



POLICY STATEMENT-78 – Serving, Possessing and Consuming of Alcoholic Beverages

Title/Topic: Serving, Possessing, and Consuming of Alcoholic Beverages

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Serving, Possessing, and Consuming of Alcoholic Beverages

Purpose

This policy is applicable to the serving, possessing, and consuming of alcoholic beverages on University property and within University facilities. This Policy Statement outlines the policies and procedures specifically applicable to the serving, possessing, and consuming of alcoholic beverages on University property and within University facilities by students, University personnel, and their guests.

Principles

LSU is committed to maintaining a safe, healthful environment that supports its educational mission. The abuse of alcoholic beverages by its students, University personnel, and their guests interferes with the accomplishment of this mission. More specifically, the abuse of alcohol (1) negatively impacts the life and well-being of citizens; (2) interferes with student learning, student retention, and student graduation; (3) generates a cost to the University through personal injury, crimes, property damage, and risk management; and (4) negatively affects the image of the University.

Because LSU seeks to create a social environment that enhances learning, the following values with regard to alcohol must be upheld:

1. abstinence, as an option, is always supported and should never be discouraged;
2. although moderate and legal alcohol use may be permitted, the drinking of alcohol is never encouraged;
3. abusive consumption of alcohol is always discouraged; and
4. participation in illegal behaviors involving alcohol is not tolerated.

Accordingly, the possession, use, sale or distribution of alcohol may be done only in accordance with the provisions of federal and state laws, local laws and ordinances, and University regulations, including this policy.

Inappropriate behaviors and associated negative consequences of alcohol misuse will not be tolerated. All persons on campus regardless of their status (e.g., students, personnel, and guests) must adhere to the alcohol policies herein. The enforcement of community standards is a shared responsibility among all community members.

Definitions

Alcohol: Beer, wine, or distilled spirits (liquor) as defined by state law.

Authorized Vendor/Server: A caterer who has been licensed by the University through the Office of Procurement to engage in the sale and service of alcoholic beverages on the LSU campus under applicable law and University policy. An Authorized Vendor/Server must have: (1) all required governmental permits or licenses; (2) completed Responsible Alcohol Service Training as required by state law; (3) agreed in writing to adhere to University policies and regulations, city ordinances and state laws; (4) obtained LSU required insurance; and (5) must ensure that that any Vendor/Server performing such services on the LSU campus is at least 21 years old and not a member or affiliate of the host/sponsor organization/department.

Event: For the purposes of this policy, an Event is an assembly of individuals on campus for a gathering where alcohol is involved.

Event Registration: The required documentation completed by the host/sponsor of an Event, which specifies the conditions of alcohol service and certifies that the host/sponsor both understands and agrees to abide by University policies and applicable Federal, state and local laws governing such alcoholic beverage service. The Event Registration must be submitted by the host/sponsor to the Campus Life Office (for student organizations), the Greek Life Office (for fraternities and sororities) or to the Office of Finance and Administration (for non-students) at least **10 business days** prior to the event. The Event Registration must specify the campus location for the proposed event, which is subject to approval. Approval will not be granted for an event at any of the following locations (1) Greek Theatre, (2) athletic fields and grounds assigned to the University Recreation, and (3) in academic buildings in or around rooms in which classes are in session.

Permitted Alcohol: Beer and wine products consisting of no more than 15 percent alcohol by volume. Permitted Alcohol specifically excludes hard alcohol, any beverage containing hard alcohol, common source beverages containing alcohol and alcoholic beverages served from kegs. For the purpose of this policy, hard alcohol is any alcoholic beverage other than beer or wine. Any exception to Permitted Alcohol at an Event requires the approval of the President or the President's designee.

Possession: Any situation in which an individual is or reasonably can be assumed to be holding, drinking, or transporting an alcoholic beverage. The totality of the circumstances, including the presence of alcoholic beverage containers and the number of people present under age 21, may indicate evidence of possession.

Responsible Parties: Those individuals and the entities they represent who sign the Event Registration.

University Preapproved Sites: Sites designed by the University as approved locations for the service and consumption of alcohol whether as a part of fixed retail food and beverage operations or as professionally catered events. The Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Finance and Administration maintain a list of University Approved Sites (e.g. The Club at Union Square, LSU Union, the Tiger Den Suites, and the Club Seating Area).

