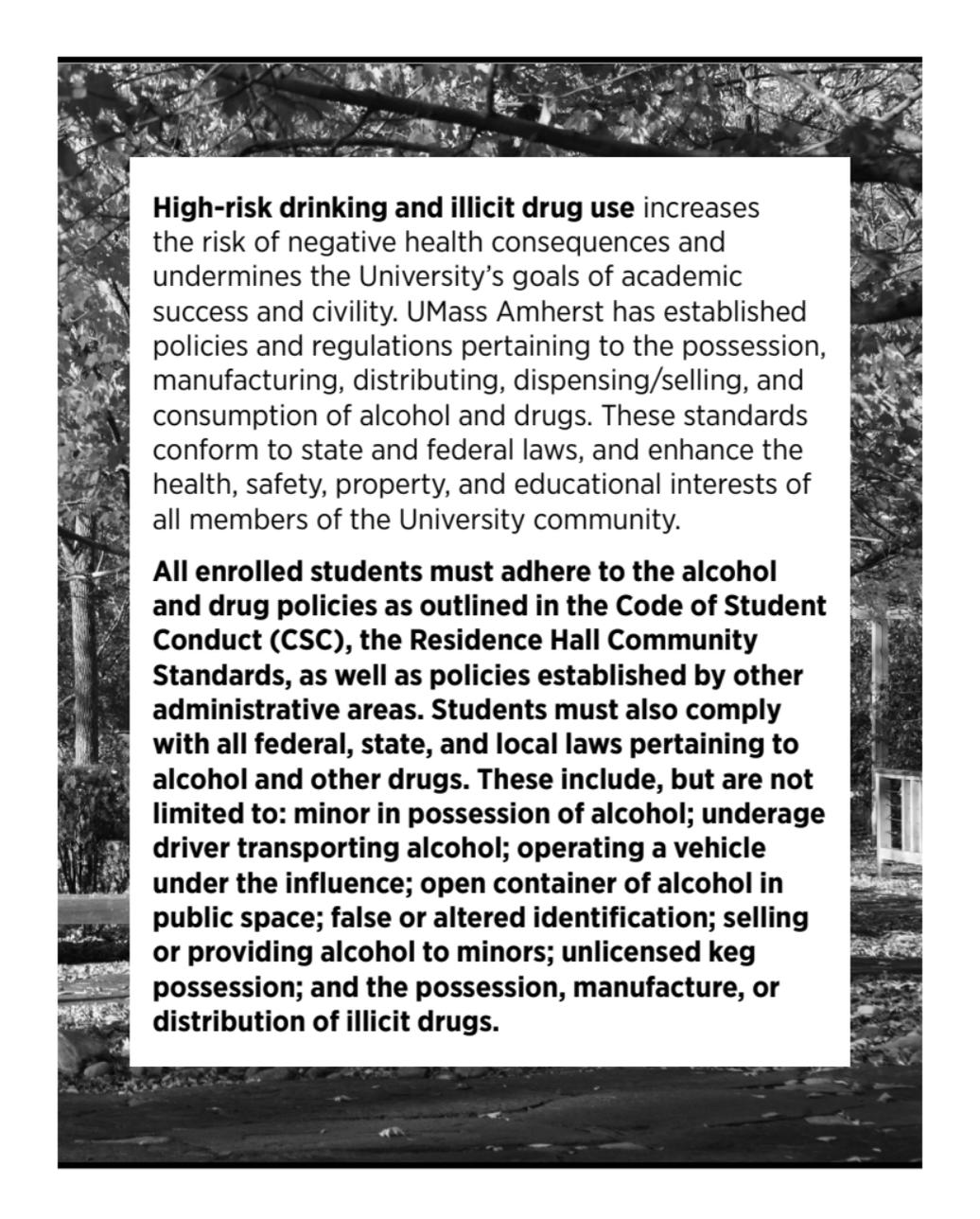


# UNIVERSITY ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICIES

UMassAmherst



*Revised 08/16*



**High-risk drinking and illicit drug use** increases the risk of negative health consequences and undermines the University's goals of academic success and civility. UMass Amherst has established policies and regulations pertaining to the possession, manufacturing, distributing, dispensing/selling, and consumption of alcohol and drugs. These standards conform to state and federal laws, and enhance the health, safety, property, and educational interests of all members of the University community.

