Southern Oklahoma Technology Center, as an educational and public service institution, is dedicated to providing a productive and secure environment for its students, employees, and visitors. The health, safety and welfare of all individuals on campus property and at sponsored activities are a vital concern. Recognizing that the influence and abuse of alcohol, drugs and controlled substances can lead to harmful and serious consequences, SOTC is committed to a program of prevention, assistance and discipline in a good faith effort to maintain an alcohol and drug free environment for students, employees and visitors.

Every student and employee is required to abide by District Policies as a condition of initial and continued enrollment and employment. This includes District Policies pertaining or related to Drugs and/or Alcohol. These policies can be located at www.sotc.edu/pages/policies-and-plans (on the SOTC website, click on Information Center, then Administration, then Policies and Plans. Every student and employee will be supplied an initial and an annual written distribution of the program through a common method available to each.

Standards of Conduct
The unlawful influence, use, possession, manufacture, distribution or dispensing of illicit drugs, controlled substances and alcoholic beverages by students and employees on campus property or at any of its activities on or off campus is expressly forbidden (except as prescribed or permitted by a qualified person, such as a physician, etc., permitted to administer controlled substances to treat an individual's physical or mental condition). Adherence to this policy is a condition of enrollment and employment. Continuing enrollment or employment following receipt of this policy constitutes acceptance of this policy by each student and employee.

Legal Sanctions
SOTC supports The Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-690) and The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1989 (Public Law 101-226). Federal, State and local laws provide for legal sanctions, including incarceration and monetary fines, for drug, substance abuse and alcohol violations. The Federal Uniform Controlled Substance Act sets penalties for violators with imprisonment from 5 to 40 years and/or monetary fines of $250,000 to $10,000,000. Under Oklahoma Law conviction of drug violations is a felony with imprisonment up to 20 years and fines up to $100,000. Driving while intoxicated or impaired in Oklahoma can result in incarceration, fines and suspension or revocation of driving privileges. City and County laws are similar and can include violations and punishment by more than one authority.

Health and Other Risks
The use and abuse of illegal drugs, substances and alcohol can result in detrimental threats and consequences to the health, welfare and life and individuals and others around them. Risks include behavior changes, impairment of concentration, memory and judgment, distortion of reality, lack of motivation and coordination, accidents and injuries, aggressive and violent behaviors and acts, and physiological or psychological damage or dependence. More specifically drug and alcohol use and abuse can cause heart and respiratory failure, liver and nerve damage, depression, insomnia, cancer, seizures, coma and death. Other damaging risks include loss of student financial aid, repayment of Federal aid received, expulsion from school, termination of employment, criminal record, loss of career and professional opportunities, and forfeitures of licenses, possessions or property.
Example list includes but is not limited to:
Alcohol (beer, wine, hard liquor) causes mental impairment and physical damage.
Amphetamines (speed, uppers, crank) are stimulants which speed up the nervous system.
Barbiturates (downers, Quaaludes, valium) are depressants which slow the nervous system.
Cocaine (crack) over stimulates the nervous system.
Hallucinogens (PCP, angel dust, LSD) interrupt brain function and control.
Cannabis (marijuana, hashish, hash) impairs brain function and causes cancer.
Narcotics (heroin, morphine, Demerol, Percodan) produce euphoric feelings followed by malaise.

Assistance Programs
Students and employees are provided with access to counseling services and assistance programs, whether voluntary or referred, for assessment, intervention, counseling and education of drug and alcohol use and abuse. Volunteer participation in these services is confidential and will not alone result in disciplinary action. Individual privacy will be maintained in any counseling rehabilitation process.

Sources of assistance and services for counseling include:
Human Resources Employee Assistance – Contact Jolene Martin, 580-224-8275
Student Services Student Counseling – Contact Dianna Fisher, 580-224-8263
National Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hotline - 1-800-234-0420
National Council on Alcoholism (24 hours a day) - 1-800-622-2255
Alcoholics Anonymous, local chapter - 580-223-1883, 935 Grand Ave., Ardmore, OK
Ardmore Alcohol and Drug Assessment Center - 580-490-3371, 117 W. Broadway, Ardmore, OK
Mental Health Services of So. Oklahoma - 580-223-5636, 2530 S. Commerce, Ardmore, OK
Oklahoma Families First, Inc. - 580-226-9388, 1301 Kiowa Street, Ardmore, OK

School Sanctions
SOTC will impose disciplinary sanctions on students and employees (consistent with local, State and Federal laws) up to and including expulsion of enrollment or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the Standards of Conduct required by this Prevention Program and District Policies. It is within the discretion of SOTC to refer any violations to the appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. Compliance, violations and disciplinary actions are outlined in the District’s policies and sanctions may include, but are not limited to, reprimand, conduct probation, suspension, disciplinary leave, completion of a rehabilitative program, expulsion or termination. Students and employees are required to notify the Superintendent or his designee of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring on or on the premises of this District or while engaged in school activities or employment on or off campus no later than 5 days after conviction.

Review
SOTC will review its Alcohol and Drug Prevention Program at least bi-annually to determine the effectiveness of the program, to implement any changes needed, and to ensure that its disciplinary sanctions are consistently enforced.

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 34, Part 86, Subpart B, ss86.100