University Regulations

The serving, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages on University property must be in accordance with all applicable laws and University regulations. The following University policies shall apply:

1. No alcoholic beverages of any kind may be possessed, distributed, served, or consumed on campus by persons under the age of 21. The Responsible Parties are accountable for ensuring that no one under the age of 21 possesses, consumes or is served alcohol at an Event.
2. Consumption of alcohol is not advised. Anyone under the age of 21 possessing/consuming alcohol, or anyone giving alcohol to an underage person, will be subject to arrest.
3. In campus residences (including fraternity and sorority houses), only Permitted Alcohol may be possessed and consumed by persons at least 21 years-of-age and only in private rooms/apartments, unless the entire facility is designated as alcohol-free. No alcohol is allowed in the lobby, public areas, and immediate adjacent property of campus residences except during an Event.

4. In all other cases, persons age 21 or older may possess and consume Permitted Alcohol on campus only when the following conditions are met:
 - a. when the alcohol is served by a University Authorized Vendor/Server; and
 - b. when alcoholic beverages are served and consumed at a University Preapproved Site or at an Event registered and approved by the University; and
 - c. other than as part of a University Preapproved Site retail food and beverage operations, when an Event Registration signed by Responsible Parties has been accepted by the appropriate office consistent with applicable policy.
5. Approval must be obtained for alcohol to be possessed, distributed, served, or consumed at any location other than a University Preapproved Site. At least 10 business days before the proposed event, an Event Registration must be completed, submitted to, and approved by the appropriate office (Office of the Dean of Students for student organizations and fraternity and sorority houses; Office of Finance and Administration for all other requests).
6. The following policies pertain to the sale, purchase, and cost of alcohol on campus:
 - a. Only Permitted Alcohol may be sold, purchased or served and only by an Authorized Vendor/Server. Any alcohol other than Permitted Alcohol is specifically prohibited.
 - b. Alcohol may not be distributed free-of-charge by an alcohol company or distributor at any University Event or under any other circumstances on campus.
 - c. Alcohol may not be sold on campus by an alcohol wholesaler or distributor.
 - d. University units may not distribute alcohol free-of-charge to the general public (i.e. - persons not members of the groups or their specifically invited guests).
 - e. Alcoholic beverages may not be furnished as an award or prize.
 - f. University funds may not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages.
7. The following regulations govern the serving of alcohol at Events regardless of the sponsoring organization:
 - a. Only Permitted Alcohol may be sold, purchased or served and only by an Authorized Vendor/Server. Any alcohol other than Permitted Alcohol is specifically prohibited.
 - b. The Authorized Vendor/Server is responsible for assuring that no person under the age of 21 is served alcohol.
 - c. Alcoholic beverages are to be served as an adjunct to social events and may not be the primary focus of the event.
 - d. Non-alcoholic beverages and food also must be available at all times that alcoholic beverages are made available.
 - e. All alcohol will be stored and legally dispensed in a designated service area within the approved site. The supply of alcoholic beverages must not be accessible to anyone except the server.
8. The sponsoring organization is responsible for ensuring that members and invited guests display responsible behavior. To that end:
 - a. It is prohibited to host an event where there is explicit or implicit pressure or an expectation for anyone to consume alcohol, or where there is no diversion from drinking alcohol, or where lewd, abusive or sexually degrading behavior occurs in conjunction with alcohol consumption.
 - b. Any activity or event which encourages rapid drinking, drinking games, or drunkenness are prohibited.
 - c. Obviously intoxicated persons shall not be admitted or served alcohol at activities or social events.
 - d. Engaging in such high-risk activities or events may be considered aggravating circumstances if corrective measures are necessary.
9. Persons representing LSU off-campus or who reasonably could be construed as doing so (e.g., at conferences, seminars, competitions, performers, other activities/events) must behave legally and responsibly regarding the use of alcohol, abiding by the laws and policies of the states and/or institutions where they are visiting. The University may take action against individuals who engage in off-campus consumption of alcohol when it has negatively impacted or threatened to negatively impact the University's mission or activities or the health, safety, or welfare of the University community.