**All enrolled students must adhere to the alcohol and drug policies as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct (CSC), the Residence Hall Community Standards, as well as policies established by other administrative areas. Students must also comply with all federal, state, and local laws pertaining to alcohol and other drugs. These include, but are not limited to: minor in possession of alcohol; underage driver transporting alcohol; operating a vehicle under the influence; open container of alcohol in public space; false or altered identification; selling or providing alcohol to minors; unlicensed keg possession; and the possession, manufacture, or distribution of illicit drugs.**

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# HEALTH RISKS

The health risks of alcohol and drug use may be immediate and unpredictable, such as fatalities associated with alcohol poisoning and drug overdose, or more subtle and long term, such as liver and brain damage.

In addition to health related problems, alcohol and drug use are associated with financial difficulties, interpersonal conflicts, violence, deterioration of the family structure, accidental injuries or fatality, and may significantly impact academic and work performance.

## *Recognizing Signs of Intoxication/Overdose*

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Students who drink, or have friends who drink, are encouraged to learn the signs and symptoms of alcohol poisoning: It's not necessary for all of these symptoms to be present before a student seeks help. Below are several signs and symptoms of alcohol and drug overuse.

- Vomiting
- Confusion\*
- Seizures
- Slow breathing/Irregular breathing\*
- Low body temperature (feels cold and clammy to touch)\*
- Unconsciousness (“passing out”)\*
- Blue-tinged skin or pale skin

*\*Those signs followed by an asterisk may also indicate opiate or sedative/hypnotic drug overdose.*

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## **Signs of an amphetamine overdose may include:**

- Rapid heartbeat
- Increased temperature/sweating
- Behavior changes indicated by increased anxiety, delirium or psychosis

**A person who is unconscious or cannot be roused can be at risk of dying. Even if these classic signs and symptoms are not seen, err on the side of caution and call 911 or UMPD at 413-545-2121 for immediate assistance.**

## ***Minutes Matter: UMass Amherst Medical Amnesty Policy***

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UMass Amherst seeks to be a caring community committed to maintaining the health and safety of everyone. Severe intoxication or serious injuries after alcohol or drug consumption are potentially life-threatening emergencies. Although you may be reluctant to report these situations, obtaining medical help is imperative. If you seek help for someone under the influence of alcohol or drugs who needs medical attention, neither you nor that person will be charged with a Code of Student Conduct or Residence Hall Community Standards violation. If that person is a UMass student, they will be required to attend BASICS and pay the associated fee.

## **Always call 911 for help if someone:**

- Passes out and cannot be awakened
  - Vomits while passed out
  - Stops breathing
  - Has a seizure
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## Parameters:

- Action by the police or other law enforcement personnel is not covered under this policy.
- This policy does not preclude student conduct actions regarding other violations.
- Serious or repeated incidents will prompt a higher degree of health concern and response and may trigger a review under the Student Conduct process.

# ALCOHOL POLICIES

## *Code of Student Conduct*

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*The following are prohibited under the Code of Student Conduct:*

- **V.B.4.a: Distribution or Sale of Alcohol:** The manufacture, distribution, dispensing or sale of, or the attempted manufacture, distribution, dispensing of alcohol which is unlawful or otherwise prohibited by or not in compliance with any University policy or campus regulations or being unable to exercise care for one's own safety because one is under the influence of alcohol. This provision shall not apply to circumstances in which the person under the influence was given alcohol without her or his knowledge and permission or if a referral meets the requirements as outlined in the University's Medical Amnesty policy.
  - **V.B.4.b: Unlawful Possession or Use:** The possession or use of alcohol which is unlawful or otherwise prohibited by or not in compliance with any University policy or campus regulations.
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- **V.B.4.c: Self Safety:** Being unable to exercise care for one's own safety because one is under the influence of alcohol. This provision shall not apply to circumstances in which the person under the influence was given alcohol without her or his knowledge and permission or if a referral meets the requirements as outlined in the University's Medical Amnesty policy.

