

The Ohio State University Policy on Alcohol

- This policy applies to all OSU campuses.
- This policy relates to alcohol. Please refer to The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct for policy regarding other drugs.
http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/pdfs/csc_12-31-07.pdf

I. Philosophical Statement

The Ohio State University is a dynamic learning environment. Its students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests interact in a wide variety of intellectual and social activities that extend outside of the classroom. We value and promote an alcohol-free environment, but we recognize alcoholic beverages may be available at some of these campus activities. Such activities are consistent with the University's values when they foster moderation and safety in alcohol consumption.

The University prohibits the illegal use of alcohol and complies fully with federal, state and local regulations regarding the sale, possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages. All members of the University community are held responsible for their behavior and for respecting the rights of others. The University is committed to providing the community with education as it relates to the consumption of alcohol in general and in particular, as it relates to high risk alcohol use. We provide programs, support and resources that promote making health-enhancing experiences a priority.

II. Regulations Governing Alcoholic Beverages

A. University Alcohol Guidelines

1. The use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited on the premises of The Ohio State University unless:
 - a. written approval for a special event is obtained from the Office of Business and Finance, and specific guidelines for alcohol use are issued;
 - b. it occurs in University premises licensed to sell alcohol, such as the Faculty Club, Fawcett Center, OSU Golf Course, Ohio Union, Wexner Center for the Arts, Jerome Schottenstein Center, etc; or
 - c. special exception exists, such as for medical or research use, or as noted below.
2. When alcohol is present at an event, strict controls must be enforced in order to prevent underage drinking. These controls are consistent with state law and OSU Code of Student conduct.
 - a. Possession and consumption of alcohol in stadium parking areas are subject to state and local laws and regulations. Police and Liquor Control Agents may patrol these areas and enforce applicable laws.

- b. Alcoholic beverages may be served within designated areas of the Jerome Schottenstein Center under regulations II. A.; 1. a. or 1. b. No thermos bottles, coolers, bottles, cans, or other containers of any type may be brought into the Jerome Schottenstein Center, Ohio Stadium or other University athletic facilities.
- c. In the residence halls or graduate housing, students 21 years of age or older may possess and consume legal beverages in their rooms or suites, or in the rooms of other adults, in accordance with state and local laws and the alcohol policies of the University. The consumption of alcohol is prohibited in public or shared use areas of the residence halls, such as hall corridors, lounges, kitchens, and study rooms. Alcohol is prohibited at undergraduate group events within residence hall facilities.
- d. Funds allocated to student organizations from the Council on Student Affairs' Student Activity Fund or otherwise from the University may not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages. Funds collected through an organization's voluntary dues, donations, or fund-raising may be used to purchase alcoholic beverages if the purchase and use of those beverages is otherwise in accordance with this policy and the state and local laws.
- e. University units purchasing alcoholic beverages must comply with the University Expenditures Policy. Individual units may implement additional policies relating to the use and/or promotion of alcohol within their facilities that are otherwise in accordance with this policy and the state and local laws. University Expenditures policy can be found at: <http://www.ctlr.ohio-state.edu/webhelp/Expenditure/Alcohol.htm>

Please note that the following may help clarify specific alcohol guidelines:

- *If a student organization is on a university-related trip, the University has jurisdiction over our students. The OSU Code of Student Conduct and state and federal laws apply to OSU students.*
- *The Clery Act only applies to our campus; we do not have to notify other institutions if their students violate our policy and in turn if our students violate another institution's policy they do not have to notify OSU.*

B. Planning University Events That Involve Alcohol

1. If planning a University event that involves serving alcohol outside of a licensed premise, University approval must be obtained at least two weeks before the event.
2. If planning an event that involves serving alcohol where there will be charges for anything, such as for a reception, conference registration, food, etc., a permit from the Department of Liquor Control may be necessary, and this requires a significantly longer application process. These requests should be submitted at least four weeks before the event.
3. Alcohol approval requests must be made in writing to the Office of Legal Affairs via email to ASARRequests@admin.ohio-state.edu or fax to 292-8699. Forms are available on the

Office of Legal Affairs website at:

http://legal.osu.edu/pdf/alcohol_authorization.pdf

4. The Office of Legal Affairs will then forward the information on to the Office of Business and Finance, assist with completing the appropriate application if a state permit is necessary, and issue the final decision.
5. Individuals or organizations sponsoring events where alcoholic beverages are available must provide a safe and secure environment, and follow reasonable risk management procedures. In order to ensure that there is adequate security at the event, the University Police Special Events Coordinator must also be contacted at least three weeks before the event at 688-3211.
6. There should be a primary purpose for a gathering other than the availability of alcohol, and alcohol should not be used as an inducement to participate in a campus event.
7. Soft drinks or other alternative beverages such as punch, fruit drinks, and other non-alcoholic beverages should be available in the same location and be featured as prominently as the alcoholic beverages during the entire time alcoholic beverages are being served. Food and/or snacks should also be prominently displayed and available during the entire event.
8. No campus social event involving alcoholic beverages where alcohol is consumed as part of a competition, such as drinking games or chugging contests is allowed.

