

The University of Massachusetts Amherst Alcohol and Drug Policies

Substance abuse and its consequences undermine the University's goals of academic success and civility. For this reason, the University has established policies and regulations which conform to state and federal laws, and enhance the health, safety, property, and educational interests of all members of the university community. The policy pertains to alcohol and other drug use behaviors in residence halls, university apartments, and university-approved housing. All members of the university, including students not living on campus, are responsible for obtaining and adhering to this policy. The Code of Student Conduct also applies to off-campus incidents and violations. Violation of state laws and local town bylaws will result in university sanctions.

Alcohol Policy:

- 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.

Minimum Sanctions:

First offense: housing probation for two semesters and alcohol program (\$100) and parental notification

Second offense: housing removal deferred for two semesters and alcohol program (\$175) and parental notification

Third offense: permanent housing removal and restriction from all university housing and alcohol program (\$175) and parental notification

Drug Policy:

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
- Although Massachusetts law permits the use of medical marijuana, federal laws prohibit the use, possession, and/or cultivation of marijuana at educational institutions.

Violators are subject to severe sanctions, including but not limited to, removal from residence halls, suspension, or expulsion.