The Office of Alcohol & Other Drug Services (AODS) is a multidimensional resource for students, and for faculty, staff, and members of the larger Harvard University community who may have concerns about students. AODS offers a wide range of programs and services aimed at reducing the negative consequences associated with heavy, episodic drinking and substance abuse through prevention, education, intervention, policy development and coordination with treatment providers.

Staff members collaborate with students and staff throughout the University to create a comprehensive substance abuse prevention program focused on the health and safety of Harvard students.

Mission Statement

Additional Programs

- Alcohol & Other Drug Resource Library
  Located at 7 Linden Street, 2nd Floor
- Brief Alcohol Screening & Intervention for College Students (BASICS)
  BASICS is a two-session assessment with a certified BASICS Provider. A comprehensive personalized feedback profile is developed for the student, which features comparisons to campus norms and student goals.
- Marijuana eCHECKUP TO GO®
  The eCHECKUP TO GO is a marijuana-specific brief assessment and feedback tool designed to reduce marijuana use among college students. The assessment takes about 10-15 minutes to complete and is self-guided.
- National Alcohol Screening Day®

To learn more about these services, visit aods.harvard.edu.

AODS Staff

Ryan Travia, M.Ed., Director
rtravia@huhs.harvard.edu • (617) 496-0133

Mary E. Sullivan, M.A., Program Coordinator
msullivan@huhs.harvard.edu • (617) 496-0135

Michelle Mandino, L.C.S.W., Prevention Specialist
mmandino@huhs.harvard.edu • (617) 495-2538

Shannon Keating, B.A., Staff Assistant
skeating@huhs.harvard.edu • (617) 496-0134
Drug & Alcohol Peer Advisors (DAPA)

DAPA are a select group of student-leaders who serve as peer educators and ambassadors for AODS. DAPAs are trained to respond to questions about alcohol and other drug issues at Harvard. They use their knowledge to host educational and social events, supply party grants and create community partnerships. For more information about the DAPA program, visit harvarddapa.org.

DAPA Recruitment

Students seeking fun and rewarding ways to become involved on campus should consider applying to be a Drug & Alcohol Peer Advisor (DAPA). DAPA is a diverse group of students seeking student leaders from all concentrations, affiliations and backgrounds. For more information, visit harvarddapa.org or email dapa.recruiting@gmail.com.

DAPA Grants

DAPA Grants funds substantial food for registered on-campus parties, whether or not alcohol will be at the party. In addition to funding, recipients are given a DAPA party kit, which may include a case of bottled water, cups, plates and napkins. For current DAPA Grants instructions, funding guidelines, party tips, and more, visit harvarddapa.org/grants.

Programs for Students & Groups

Individual Consultations

AODS offers free and confidential consultations by appointment for Harvard students. Consultations provide an opportunity to explore the nature of one’s relationship with alcohol or other drugs through brief screening and assessment for substance abuse patterns, as well as personalized feedback and recommendations for follow-up care.

Alcohol Communication & Education Skills (ACES)

Alcohol Communication & Education Skills (ACES) is an interactive training module focused on the physiology of alcohol use, risk and protective factors, best practices for bystander intervention, Harvard policies on alcohol and drug use, and how to make a referral to AODS. This program is designed to empower professional staff and students alike to initiate effective conversations about harm-reduction practices. The curriculum can be structured to meet the unique needs of diverse student groups or teams.

Bystander Intervention Training (BIT)

Offered as a joint initiative by AODS and the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention & Response (OSAPR), Bystander Intervention Training (BIT) is designed to facilitate in-depth discussions about the intersection of alcohol use and sexual assault on Harvard’s campus. Based upon social science research, BIT provides concrete information, resources and skills to Harvard students designed to prevent harm from alcohol use, sexual assault or violence. Each BIT is tailored to address the unique culture of student groups, teams or clubs to promote health, safety and proactive decision-making.

“AODS offers comprehensive programs focused on the health and safety of Harvard students.”

Circle of Leadership

The Circle of Leadership is a 90-minute leadership development exercise designed to evoke and assess personality styles and interpersonal dynamics within groups, teams or clubs.

Based on the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI), social and behavioral psychology, and the rich traditions of the Navajo medicine wheel, this training is a fun and interactive way to facilitate group members’ understanding of how personality characteristics can drive certain behaviors, with a particular focus on the unique social environment and culture of alcohol at Harvard. The discussion highlights ways to maximize effective communication, set expectations, and achieve goals as a group.