



Office of the President

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TO: Eastern Wyoming College Student Families
FROM: Dr. Jeffry Hawes, President
DATE: January 15, 2025
RE: Alcohol Use and Abuse / Campus Security Information

Dear EWC Student Families,

We are thrilled to welcome your student to Eastern Wyoming College for the upcoming semester. Thank you for choosing EWC as a part of their educational journey. We are proud of our programs and dedicated to ensuring that your student's college experience is meaningful and supports their personal, educational, and career goals.

While we work hard to provide students with a high-quality learning environment, your partnership is essential to help them succeed. We encourage you to have open discussions with your student about two critical topics they may encounter during their college experience: alcohol use and personal safety.

Alcohol Use and Abuse

Harmful and underage drinking is often perceived as a typical part of the college experience, but it can have significant negative consequences. Many students arrive at college with established drinking habits, and the environment can sometimes exacerbate these behaviors. According to the 2023 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

- Approximately half of full-time college students aged 18 to 25 reported consuming alcohol in the past month.
- Nearly one-third of those students engaged in binge drinking during the same period.
- One in four college students has experienced academic consequences from drinking, such as missing classes, falling behind, and receiving lower grades.

Research shows that parental influence plays a vital role in helping students make responsible choices about alcohol. Students who choose not to drink often cite conversations with their parents about alcohol use and its potential consequences as a significant factor in their decision. For additional information on prevention and intervention strategies, please visit the CollegeAIM resource at www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/CollegeAIM.

A safe and supportive campus environment is fostered through a combination of individual and community efforts. Strong leadership, campus involvement, and parent engagement can significantly reduce harmful behaviors associated with alcohol use.

Campus Safety and Security

The safety and security of our students is a top priority at Eastern Wyoming College. In compliance with federal law, we provide comprehensive information about campus crime statistics to students, employees, and prospective families. You can access EWC's crime statistics on our website by clicking the "Consumer Information" link at the bottom of the homepage or by visiting <http://ewc.wy.edu/consumer-information/>.

We encourage you to talk with your student about practical ways to stay safe while at college. Open communication and awareness are key to ensuring their well-being.

Thank you for entrusting us with your student's education and for supporting their success at Eastern Wyoming College. If you have any questions about campus safety or other concerns, please feel free to contact me at (307) 532-8303.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jeffrey Hawes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Jeffrey Hawes

President

Eastern Wyoming College