

COLLEGE OF WESTERN IDAHO

# **Biennial Review of Institutional Compliance**

## **Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act**

JULY 2020 – JUNE 2022

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The 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 January 2020 to June 2022. The review period has been shifted from a calendar-year cycle to one that matches both the academic and financial calendar of the College, resulting in a non-standard review period. This review was concluded on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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

Approved:

**Gordon Jones** Digitally signed by Gordon Jones  
Date: 2022.08.22 16:47:37 -06'00'

8/22/22

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Gordon Jones  
President, College of Western Idaho

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Date

*Chad M. Trisler* Digitally signed by Chad Trisler  
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8/15/22

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Chad Trisler  
Dean of Students, College of Western Idaho

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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 two objectives:

1. To ensure that campuses provide necessary information to student 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, the College of Western Idaho completes a Biennial review in even years, on an academic year cycle, ending on June 30<sup>th</sup> of even-numbered years. In the past, the college has completed its biennial review on odd-numbered years, on a calendar-year cycle, however as the student experience is based on academic year, and policies, procedures, course catalogues, and other critical documents are on an academic-year cycle, and most data collection relevant to this review is completed in the spring semester, it was determined that adjusting to an academic year cycle would provide better fidelity of data and would more accurately reflect the program.

The DFSCA Biennial Review committee consists of the following members:

Chad Trisler – Dean of Students & Title IX Coordinator

Jodi Hickenlooper – Assistant Director, Counseling & Wellness Services

Jennifer Colley – Executive Director, Human Resources

# Alcohol & Other Drug Violations

## CLERY ACT REPORTING

The College of Western Idaho complies with all aspects of the Clery Act including the publication an Annual Security Report and the maintenance of a Daily Crime Log. The Annual Security Report is published each year on or before October 1<sup>st</sup> 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 three 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 three years.

### **Nampa Campus**

Drug Arrests: 1

Drug Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 0

Alcohol Arrests: 0

Alcohol Referrals for Disciplinary Action: 2

### **Ada Campus**

Drug Arrests: 1

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

# **Tobacco-Free Campus**

The College of Western Idaho is committed to providing students and employees 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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 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**

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 2, 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**

The 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 substance 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**

The 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 abuse.

CWI also 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](#), is posted on CWI social media pages frequently. Additionally, CWI has contracted with [TAO Connect](#) to provide on-line mental health support resources, including support and resources relating to substance use and abuse, 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 [BlueCross of Idaho](#) or by calling 877-427-2327. Information about other insurance and support available to employees can be found at the [Idaho Office of Group Insurance](#) website.

## PROGRAMMING

The 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](#) to provide training to staff and community members, as well as to provide prevention programs such as on-campus Prescription Drug Take-Back days and 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

CWI evaluates the effectiveness of college policies on an ongoing basis. The Office of Human Resources oversees the policy review process to ensure that policies are effective and comprehensive to the needs of the CWI community. Additionally, the Office of Institutional Effectiveness provides analytical and reporting services on a range of topics, including student success factors and program effectiveness.

### PLANNED ASSESSMENT

The College of Western Idaho recognizes the difficulty in assessing the outcomes and effectiveness of campus programming. Students often work full time or have family obligations outside of school and do not engage in campus activities. Additionally, participation in Drug and Alcohol abuse programs varies. Over the next two years, the Biennial Review Committee will evaluate possible ways to leverage current campus tools to collect longitudinal data regarding student behaviors



and attitudes toward drug and alcohol use. Additionally, the College will be administering the National College Health Assessment, which evaluates a number of health risks among college students, including substance use and abuse. This data will then be used to inform practices to be implemented and assessed over the next two years.

## **Recommendations**

Owing to the lack of campus housing, athletics, or a centralized campus structure, CWI has a very low rate of alcohol and drug violations. While this is celebrated as a success, we are also aware that these factors may limit our ability to easily identify members of the CWI community, and students in particular, who may struggle with substance abuse issues. To that end, over the next two years, CWI should engage in the collection of additional information regarding substance use and abuse by students with a goal of identifying any existing patterns of substance abuse, and developing action plans to provide targeted support and resources to students. In addition, CWI should continue to support the establishment of the Idaho College Health Coalition and, once established, engage with programs and resources shared between Idaho Colleges.