10. Tailgating will be allowed on campus before and after the game in a manner and in areas deemed acceptable by the University. Tailgating involving alcohol by a registered student organization must follow the policies outlined below for Registered Student Organization Events.
11. Under no circumstances will any alcoholic beverages be permitted in Tiger Stadium other than at University Preapproved Sites.
12. This provision does not allow the staging of events that would otherwise not be permitted.
13. Notwithstanding this provision, possession or consumption of alcohol at fraternity and sorority houses must be in compliance with all other requirements stated herein at all times.
14. This policy shall not apply to University facilities when leased by:
 - a. An individual or private organization for a private event not affiliated with a registered student organization when in compliance with state and local laws regulating the sale and consumption of alcohol; or
 - b. A private business operating as a grocery or restaurant licensed for the sale or consumption of alcohol and operating in compliance with state and local law.

Registered Student Organization Events

In addition to the above regulations, the following policies shall apply to registered student organization events involving alcohol:

1. Only Permitted Alcohol may be served and only by an Authorized Vendor/Server. Any alcohol other than Permitted Alcohol is specifically prohibited. **This rule also applies to student organization events located off campus.**
2. A student organization must complete and file an Event Certification with the Office of the Dean of Students or its designee **10 business days** prior to a proposed Event.
3. A student organization must arrange security with the LSU Police Department at least **10 business days** prior to a scheduled Event. Contract security companies may only be used with the permission of LSU Police Department. The University reserves the right to determine the number of officers and other security measures required for an Event.
4. A student organization must attend risk management and alcohol planning training prior to receiving approval for an Event. At least three current executive officers and a current advisor must have attended the training within 12 months of an Event Registration. This risk management and alcohol planning training will be presented by the Dean of Students Office or its designee annually or as demand requires. It is the responsibility of the registered student organization to ensure that the appropriate trainings have been received prior to attempting to register an Event.
5. An Event may not begin before 4:30 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and 3:30 p.m. on Friday and must end by 11:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 2:00 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday following events on Friday and Saturday. Bands and amplification equipment must cease no later than 11:59 p.m. on Friday or Saturday night if outside. The administrator with whom the function must be registered may allow appropriate exceptions to the normally approved hours for social functions.
6. No cover charge or admission charge may be imposed at an Event where alcoholic beverages are served nor may alcohol be provided free in return for the purchase of another item (i.e. cup).
7. Open source containers (including but not limited to kegs, party balls or punch bowls containing alcohol) are specifically prohibited.
8. An individual determined to be eligible to consume alcoholic beverages must be identified with a non-removable wrist band.
9. An individual may not return to an Event after that individual has exited the function and consumed alcohol while absent from the Event.
10. Alcohol may not be served at an Event open to the public. Attendance at a student organization Event must be by invitation.
11. A student organization may not accept donation of alcoholic beverages.
12. A student organization may not promote or sell alcoholic beverages.
13. At any fraternity or sorority Event held at fraternity or sorority housing or property, the following additional provisions apply:
 - a. Subject to fire code restrictions, there may be no more than three non-member guests for every member of the organization present at the Event. Exceptions may be granted in advance by the Greek Life Office for community, alumni and family events.

- b. Alcoholic beverages are restricted to common areas of the fraternity or sorority house.
 - c. Guests and non-members are restricted to common areas of the fraternity or sorority house for the duration of the event.
 - d. Members of the organization are prohibited from providing, serving or consuming alcohol of any kind in the private areas of the fraternity or sorority house for the duration of the Event.
 - e. All recruitment and new member education programs, sometimes known as pledge activities, must be alcohol-free for all in attendance.
 - f. Where allowed by the organization, any tailgating Event shall be located at the fraternity or sorority housing and must comply with all other requirements of this policy.
 - g. LSU Police, designated security and/or University officials may enter upon the premises before, during and after an event to ensure compliance with this policy.
14. Organizations that fail to comply with these policies are subject to University sanctions, including the loss of the privilege to have future Events.

Student Organization Events — Off-Campus

The following policies shall apply to any student organization conducting an off-campus event involving alcohol:

1. The student organization must provide notification to the Greek Life Office of the Office of the Dean of Students no more than 10 business days prior to the event.
2. The student organization must certify that only Permitted Alcohol will be allowed at the event and that it will only be served by a licensed vendor and server. Any alcohol other than Permitted Alcohol is specifically prohibited.