## *Residence Hall Community Standards*

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*Residential Life encourages residents to make responsible and informed choices related to alcohol and its consumption. Residents are subject to the following Residential Life and University regulations related to alcohol:*

- No person under 21 years of age may possess, use, be under the influence, or be in the presence of alcohol.
- When any student assigned to a shared room (double, triple, quad, double within a suite/apartment) is under 21 years of age, no student (including 21+ year old resident(s) assigned to that space) may possess, use, or store alcohol within that student room.





- Providing alcohol beverages to a person under the age of 21, whether gratuitously or for sale, is not allowed.
  - A resident of legal age living in a University residence hall or floor where alcohol is permitted may possess or store a maximum of twelve (12oz) bottles/cans of beer, or two (750ml) bottles of wine, or one (750ml) bottle of hard liquor.
  - No guest is allowed to transport alcohol into any residence hall buildings regardless of their age. Only a resident, at least 21 years old, may bring alcohol into a hall in which alcohol is permitted.
  - No more than 10 people are allowed in a residence hall room in which alcohol is present. In suites and apartments (North Apartments, Elm, Linden, Birch, Maple, Cashin, McNamara, Brown) no more than 14 people are allowed in spaces within these halls.
  - Quantity-dispensing containers including, but not limited to, kegs, beer balls, punch bowls, drinking funnels, taps, and ice luges are not permitted in residence halls.
  - Drinking games (including the simulation of drinking games) or other activities involving rapid and/or excessive alcohol consumption are not allowed.
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- Open alcoholic beverage containers (including cups, bottles, or cans) are not allowed in any common space, including common corridors, stairwells, bathrooms, kitchens, balconies, and lounges.
  - Possession of alcoholic containers for decorative purposes is not allowed.
  - Alcohol is not allowed in alcohol-free halls or floors, such as wellness floors, regardless of one's age. Residential Life will determine areas designated as alcohol-free.

## DRUG POLICIES

*The University Drug Policy is in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 94C, Section 31 et seq. Under the Policy, the following are prohibited as outlined in the Code of Student Conduct:*

- **V.B.4.d: Controlled Substances:** Unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, use or sale of or the attempted manufacture, distribution, dispensing, or sale of controlled substances identified in Federal or State law or regulation or being unable to exercise care for one's own safety because one is under the influence of controlled substances. This provision shall not apply to circumstances in which the person under the influence was given a controlled substance without her or his knowledge.
  - **V.B.4.e: Possession of Drug Paraphernalia** as identified in Federal or State law or regulation; this includes objects used or primarily intended for use or designed for use in ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing marijuana, cocaine, hashish,
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or hashish oil into the human body, including but not limited to pipes, water pipes, bongs, roach clips, and vials. Determination of whether an item is drug paraphernalia will be made by considering all relevant facts, including but not limited to, the proximity of the item to controlled substances.

- **V.B.4.f: *Possession of Hypodermic Instrument(s)*:** The unauthorized possession of a hypodermic syringe, hypodermic needle, or any instrument adapted for the administration of controlled substances by injection.

## *Marijuana*

Although Massachusetts law permits the use of medical marijuana, federal laws prohibit the use, possession and/or cultivation of marijuana at educational institutions. The use, possession, or cultivation of marijuana for medical purposes is therefore not allowed in any University housing or on any other University property. The University will continue to enforce its current policies regarding controlled substances. Any student who violates University policy prohibiting the use or possession of illegal drugs on campus may be subject to disciplinary action.

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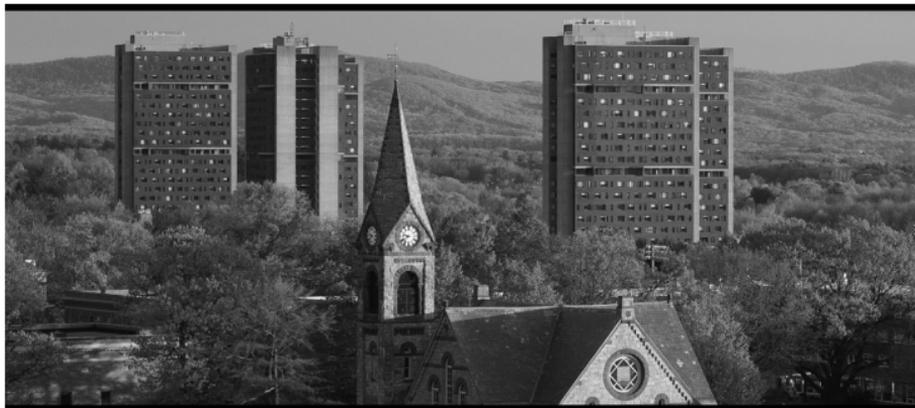
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# **VIOLATIONS OF THE ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICIES**

