



Wilkes
Ashe
Alleghany

2025 Biennial Review
of Compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act
January 2023-December 2024
Wilkes Community College

This Biennial Review has been approved by Dr. Mike Rodgers, Wilkes Community College President.


Dr. Mike Rodgers


Date

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Biennial Review Process.....	2
Annual Policy Notification Process.....	3
Drug and Alcohol Policy.....	3
Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programming	3
Drug and Alcohol Student Survey Results.....	4
Drug and Alcohol Incidence Rate	5
SWOT Analysis.....	6
Summary and Recommendations	7
Appendices.....	8-12

Introduction

The Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Public Law 101-226, requires Wilkes Community College (WCC) to certify that it has adopted and implemented a program to prevent the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees. This statement is being published to clearly define the following items set forth by the statute:

- 1) The annual distribution in writing to each student who is taking one or more classes for any type of academic credit, except for continuing education units, and to all current employees, of:
 - a. a statement about the standards of conduct that prohibits the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees on college property, or as part of any of its activities.
 - b. a description of the applicable legal sanctions under federal, state, or local laws for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees.
 - c. a description of the health risks associated with the use of illicit drugs and the abuse of alcohol.
 - d. a description of any drug and alcohol programs (counseling, treatment, rehabilitation, and reentry) that are available to students or employees.
 - e. a statement that WCC will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees for violations of the standards of conduct and a description of those sanctions.

- 2) A biennial review by the institution of its program to:
 - a. determine its effectiveness and implement changes to the program if needed.
 - b. ensure that disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

Biennial participants include representatives from the following areas of the college:

- Student Services
- Counseling Services
- Human Resources
- Campus Police
- Title IX
- Instructional Services

Biennial Review Process

The Biennial Review covers January 2023-December 2024. It was completed on April 22, 2025.

Materials Reviewed

Wilkes Community College website: www.wilkescc.edu

Wilkes Community College's Drug and Alcohol and Tobacco-Free Policies

Drug and Alcohol Policy and Prevention Brochures

New Employee Orientation Sessions

New Student Orientation Slides

Annual Notification to Students

Annual Notification to Employees

Student Survey Results

Committee Members

Amber Cook, Committee Chair, Counselor, Student Services

Donna Brooks, Academic Advisor/ACA Instructor

Earl Byrd, WCC Chief of Police

Sherry Cox, Executive Director of Human Resources/Title IX Coordinator

Caitlin Howell, Instructional Technologies Specialist

Scott Johnson, Dean of Student Services

Kristen Macemore, Vice President of Instruction

Mike Roope, Director of Counseling, Career Services, & Student Life

A copy of the Biennial Review can be requested in the Student Services Office.

Annual Policy Notification Process

Annual notifications are sent each fall and spring semester to students and employees. These notifications are sent to the college-provided Outlook email. A sample employee notification email is Appendix A. A sample student notification email is Appendix B. Additionally, new employees receive a copy of the Drug and Alcohol Policy and Prevention Brochure.

For students, the Drug and Alcohol Policy is reviewed in the New Student Orientation seated and virtual sessions. The information is also provided within the New Student Orientation online platform, Moodle, through links, the virtual handout, and the recorded session.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

The college policies relevant to drug, alcohol, and tobacco use are:

Alcohol and Drugs on Campus Policy 2.1.7

Tobacco-Free Campus Policy 2.2.1

Alcohol and Drugs on Campus Policy 3.4.4

Students Alcohol and Drugs on Campus (catalog p. 33) Policy 5.3.5

These policies can be viewed:

in the official WCC [policy and procedures manual](#),

on the WCC Drug and Alcohol Policy/Prevention [website](#),

on a link for the WCC's police department's [website](#)

Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programming

In 2023, the WCC Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAPP) featured diverse activities and programs. Sarah Chambers, Director of Clinical Education in WCC's Respiratory Therapy Program, continued to pair with WCC DAPP and further programming for vaping education in the community. More details can be viewed in Appendix C.

In 2024, The WCC DAPP continued with various activities and programming and continued to pair with Sarah Chambers for vaping education in the community. More details can be viewed in Appendix D.

