
UNIVERSITY ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICIES



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST





Substance abuse and its related consequences

undermine the University's goals of academic success and civility. For this reason, the University has established policies and regulations pertaining to the possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages. These standards conform to state and federal laws, and enhance the health, safety, property and educational interests of all members of the university community.

The policy described in this brochure pertains to alcohol and other drug use behaviors in residence halls, university apartments and university-approved housing. All members of the university community, including students not residing on campus, are responsible for obtaining and adhering to this policy while in university-approved housing. The Code of Student Conduct applies to off-campus incidents and violations. Violation of state laws and local town bylaws will result in university sanctions.

Code of Student Conduct

Section II. D.10:

Alcohol Policy for Residence Halls and University-approved Housing

- *No person under 21 years of age may possess, use or be under the influence of alcohol.*
- *Providing alcoholic beverages to a person under age 21, whether gratuitously or for sale, is prohibited.*
- *Intoxication, defined as being under the influence of alcohol or any other psychoactive drug to any extent that requires the attention of university staff, causes a disturbance, or is a danger to persons (self and others) or property, is prohibited.*
- *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 (12 oz.) bottles/cans of beer, or two (750 ml.) bottles of wine, or one (750 ml.) bottle of hard liquor.*
- *Quantity-dispensing containers, including but not limited to kegs, punch bowls and beer balls, are prohibited.*
- *Drinking funnels, taps, ice luges or similar devices are prohibited.*
- *Drinking games or other activities involving rapid and/or excessive consumption of alcohol are prohibited. Creating, offering, and playing drinking games such as beer pong are considered endangering behaviors and are prohibited.*

- A group of more than 10 people in a residence hall room or suite in which alcohol is present is prohibited. In the North Apartments, this applies when there are more than 14 people in an apartment.
- Open alcoholic beverage containers (including cups containing alcohol) are prohibited in any public space, including public corridors, stairwells, bathrooms, kitchens, balconies and lounges.
- Alcohol is not allowed in alcohol-free halls or floors, regardless of one's age. Housing and Residence Life will determine areas designated as alcohol-free.
- Possession of alcohol containers, whether empty or full, is prohibited for persons under age 21.

Consequences of violations

| MINIMUM SANCTIONS AND EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS | |
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| First Offense | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing probation for two semesters • AND BASICS 1 (\$100 fee) • AND Parental notification |
| Second Offense | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing removal deferred for two semesters • AND BASICS 2 (\$175 fee) • AND Parental notification |
| Third Offense | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent housing removal and restriction from all university housing • AND BASICS 3 (\$175 fee) • AND Parental notification |

*Note: all sanctions are cumulative. Students with a disciplinary history may receive more severe sanctions. Sanctions may also be enhanced based on the severity of the behavior and the impact on the community. Any monetary losses are the individual's responsibility.

DRUG POLICY

University drug policies are in accordance with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 94C, section 31 et seq. Violators are subject to severe sanctions *including, but not limited to, removal from residence halls, suspension or expulsion.*

The following are prohibited:

- **Unlawful possession of a controlled substance**
- **Drug paraphernalia used with controlled substances**
- **Unauthorized possession of a hypodermic syringe or needle, or any instrument adapted for the administration of controlled substances by injection**
- **Unlawful sale/distribution/manufacture of controlled substances**



BASICS

BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students) *helps students explore their alcohol and drug use in a non-judgmental environment. The program's goal is to reduce risky behavior and the harmful consequences of substance abuse.*

BASICS is a "drinker's checkup" that helps students examine their use, identify changes that could work and reduce their risk of future problems. It's not therapy or substance abuse treatment. Students who violate UMass Amherst's alcohol and drug policies, those who are medically transported, held in protective custody or are court-sanctioned are required to attend BASICS. Any student who uses alcohol or other drugs, especially those concerned about their use, can attend BASICS on their own. BASICS is located in the Center for Health Promotion at University Health Services.



MINUTES MATTER:

UMass Amherst Medical Amnesty Policy

UMass seeks to be a caring community committed to maintaining the health and safety of everyone. Severe intoxication or serious injuries after consuming alcohol or drugs are potentially life-threatening emergencies. Although you may be reluctant to report these situations, obtaining medical help is imperative. ***Always call 911 for help if someone:***

- *Passes out and can not be awakened.*
- *Vomits while passed out.*
- *Stops breathing.*
- *Has a seizure.*

An individual who requires medical attention due to excessive alcohol intoxication will be required to attend BASICS. Neither the reporting party nor the individual needing medical attention will be charged under the Code of Student Conduct.

The policy does not apply to drug-related behavior, including use, possession or distribution. The policy also does not apply to other prohibited conduct such as, but not limited to, assault, driving while impaired or destruction of property.





For more information...

University Health Services

www.umass.edu/uhs • *BASICS: (413) 577-5071*

Dean of Students Office

www.umass.edu/dean_students • *(413) 545-2684*