C. Promoting University Events That Involve Alcohol

1. The University does not approve advertising in its public spaces that directly promotes the use of alcohol or tobacco. This applies both to events and activities directly organized or sponsored by the University, as well as to events sponsored by others who may be leasing, renting, or using University facilities.
2.
 - a. Subject to administrative restrictions, events organized by non-university organizations on University premises may display the corporate names of alcohol-related sponsors, as long as the consumption of alcohol is not promoted.
 - b. Advertising should focus on the purpose or theme of the event, and not on the availability of alcohol in ways that imply drinking is the focus, such as a “beer blast,” “forty kegs,” or “all the beer you can drink.”
 - c. Promotional materials, including advertisements for college events, should not make reference to or include pictures of alcoholic beverages or the name of alcohol distributors.

D. Policy Violations

1. Any student, faculty member, or staff member found to be in violation of federal, state, and/or local law, or who violate the University's alcohol and other drug policies, are subject to University disciplinary procedures and/or referral to the appropriate authorities for legal prosecution. Campus disciplinary sanctions include, but are not limited to, written warnings, loss of privileges, probation, participation in an alcohol or other drug assistance or rehabilitation program, suspension, and/or dismissal. Sanctions may also apply to registered student organizations and to off-campus conduct.
2. If alcohol violations occur, the following systems may be utilized:
 - a. Students are subject to appropriate discipline by residence hall staff or by the Office of Student Judicial Affairs, as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct.
 - b. Faculty could be disciplined under Faculty Rule 3335-5-04.
 - c. Staff are subject to appropriate disciplinary actions described in the University's Human Resources policies.

III. Legal Requirements

Under federal, state, and local laws (see

<http://www.liquorcontrol.ohio.gov/drinkagelaw.pdf>), it is a *crime* to:

A. Underage Drinking

1. purchase, order, pay for, or share the cost of alcohol if you are under 21.
2. possess alcohol if you are under 21.
3. consume alcohol if you are under 21, *unless it is provided by and consumed in the presence of your parent, legal guardian, or adult spouse.*
4. sell alcohol to, buy alcohol for, or furnish alcohol to anyone under 21 – even in your own home, apartment, or residence hall room.
5. allow anyone under 21 to remain in your home, apartment, or residence hall room, or in other property that you own or occupy, while possessing or consuming alcohol.

B. False Identification

1. show or give false information about your name, age, or other identification to purchase or obtain alcohol if you are under 21.
2. provide false information about the name, age or other identification of another person under 21 to purchase or obtain alcohol for that person.

C. Open Containers

1. have an open container of alcohol in your possession in any unlicensed public place.
2. have an open container of alcohol in your possession while driving or riding in or on a motor vehicle.
3. have an open container of alcohol in your possession while in or on a motor vehicle that is parked in or on a highway, street, or other place open to the public for parking.

An "open container" is any holder or receptacle that allows access to alcohol, including any bottle, can, or similar container on which the original seal has been broken. A bottle must be recorked by the permit holder. Any open containers must be transported in the trunk or

behind the last seat of a vehicle. Open containers are not allowed at any OSU tailgating events.

D. Transportation

1. consume alcohol while in a motor vehicle.
2. drive while under the influence of alcohol.

If you are under 21, you are considered to be driving under the influence if your blood alcohol level is .02 or higher and 0.08 at age 21. Refusing an alcohol test results in an immediate administrative license suspension.

3. you are in physical control of a vehicle.

“Physical control” means being in the driver’s position of the front seat of a vehicle and having possession of the vehicle’s ignition key or other ignition device.

E. Disorderly Conduct

1. engage in conduct that offends, inconveniences, annoys, or alarms others or that poses a risk of physical harm to yourself, to others, or to property while you are voluntarily intoxicated.

F. Alcohol Sales

1. hold an event where alcohol is sold, or an event where alcohol is provided without charge but there is an entrance fee, cover charge, or other fee, without an appropriate permit.

Information on how to obtain a temporary liquor permit is available from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control by phone at 644-2431 and on the web at

<http://www.ohio.gov/com/liquor/liquor2i.htm>. You must also have permission to serve alcohol on campus from <http://legal.osu.edu/legaltopics.php>.

Violation of these laws may also be a violation of Ohio State’s Code of Student Conduct and could result in civil liability. It should also be noted that the university's expectations for appropriate behavior are higher than those under the law.

This information is provided as a general summary of the major applicable laws. Please keep in mind that laws frequently are amended and reinterpreted, that the application of law to specific situations generally requires an analysis of all of the facts and circumstances, and that this information therefore should not be substituted for specific legal advice.

Last updated October, 2008.

If you are charged with a crime it is a good idea to seek advice of an attorney. Such representation is not permitted for Student Judiciary Processes. Updates to these laws are

generally reflected on the websites mentioned here, but you are ultimately responsible for knowing the laws. This information should not be substituted for specific legal advice.