WCC Drug and Alcohol Student Survey Results- Spring 2025

In February 2025, a five-question Drug and Alcohol Prevention Policy Survey was emailed to all students enrolled in curriculum classes during the Spring 2025 semester. The results of that survey are below.

QUESTION	True	False	Unsure
WCC has a Drug and Alcohol Policy.	120 100%	0 0%	0 0%
There is a Drug and Alcohol Policy/Prevention Program webpage on the WCC website.	114 95%	0 0%	6 5%
There are resources at WCC to assist students who are having problems with drug and alcohol abuse.	115 96%	0 0%	5 4%
Possessing, selling, or distributing alcohol and illegal drugs on campus is a violation of the WCC Drug and Alcohol Policy.	120 100%	0 0%	0 0%
There are significant health risks associated with drug and alcohol abuse.	120 100%	0 0%	0 0%

Drug and Alcohol Incidence Rate

Employee and student violations of the WCC Drug and Alcohol Policy, as well as the Tobacco-Free Policy, were reported by Scott Johnson, Dean of Student Services, and Sherry Cox, Executive Director of Human Resources. These violations were reported across Wilkes, Ashe, and Alleghany locations.

WCC Chief of Police, Earl Byrd, reported drug and alcohol law violations for the Wilkes, Ashe, and Alleghany locations.

	2023	2024
Student Drug and Alcohol Violations	1	5
Student Tobacco Violations	0	0
Employee Drug and Alcohol Violations	0	0
Employee Tobacco Violations	0	0
Drug and Alcohol Law Violations	1	4

Drug and Alcohol Law Violations, as reported by Earl Byrd, WCC Chief of Police:

Incident Date	Case Number	Violations
08-21-23	2308002	Drugs – Under the Influence Larceny
01-24-24	24-WCC-0001	Drugs – Possession Drug Paraphernalia
02-19-24	24-WCC-0005	Intoxicated Person
11-19-24	24-WCC-0043	Drugs – Possession
12-10-24	24-WCC-0047	Drugs – Accidental Overdose Drugs Violation

Student Violations, as reported by Scott Johnson, Dean of Student Services:

Incident Date	Violations	Sanction(s)
8-26-23	Drugs – Under the Influence Communicating Threats Theft	Expulsion
1-24-24	Drugs – Possession	Probation
3-19-24	Drugs – Possession Drugs – Use Drugs – Under the Influence	Probation
11-19-24	Drugs – Possession	Probation
12-10-24	Drugs – Under the Influence Drugs – Use	Restrictive Probation
12-10-24	Drugs – Possession Drugs – Under the Influence Drugs – Use Drugs – Distribution	Restrictive Probation

SWOT Analysis

Strengths

- Student awareness of the Drug and Alcohol Policy/Prevention Program and resources is high.
- Multiple methods are used to communicate the Drug and Alcohol Policy to employees and students.
- The college offers an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), providing free sessions for employees to the provider of their choice.
- The Drug and Alcohol Policy/Prevention page that is part of the college website.

Weaknesses

- Marketing of drug and alcohol prevention programs could be increased.
- Students may not read the email sent each fall and spring semester.
- Student participation in orientation is not required, though the materials and a recording are available.
- On campus student numbers are still low compared to pre-COVID numbers, thus limiting student engagement for campus drug and alcohol prevention activities.

Opportunities

- Increase awareness of on-campus resources.
- Work with ACA courses to provide drug and alcohol prevention and resource information at the start of new semesters.

Threats

- Student participation in face-to-face counseling sessions and interest in seated programming remains limited; therefore, many of the DAPP events are walk-through events.
- Increase in student violations of the Drug and Alcohol Policy compared to the previous Biennial Report.

Summary and Recommendations

Summary

WCC has adopted and implemented a Drug and Alcohol Policy/ Prevention Program per the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989, Public Law 101-226. The purpose of this program is to prevent the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on campus and support the health and well-being of the campus community members.

The college provides annual notification of the Drug and Alcohol and Tobacco-Free Policies and Prevention Program throughout the academic year and holds those in violation of these policies accountable. The Biennial Review summarizes the college's efforts in meeting federal requirements related to the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. The Biennial Review also provides recommendations for improvement for the upcoming two years.

