

CALL TO ACTION

Based on our report findings, we divided up our calls to action into two categories: statewide efforts and institutional efforts.

State-wide Actions

- Establish a statewide collaborative that provides technical assistance support to institutions of higher education to address their alcohol issues and to identify state and national resources that can assist with prevention and intervention efforts.
- Provide support to increase the number of alcohol professionals in institutions of higher education.
- Increase access for collegiate professionals to adequate professional development and training resources (i.e., evidence-based prevention frameworks, screenings, motivational interviewing, external capacity building, etc.).
- Create a uniform alcohol assessment for institutions of higher education.
- Expand definition of youth from 18 to 24, as established by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and reflect the new definition in statewide funding streams.
- Expand existing funding streams to include institutions of higher education applicants.
- Support collegiate programmatic (AOD prevention, intervention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery) costs in existing and future funding announcements.

Institutional Actions

- Designate a full-time, professional to address campus alcohol efforts.
- Commit adequate funding for alcohol prevention and intervention programs, practices, and strategies.
- Establish and utilize internal alcohol taskforces and coalitions. This group should communicate regularly with campus leadership and report the use of evidenced based practices to address high risk drinking and its consequences.
- Establish and utilize external alcohol taskforces and coalitions to nurture town-gown or campus community relationships to discuss alcohol use, problem behaviors, and successful efforts to address community and campus issues.
- Diversify stakeholder representation on internal and external alcohol task forces and coalitions to include representation from (but not limited to): academic affairs, health services, student services, presidents' office, campus police, athletic department, and any other department they may be a touch point on campus.
- Improve the collection of student health data from student health centers and community hospitals.
- Establish protocol for identifying students, not just high-risk students, that need screening of potential alcohol use disorders or problem drinking habits.

- Increase availability of universal screening services, such as Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), for students with all levels of risk.
- Increase use of evidenced based interventions focused on both the individual student and the environmental factors that contribute to heavy alcohol consumption, looking to resources, such as the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism.
- Expand faculty and parent involvement in alcohol prevention and intervention efforts.
- Incorporate more evidence-based sanctions for alcohol-related conduct issues.
- Consider establishing and incorporating recovery supports as part of campus prevention efforts, such as Stop the Addiction Fatality Epidemic Project's Bridging Prevention and Recovery Program. Because recovery supports take time to build and students who may benefit from them may be slow to seek them out, identifying best practices from successful recovery organizations, such as Association of Recovery in Higher Education is important to implementation and sustainability.
- Expand exploration of external, alcohol funding sources such as strengthening the relationship with campus Grants and Sponsored Programs Office to identify external funding sources.
- Conduct routine measure of student alcohol knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors.
- Compare local, collegiate alcohol data with state and national normative findings through a systematic data collection process to compare year to year changes.
- Share comprehensive data with administrators to expand the traditional reliance on a single data source as a measure of student alcohol concerns.
- Reconsider alcohol industry campus sponsorships due to the known connection between advertising and increased alcohol consumption.
- Create a comprehensive strategy for communicating (to students & parents) and internally evaluating alcohol related policies (i.e., Medical Amnesty, Good Samaritan, etc.).
- Connect with and utilize community alcohol-focused organizations (i.e., single-county authorities, community coalitions, and overdose prevention task forces) for research, funding, and training supports.