Ohio State's Code of Student Conduct is a campus behavior and safety standard that may result in sanctions, educational outcomes or penalties that are independent of any criminal considerations.

IV. Prevention and Assistance

Students are affected by alcohol abuse in a variety of ways, and it can significantly interfere with the mission of this University. Alcohol affects the health and safety of students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors, and is very costly in relationship to campus crime and interference with the learning environment. The Ohio State University is committed to providing a safe, healthy learning community.

A. Health Effects of Alcohol

1. Chronic heavy drinking increases the risk of degenerative diseases, such as liver cirrhosis (damage to liver cells), pancreatitis (inflammation of the pancreas), and cancer (liver, mouth, throat, larynx and esophagus).
2. Some consequences of chronic heavy drinking include vitamin deficiencies, stomach ailments, digestive problems, skin problems, sexual impotence, obesity, central nervous system damage, memory loss, physical dependence, and psychological disorders.
3. Intoxication increases the risk of death from automobile crashes, the leading cause of death of college-aged people. It increases injuries during recreation and work; and a higher likelihood of homicide and suicide.
4. Drinking alcohol during pregnancy causes fetal alcohol syndrome, the most common preventable birth defect today.
5. Alcohol abuse is associated with violent behavior and may lead to inappropriate risk taking to the point of severe injury or death, unplanned pregnancies, and sexually transmitted diseases.
6. Recent studies show that alcohol consumption has the potential to trigger long term biological changes that may have detrimental effects on the developing adolescent brain, including neurocognitive impairment.
7. Moderate alcohol consumption lowers the long term risk of heart disease.
8. Alcoholic energy drinks have long term health effects that are not yet understood. In the short term, the stimulants in these drinks do not improve physical impairment from alcohol but can deceive the drinker into risky behaviors.

B. Academic Impact

1. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) Task Force on College Drinking reports that about 25 percent of college students report academic problems caused by alcohol abuse such as missing class, lower grades on exams, and falling behind.
(<http://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov/StatsSummaries/snapshot.aspx>)
2. Students who consume the highest levels of alcohol report significantly lower grade point averages. They also report missing a significantly higher number of classes and getting lower test scores as a result of their alcohol or drug use. (CORE Report, The Ohio State University 2004).
3. The strongest negative effects of heavy episodic drinking are on student-faculty interaction, with these effects most common at research institutions and less common at coed colleges and women's colleges (Porter, S.R., & Pryor, J. 2007).

C. Education and Treatment Resources

All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to seek help early in the discovery of a problem with alcohol and/or other drugs, and to learn how to assist others with problems related to substance abuse. The earlier assistance is obtained, the less likely there will be serious, negative consequences resulting from an alcohol or other drug problem. Persons seeking assistance for a substance abuse problem will not be sanctioned by the University as a result of seeking such assistance. The following are some resources on campus and in the community for confidential assistance.

1. On Campus

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| a. Counseling and Consultation Service | 614-292-5766/5726 |
| Individual and group counseling/assessment for alcohol and other drug issues | |
| b. Student Wellness Center | 614-292-4527 |
| Assessment, referrals, educational materials, and general information | |
| c. Faculty and Staff Assistance Program | 614-293-2442 |
| d. Alcoholics Anonymous | 614-292-4527 |

2. Off Campus Support Groups

- a. Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACOA) and AL-ANON** 614-253-2701
Support for someone who grows up with an alcoholic parent and for families and friends of alcoholics
- b. Amethyst, Inc** 614-242-1284
Intensive outpatient & transitional housing for women & children
- c. Cocaine Anonymous (CA)** 614-251-1122
Support for those who seek recovery from cocaine.
- d. Narcotics Anonymous (NA)** 614-252-1700
A 12-step program for recovering drug addicts
- e. Talbot Recovery Services** 614-257-3760
Serves adult populations with inpatient and outpatient program-including some highly specialized treatment tracks-plus an outpatient program to help adolescents dealing with addictions.
- f. Maryhaven** 614-445-8131
Provides highest quality, cost-effective, and accessible addiction recovery services, from a holistic behavioral healthcare perspective, to individuals and families regardless of ability to pay and to return to our community recovering men, women, and children
- g. Parkside Recovery Services (The Woods at Parkside)** 614-471-2552
Provides intensive outpatient assessment, counseling, groups, medical services, and medication in association with addictions including special programs for adolescents and DUI/DWI offenders.

Comprehensive list of services in Columbus, Ohio, can be found at:

<http://medicalcenter.osu.edu/pdfs/PatientEd/Materials/PDFDocs/emergency/dir-alcdrugserv.pdf>

3. Hotlines

- a. Alcoholics Anonymous** 614-253-8501
- b. Al-Anon/Al-Teen** 614-253-2701
- c. Choices Domestic Violence Crisis Line** 614-224-4664
- d. Cocaine Hotline** 614-443-COKE
- e. Hope Hotline** 614-228-4673
- f. Narcotics Anonymous** 1-800-451-3000
- g. Suicide Hotline** 614-221-5445

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