Recommendations

1. Enhance Counselor Involvement in ACA courses.

Increase the presence of counselors in ACA courses to promote drug and alcohol prevention and awareness, as well as to educate students on Wilkes Community College's drug and alcohol policies. Provide both in-person and online delivery options to ensure accessibility to all students.

2. Develop Interactive Programming

Design and implement more interactive drug and alcohol prevention programs to improve student engagement. For example, promoting a "Jeopardy" style game workshop that instructors can request through the *Don't Cancel That Class* scheduling app on the *Insider*.

3. Expand Marketing Efforts


Increase promotion of drug and alcohol prevention programming through the usage of social media, digital signage, and printed materials, across all campuses.

4. Engage Student Organizations

Partner with student organizations to support and promote student club-sponsored drug and alcohol prevention events, thus increasing peer involvement and leadership in prevention efforts.


Appendices

Appendix A: Sample Email, Annual Notification to Employees from Human Resources

 Outlook

Drug and Alcohol Policy Information

From Sherry Cox <spcox072@wilkescc.edu>
Date Fri 1/17/2025 8:10 AM
To Employees <employees@wilkescc.edu>

 1 attachment (744 KB)
 Colonial EAP Brochure.pdf

Dear Employees,

We hope that your spring semester is off to a great start!

By federal law, the Department of Education requires Wilkes Community College to distribute the Drug and Alcohol and Tobacco-Free Policies information to all students and employees each semester. WCC enforces these policies and maintains a Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program. In the past few years, the policies have been amended to ban all smokeless tobacco products, flavored dips, hookah products, vaping products, and similar biohazardous products.

All students and employees are responsible for reviewing and complying with each policy, which can be found under the Student Resources > Policies and Procedures > Policies and Procedures Manual links on the college website (<https://www.wilkescc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/Policies-and-Procedures-Manual-Updated-5-22-24.pdf>). You will find drug and alcohol and tobacco-free related policies in sections: 2.1.7, 2.2.1, 2.2.5, 3.4.4 and 5.3.5.

The WCC Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program consists of free, confidential assessments in Student Services by licensed counselors and referrals to appropriate treatment resources. Drug and alcohol prevention events are offered throughout the year--track your student email, campus events, and the Student Activities Newsletter for opportunities to participate and win prizes.

For employees, the college maintains an Employee Assistance Program (EAP), which can authorize three complementary treatment sessions with a community provider. Additional sessions are available now through June 30th via a mental health grant from the state. In addition to our community provider, the college has a partnership with Colonial Life (refer to the attached flyer). For further information about the EAP program, contact Sherry Cox, the Executive Director of Human Resources, at 336-838-6422 or spcox072@wilkescc.edu.

The college has walking trails, student commons, a gymnasium, wellness centers, and year-round student activities that are drug and alcohol-free and promote wellness. In addition, WCC offers educational workshops, counseling sessions, and activities that emphasize stress management and mental wellness for all WCC campuses.

If you have questions concerning the policies or events, please contact the Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coordinator in Student Services at 336-838-6229.

Amber Cook, MSW
 Counselor, Student Services
 Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coordinator
 336-838-6147
alcook636@wilkescc.edu

Thank you!

Appendix B: Sample Email, Annual Notification to Students from Student Services

Outlook

Spring Semester-Drug and Alcohol Policy

From WCC Student Activities <studentactivities@wilkescc.edu>

Date Fri 1/17/2025 10:21 AM

Dear Students,

We hope that your spring semester is off to a great start!

By federal law, the Department of Education requires Wilkes Community College to distribute the Drug and Alcohol and Tobacco-Free Policies information to all students and employees each semester. WCC enforces these policies and maintains a Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program. In the past few years, the policies have been amended to ban all smokeless tobacco products, flavored dips, hookah products, vaping products, and similar biohazardous products.

All students, faculty, and staff are responsible for reviewing and complying with each policy, which can be found under the Student Resources > Policies and Procedures > Policies and Procedures Manual links on the college website (<https://www.wilkescc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Policies-and-Procedures-Manual-Updated-8-27-24.pdf>). You will find drug and alcohol and tobacco-free related policies in sections: 2.1.7, 2.2.1, 2.2.5, 3.4.4 and 5.3.5.

