



## Budget Request Form FY2017

*Department should complete one form for each individual request*

**Department:** Offices of the Dean of Student Life (ODSL)

**Program, Service, or Operation Requested**

*Student Development Specialist II – Health Promotion (HP)*

SAFAB Use Only	
YES	NO

**General Description:**

The position would serve to coordinate, facilitate and evaluate alcohol and other drug (AOD) education for students. Evaluation of our AOD education includes participating in the Biennial Review process that is federally mandated by the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. This position would also provide educational presentations and programs to students, student organizations, academic classes and any other requested format to share the important messages associated with alcohol and other drug prevention education. Students who participate in the University’s Student Conduct process for alcohol and drug violations are typically sanctioned with AOD education and this position would assist with implementation of those programs/workshops as well.

**Request Type:**     Full     Increase     One-Time     Partial/Matching

**Type of Funds Requested**     UAF     Other

**General Questions:**

***Why is this important to your department? How does this increase impact students, and what motivated this request?***

Health Promotion routinely sees a number of students through sanctioned workshops, one-on-one visits, programming, and AOD related interventions. Since September 2014, HP has seen over 300 students in Alcohol Education Workshops (AEW), Drug Education Workshops (DEW), and the Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention of College Students (BASICS) program. The federal government has received increased pressure to enforce The Drug Free Schools and Communities Act following recent enforcement of Title IX and Clery Act requirements. Campus safety advocates are calling for “Clery-like enforcement” and cite alcohol as the “premier underlying campus-safety challenge,” including a major factor in physical and sexual assault (Lipka, 2012). This act requires that institutions receiving federal funding establish drug and alcohol abuse prevention programs for students and employees, as well as complete a Biennial Review of the program subject to audit.

Campus safety experts suggest colleges and universities should be proactive in their efforts and should not wait for a major tragedy to occur. As part of this responsibility, this position will help meet this federal requirement and maintain compliance, while assisting in the University's efforts to provide for a safer community for our students.

***Is it part of your strategic plan? What will be the impact if it is not funded?***

This initiative is in line with several purpose statements in the ODSL strategic plan:

- Providing space and **resources** for individual student populations.
- Providing **programs and services for students** at any time during their university experience.
- **Equipping students with knowledge and skills to make responsible decisions.**
- Producing and distributing specialized **publications.**
- Providing **individualized assistance and support for students** and families in times of need.
- **Collaborating and consulting with faculty/staff** to address student issues.
- Establishing and maintaining **relationships with internal and external stakeholders.**

This position was lost in the sweep of vacant positions this past academic year. The challenges associated with providing an AOD prevention education program, coupled with other health education initiatives, at an institution the size of TAMU are significant. To lose a position in this area has significantly impacted the quantity and quality of prevention education we can do as we are becoming more reactive and less proactive with our efforts.

***How do other sources of funding (fundraising, sponsorship, reserves, etc.) been considered? Please explain.***

We are unaware of other sources of funding that could be applied to this position and the work it performs.

***What sort of input did you receive (student, faculty, staff, other) to determine this need?***

Research: Alcohol and drugs have a significant effect on attrition. The research shows that alcohol consumption has a negative predictive effect on GPA under all definitions of drinking (binge, frequent binge, drunkenness) (Woolaver, 2002). Additionally, according to the National Institutes of Health, the first 6 weeks of freshman year is an especially vulnerable time for heavy drinking and alcohol-related consequences because of student expectations and social pressure at the start of the academic year. Health Promotion's beginning-of-the school year efforts are critical to influencing responsible drinking behaviors among the students of Texas A&M.

Additionally, 63% of students who have been through the Student Conduct process and subsequently receive sanctions state that the AEWs and DEWs have provided the most significant learning, which includes education they may have received through the courts. The capacity to continue to provide impactful, educational, and effective learning opportunities requires intentional and focused staff time.

***What actions have you implemented internally to address the identified need?***

We have used current ODSL funding and human resources to address the needs. As recently as this past year, we cross-trained ODSL staff from other units (e.g., New Student & Family Programs, Women's Resource Center, Student Assistance Services) to facilitate AEWs and BASICS in order to keep up with the demand. We

attempted to balance workloads across all areas but this will become more challenging given the changing and expanding needs of our growing student population.

**Generally, what assessment tools will you use to evaluate this program/service?**

We will consider various forms of program assessment for the various populations that receive the prevention education and services.

Annual performance evaluations.

**Funding Description:**

			Dollar Amount
<b>Total Estimated Cost</b>			
Student Development Specialist II (w/benefits)			\$50,400
<i>Less Estimated Partial/Matching Funds (if applicable)</i>			
<b>TOTAL UAF INCREASE REQUEST</b>			<b>\$50,400.00</b>

SAFAB Comments/Notes: