

Dear Parents and Family of Incoming Students,

As a University, the safety, health, and well-being of our students are our top priorities. We foster a caring, respectful and safe environment that supports students in making informed and healthy decisions. In this time of stress and transition resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, we are deeply committed to fostering the best possible outcomes for our students. In this letter, we call your attention to a **student requirement** and **resources for parents and families** concerning two issues that we are committed to preventing – with your help – because of their ability to interfere with student success: substance misuse and sexual violence. Our prevention efforts in these areas are even more important given the emotional, social, and financial disruptions surrounding the pandemic. These can take a toll on students' well-being, leading to concerns about increasing rates of mental health issues, substance use disorders and domestic violence.

Research shows that even under 'normal' conditions, excessive drinking or drug use is linked to difficulties with transitioning to college and diminished academic performance, relationships, health and quality of life. Sexual violence is a serious problem in the U.S. and has no place in our learning community. While alcohol and other drugs do not cause violence, these issues are closely linked. Learning and working on these issues together will contribute to a safer and supportive community.

An alcohol and other drug education course is required of new students under the age of 21. A sexual assault prevention course is required of all new students. The programs focus on: making informed and responsible decisions about substance use; understanding consent and sexual violence; engaging in healthy relationships; knowing how to assist someone who needs help; and utilizing campus resources on these topics. We will communicate directly with your student regarding the instructions they need to complete the course(s).

Research shows that family members have a powerful influence on the attitudes and behaviors of their college students. To that end, we encourage you to use the resources described on the next page to support conversations with your student around these critical health and wellness topics. Together, we can help ensure your student's success at UWM and into the future. If you have questions about the programming UWM offers, please feel free to contact us by emailing aodresources@uwm.edu.

Sincerely,

Julie Bonner, MD Campus Health Officer

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Susan Cushman, MPH, CHES Alcohol & Other Drug Coordinator Health Promotion & Wellness

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Resources for Parents and Family Members of UWM Students

Please visit www.everfi.com/higheredparents to access resources pertaining to substance abuse and sexual assault prevention. The website includes important information, such as:

- Tips on talking to your student about alcohol
- Warning signs of an alcohol problem
- Tips on talking to your student about healthy and unhealthy relationships
- Ways to support survivors of sexual assault and relationship violence
- Links to additional resources

To view the alcohol course that students will complete, please follow these instructions.

Note: Students should *not* use these instructions.

Students should refer to their STUDENT instructions, which will be sent to their UWM email.

Parent Instructions:

- 1. Go to www.3rdmil.com/signup
- 2. Enter your control number as UWMILPNT
- 3. Click continue and enroll in the course

Additional Information

You will not need a credit or debit card to enroll.

You will receive a password immediately on the screen and by email.

It takes about 90 minutes to complete the course. You can log in and out as needed.

You will receive an email 30 days after you complete the course reminding you to login and complete the 15-minute follow-up.

Upon completion of the course, you will receive a completion notification by email.

For technical support, contact 3rd Millennium Classrooms: 1-888-810-7990 or email info@3rdmil.com