The WCC Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program consists of free, confidential assessments in Student Services by licensed counselors and referrals to appropriate treatment resources.

Drug and alcohol prevention events are offered throughout the year--track your student email, campus events, and the Student Activities Newsletter for opportunities to participate and win prizes.

The college has walking trails, student commons, a gymnasium, wellness centers, and year-round student activities that are drug and alcohol-free and promote wellness. In addition, WCC offers educational workshops, counseling sessions, and activities that emphasize stress management and mental wellness for all WCC campuses.

If you have questions concerning the policies or events, please contact the Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coordinator in Student Services at 336-838-6229.

Amber Cook, MSW, LCSWA
Counselor, Student Services
Drug and Alcohol Prevention Coordinator
336-838-6147
alcook636@wilkescc.edu

Appendix C: 2023 Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programming and Events

For the 2023 calendar year, the WCC Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAPP) featured diverse activities and programs. Vickie Bell, Clinical Education Coordinator of WCC's Respiratory Therapy Program, continued to pair with WCC DAPP and offer vaping education events in the community. Details on all programming can be found in the table below.

January 2023-December 2023 Events			
DATE	TITLE	LOCATION/AUDIENCE	PARTICIPATION/ ATTENDANCE
January 26	WCC DAP Information	Policy distributed via email to all employees by Sherry Cox	Emailed to all employees
January 27	WCC DAP Information	Policy distributed via email to all students by Student Life Coordinator	Emailed to all students
February 1 - 10	Sobriety Bowl	All students invited to participate	127
February 13	Vaping	Wilkesboro Elementary 5 th graders	68
February 16	Recovery Friendly Workplace	Thompson Hall – open to all employees	6
February 23	Boundaries Workshop	Thompson Hall	8
February 27	Making Friends with Anxiety	Thompson Hall	24
September 9	WCC DAP Information	Policy distributed via email to all students by Student Activities Coordinator	Emailed to all students
September 13	WCC DAP Information	Policy distributed via email to all employees by Sherry Cox	Emailed to all employees
October 3	Vaping Education	Mountain View Elementary School 5th graders	75
November 6	D & A Press Your Luck	Wilkes Early College Students	100

Appendix D: 2024 Drug and Alcohol Prevention Programming and Events

For the 2024 calendar year, the WCC Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention Program (DAPP) featured diverse activities and programs. Sarah Chambers, Clinical Education Coordinator of WCC's Respiratory Therapy Program, continued to provide vaping education in the community. Details on all programing can be found in the table below.

January 2024-December 2024 Events			
DATE	TITLE	LOCATION/AUDIENCE	PARTICIPATION/ATTENDANCE
January 31 - February 6	Sobriety Bowl	All students were invited to participate. Alleghany, Ashe, Herring, Daniel, and Window World Locations.	317
March 6	D & A Walk the Line with Wilkesboro PD	Wilkes Early College Students	60
4/3/24	Vaping Education	CB Eller Elementary School 5th Graders	37
8/8/24	Orientation Resource Fair	Fall 2024 New Student Orientation	57
8/13/24	Orientation Resource Fair	Fall 2024 New Student Orientation	53
9/5/24	WCC DAP Information	Policy distributed via email to all employees by Sherry Cox	Emailed to all employees
9/16/24	WCC DAP Information	Policy distributed via email to all students by Student Life Coordinator	Emailed to all students
8/18/24	ACA Event- Counseling Services Table Event	Students enrolled in ACA courses	Approx. 150
9/24/24	Recovery and Wellness	Ashe County Campus, ACA Course	4
10/8/24	Vaping Education	Mountain View Elementary School 5 th Graders	75
10/30/24	Impaired Driving Cart/Drug and Alcohol Awareness	Wilkes Campus, all students invited	66
11/15/24	Vaping Education	CB Eller Elementary School 5 th Graders	37
11/20/24	Counseling Services Presentation	ACA 115	16
11/26/24	Counseling Services Presentation	ACA 115	16

