

What are the consequences of violating the alcohol policy?

1. Students who are in violation of the alcohol policy are subject to a range of **University sanctions**: warning, disciplinary probation (including housing and/or campus service sanctions), withholding of degree, suspension, required withdrawal, expulsion, and censure. University penalties and disciplinary procedures are specified in *Rights, Rules, Responsibilities*. In general, a student who violates the alcohol policy for the first time is placed on disciplinary probation. Discipline for a second offense will be more serious and may involve lengthening of probation, campus service, and/or revocation of on-campus residential privileges. Students should expect to be suspended for a third alcohol or alcohol-related offense. Deans and directors of student life may require an alcohol/drug evaluation by University Health Services staff when appropriate and may notify a student's parents following any significant incident of drug/alcohol-related misconduct. Alcohol, kegs, and/or taps used in violation of the above regulations will be confiscated.
2. Students who violate the University's alcohol or drug policies will be encouraged to avail themselves of the services of the University's Alcohol and Other Drug Program. In some cases, counseling may accompany disciplinary sanctions.

Princeton University does not condone the possession, use, manufacture, or distribution of illegal substances or drug paraphernalia of any kind in any amount. **Students in violation of this policy may be jeopardizing their own well-being as well as the well-being of the University community.**

In general, a student who uses or possesses drugs or drug paraphernalia for the first time will be placed on probation. Discipline for a second offense will be more serious and may involve lengthening of probation, campus service, and/or revocation of on-campus residential privileges. Students should expect to be suspended for a third offense.

Among those violations considered to be most serious are the manufacture, sale, or distribution of illegal drugs; any involvement in illegal drug use or traffic with minors, particularly from the local area; and possession or use of the more dangerous or highly addictive drugs. Students manufacturing, selling, or distributing illegal drugs should expect a lengthy separation or expulsion from the University.

Students possessing, using, selling, or manufacturing illegal substances may also be subject to **mandatory penalties prescribed by the state.**

For more information

Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students
258-3055

Office of the Dean of the Graduate School
258-3028

Princeton University Health Services
258-3141

Counseling Center
258-3285

Public Safety
258-1000

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What every student should know about

Alcohol & Other Drug Use

Princeton University Alcohol Policy

Students at Princeton University are responsible for knowing and abiding by both state and University regulations regarding the consumption of alcohol.

The University provides educational programs and information on alcohol and drug abuse as well as counseling services. Students are expected and encouraged to be aware of the social, physiological, and psychological consequences and personal risks of excessive drinking in order to make responsible and informed decisions about the serving and consumption of alcohol.

The University alcoholic beverage policy is consistent with the laws of the state of New Jersey which, in general, prohibit the consumption and serving of alcoholic beverages by and to persons under 21 years of age. **Students are responsible for their behavior, whether or not they are under the influence of alcohol.** The consumption of alcohol does not constitute a mitigating circumstance when it contributes to the violation of University regulations. The policy affirms the need for mutual respect and personal responsibility within a diverse community.

The University respects the right to privacy, and its representatives will not enter dormitory rooms without substantive cause (i.e., without reasonable suspicion that University policies or regulations have been violated). However, **those whose behavior infringes on the rights of others have, in essence, forfeited that privacy.**

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What are the responsibilities of Princeton University students?

Alcoholic beverages normally will not be provided at events where persons under the legal drinking age for consumption of alcoholic beverages are present, including those sponsored by the University, the residential colleges, the University centers, the Undergraduate Student Government, and the classes. Those who are of legal drinking age and who wish to host a gathering with alcohol **must obtain approval from and comply** with the guidelines established by the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students or the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School.

Availability of alcoholic beverages shall not be the primary focus of advertising for campus social events. Those given approval to serve alcoholic beverages are responsible for ensuring that **only those of legal drinking age are served.**

It is the immediate obligation of those in the presence of a severely intoxicated person to contact appropriate University or local medical or safety personnel (such as Public Safety officers, deans, University Health Services (UHS) staff, University Medical Center at Princeton staff, or local police or members of the rescue squad). Neither intoxication nor admission to UHS for intoxication will be grounds for disciplinary action. Contacting the Department of Public Safety for assistance in transporting a student in need of medical attention will not, in itself, lead to disciplinary action. Disciplinary action will occur only if other circumstances indicating a violation of University policy are observed. In such an instance, failure to call for assistance will be considered an especially serious violation of policy.

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When will the University intervene?

The following represent examples of the way in which different kinds of incidents would be handled:

1. If Public Safety observes an individual leaving a party with alcohol, Public Safety has substantive cause to enter that room to investigate a possible serving violation.
2. In the event of a noise complaint, Public Safety will go to the room and knock on the door. If no one answers, Public Safety may enter the room and instruct the residents of the room to control the noise. Public Safety will not have cause to investigate possible alcohol violations unless indicators of alcohol provision, such as kegs, bottles, cans, or evidence of intoxicated behavior, are observed. This procedure will be the same for any similar complaint.
3. The presence of individuals dancing or drinking out of cups is not in itself substantive cause to enter a room.

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When are Princeton University students in violation of the alcohol policy?

Students are in violation of the University alcohol policy under any or all of the following circumstances:

1. When participation in or the organization of an activity encourages excessive drinking (e.g., drinking games, initiation activities, hazing) as it can endanger the individual serving alcohol. This is an **especially serious** violation.
2. When the **consumption** of alcohol contributes to behavior that **(a)** intimidates or harasses others; **(b)** injures or threatens to injure others (e.g., driving under the influence of alcohol, assault); **(c)** leads to the destruction of property; or **(d)** infringes on the peace and privacy of others, students are in violation of the policy. **Any of the above will be regarded as an especially serious violation.**
The preceding regulations apply to students both on campus and in the local vicinity of the campus. Violations of local ordinances or state laws by students may also be grounds for University disciplinary action, regardless of where such violations occur, if they clearly violate University standards of conduct.
3. On campus, students are in violation of the policy **(a)** when **carrying or possessing** an open container* of alcohol in or across common spaces (lounges, gamerooms, courtyards, dining areas, hallways, etc.); **(b)** when in possession of a keg and/or tap or other evidence of intent to serve (unless permission has been granted by the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students or the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School); **(c)** when, under the age of 21, in possession of any container of alcohol in common spaces of the University; **(d)** when **serving, providing, or making available** alcohol to any person, regardless of his or her age, without first obtaining approval from the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Students or the Office of the Dean of the Graduate School; or **(e)** when procuring alcohol for persons under the age of 21 or by falsifying identification.

* Open container is defined as any container not sealed by the manufacturer.

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