the effects of substance abuse, as well as treatment and harm-reduction options. Educational information about substance use and abuse, provided by CampusWell, and is shared via email twice per month. Additionally, CWI has contracted with TAO Connect to provide on-line mental health support resources, including support and resources relating to substance use and misuse, to all students and employees free of charge.

Campus Safety

The Campus Safety and Security Department is committed to providing a safe environment for the entire College. Campus Security is staffed with full- and part-time non-sworn security officers. Officers are available at all campus locations during operating hours to assist students and enforce campus policies. Campus safety can be reached from on-campus phones by dialing 23333 or from any phone by calling 208-562-3333.

Human Resources

Human Resources is responsible for the administration of policies and procedures, and services to employees of the College. Communications are distributed to all full- and part-time employees, such as policies and services regarding alcohol and other drug use prevention and treatment options as offered through the College's

Employee Assistance Program provider, which can be accessed through Regence Blue Shield of Idaho or by calling the number on the back of your insurance identification card. Information about other insurance and support available to employees can be found on the Idaho Office of Group Insurance website.

PROGRAMMING

College of Western Idaho engages in a range of prevention programming, using a harm reduction philosophy, to support a drug and alcohol-free campus. These programs include drug and alcohol awareness programs, which are planned and executed through a partnership between Counseling & Wellness Services and Student Engagement. CWI also partners with local law enforcement and the Idaho Office of Drug Policy and in particular, the Idaho College Health Coalition to provide training to staff and community members, as well as to provide prevention programs such as safe drug disposal pouches at no cost to students and employees.

For more information, see the CWI Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program website.

Effectiveness and Analysis

EVALUATION

College of Western Idaho evaluates the effectiveness of its Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program through the review of Clery Act statistics, student conduct data, participation in prevention programming, utilization of counseling and wellness services, and student health and wellness assessment data. During the current review cycle, the College observed a continued low rate of reported alcohol and drug violations across all campus locations. While this reflects a generally safe campus environment, the College also recognizes that low reported violation rates alone are not sufficient indicators of overall student wellness or community health, particularly within a largely commuter-based institution.

During the review period, CWI administered multiple student wellness and engagement assessments, including nationally recognized instruments such as the American College Health Association National College Health Assessment and the

Healthy Minds Study, along with institutional student engagement data. Results consistently demonstrated elevated levels of stress, anxiety, loneliness, and psychological distress among students. In addition, survey data suggested that many students engage in limited in-person social interaction outside of academic or employment obligations, with significant numbers of students reporting minimal participation in campus activities, community organizations, recreational activities, or other forms of social engagement.

These findings will be used to guide prevention programming, wellness education, student engagement planning, and future resource allocation during the next review cycle. The College recognizes that student isolation, disconnection, and chronic stress may contribute to behaviors and conditions associated with substance misuse, mental health concerns, and reduced academic success. As a result, the College views substance abuse prevention as interconnected with broader student wellness, belonging, and community engagement efforts.

PLANNED ASSESSMENT

Over the next review cycle, the College will continue to assess student wellness, engagement, and substance use trends using a more sustainable and longitudinal assessment model. CWI plans to administer the American College Health Association National College Health Assessment (ACHA-NCHA) and the Healthy Minds Study on alternating biennial cycles, when feasible, to provide ongoing insight into student behaviors, perceptions, mental health trends, and risk factors.

The College will continue reviewing Clery Act statistics, student conduct data, counseling utilization trends, and participation in prevention and wellness programming to identify emerging concerns and evaluate the effectiveness of current prevention strategies. Assessment efforts will also focus on identifying barriers to student engagement and opportunities to strengthen student connection and belonging across campus communities.

Recommendations

In addition to continued assessment efforts, the College recommends prioritizing initiatives designed to increase opportunities for meaningful student engagement

and interpersonal connection. As a commuter institution serving a large population of working students and students with family obligations, CWI recognizes the challenges students face in developing community and social connection outside the classroom environment.

During the next review cycle, the College recommends developing and implementing strategies to increase student participation in campus activities, peer engagement opportunities, wellness programming, student organizations, and other experiences that support healthy interpersonal connection and a stronger sense of belonging. The College believes these efforts may serve as protective factors that support student well-being, resilience, academic persistence, and reduced risk behaviors related to substance misuse.