Students found in violation of state, local or federal law, University policies and regulations, or engaging in misconduct related to the abuse of alcohol, will be subjected to University disciplinary action whether the incident happened on or off campus. Students may be accountable to both civil authorities and to the University for acts which constitute violations of law and University's Policies and Regulations.

If a student is found responsible for violating University policies and/or regulations, they will receive University sanctions (e.g., Reprimand, Probation, Suspension Deferred, or Suspension) and educational sanctions (e.g., BASICS). The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) of dependent students under 21 will be notified if a student violates the drug or alcohol policy.





In determining sanctions, University staff considers the student's present demeanor and past student conduct record, the nature of the incident, the severity of any damage, injury, or harm resulting from the incident, evidence that the student has learned from the experience, and other factors. BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students) is a common sanction for students who violate University alcohol and/or drug policies. When appropriate, University staff may assign off-campus alcohol or drug counseling.

Severe violations may lead to a separation from the University (i.e., Suspension or Expulsion). These include but are not limited to:

- Operating under the influence
  - Repeatedly violating the alcohol and/or drug policies
  - Selling or distributing alcohol or drugs
  - Incidents influenced by alcohol and/or drugs (e.g., trespassing on property, vandalizing property, theft, destructing property, or violent acts)
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# GET HELP

*If alcohol or drug use is impacting you or someone you know, learn how to recognize the signs and where to go for help.*

## Campus Resources

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**UMatter at UMass:** [www.umass.edu/umatter](http://www.umass.edu/umatter)

**MyStudentBody:** [www.umass.edu/studentlife/mystudentbody](http://www.umass.edu/studentlife/mystudentbody)

**BASICS:** (413) 577-5188 • [www.umass.edu/studentlife/basics](http://www.umass.edu/studentlife/basics)

**Center for Health Promotion:** (413) 577-5181 • [www.umass.edu/studentlife/chp](http://www.umass.edu/studentlife/chp)

**Center for Counseling & Psychological Health:** (413) 545-2337  
[www.umass.edu/counseling](http://www.umass.edu/counseling)

**University Health Services:** (413) 577-5000 • [www.umass.edu/uhs](http://www.umass.edu/uhs)

**Dean of Students Office:** (413) 545-2684 • [www.umass.edu/dean\\_students](http://www.umass.edu/dean_students)

**Fresh & Sober:** (413) 577-5188 • [www.umass.edu/studentlife/health/fresh-and-sober](http://www.umass.edu/studentlife/health/fresh-and-sober)

**Collegiate Recovery Communities:** (413) 577-5188 • [www.umass.edu/studentlife/health/recovery](http://www.umass.edu/studentlife/health/recovery)

**University of Massachusetts Police Department (UMPD):** (413) 545-2121  
[www.umass.edu/umpd/alcohol-and-drug-policies](http://www.umass.edu/umpd/alcohol-and-drug-policies)

## Off-Campus Resources

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**Alcoholics Anonymous, Western Mass:** (413) 532-2111 • [www.westernmassaa.org](http://www.westernmassaa.org)

**Narcotics Anonymous, Western Mass:** (866) 624-3578 • [www.wmacna.org](http://www.wmacna.org)

**Al-Anon/Alateen:** (508) 366-0556 • [www.al-anon.org](http://www.al-anon.org)

**MA Substance Abuse information and Education Helpline:** (800) 327-5050  
[www.helpline-online.com](http://www.helpline-online.com)

**Hampshire, Franklin, North Quabbin Resource Guide:** [bit.ly/2b0CwWn](http://bit.ly/2b0CwWn)

**Hampshire Hope:** [www.hampshirehope.org](http://www.hampshirehope.org)