

# McCourt School of Public Policy Student Alcohol Policy

## *Purpose*

This policy affirms the McCourt School of Public Policy's commitment to promoting responsible alcohol use by students and affiliates, following DC law, and performing adequate risk management. It sets specific guidelines for on- and off-campus events, but is premised on each individual being responsible for their own conduct. Students and student groups that violate this policy will be subject to restrictions or dissolution, as outlined below.

**Underage alcohol consumption as well as overconsumption by any individual is strictly prohibited. Hard liquor is prohibited at any on-campus events – only beer and wine are permitted with advance approval from the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. Alcohol is not permitted in Old North 316 or the McCourt computer lab at any time. Alcohol is only permitted in Old North 205 with advance approval.**

## **I. Open Events**

Open events include events where McCourt students, faculty, staff, and affiliates (such as guest speakers, friends, and family) are welcome to attend. This is the majority of McCourt events, which fall into on-campus or off-campus categories:

### **A. On-campus events**

1. All student-organized open McCourt events with alcohol must be approved in writing at least one week in advance by the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs. If necessary, the Assistant Director for Academic & Student Affairs will schedule an event intake meeting with the student leader(s) organizing the event before approval.
2. The following formula will be used to determine the amount of alcohol to purchase and serve at each event: To calculate the number of servings of alcoholic beverages, multiply the number of hours of the event by the expected number of guests in attendance who are of legal age to drink. For example, a total of 800 individual 12-ounce servings of beer would be permitted for 200 guests of legal drinking age at a 4-hour event. By way of calculation, a half-keg (keg) of beer holds approximately 150 12-ounce servings. A serving of wine should be approximately 4 ounces per person (16 servings per half-gallon container or 6 servings per bottle).
3. Events where alcohol will be served must also provide:
  - (a) Non-alcoholic beverages (such as soda, juice, etc.) throughout the event, with water available at all times; and
  - (b) An appropriate amount of food (such as appetizers, sandwiches, pizza, etc.).

4. Event advertising that mentions alcohol should not include language such as “all you can drink” and should also include mention of non-alcoholic beverages and food.
  5. Events where alcohol will be served should have a minimum of two TIPS trained individuals to check ID and serve alcohol for the duration of the event. More than two may be required for large events. The designated TIPS trained individuals may not consume alcohol under any circumstances before or during the event. For more information on TIPS training, please see the “TIPS Training” section below.
    - (a) A government issued ID must be checked by the designated TIPS trained individuals before serving.
    - (b) If a student or guest does not provide a government issued ID, they may not be served under any circumstance (even if their age is known).
    - (c) All alcohol must be served by the designated TIPS trained individuals (no self-serving or serving others is permitted by attendees).
  6. Alcohol provided by event organizers is not permitted outside the area reserved for the event. Identification will be checked at the door for every event, and wristbands will be provided to all individuals over the age of 21.
  7. Alcohol for the event must be stored in a secure place before the event and removed from Old North immediately after the event ends.
  8. Individuals may not bring their own alcohol to any organized open McCourt event (regardless of whether it will be provided).
  9. Any event with an admission charge falls under the Open Event category and subsequent requirements.
    - (a) Events that provide alcohol may not charge for access to that alcohol.
    - (b) Admission may be charged for other activities (such as a costume contest, dinner, casino night, or auction).
- B. Off-campus events
1. Off-campus events must be staffed by a third-party vendor with a valid alcohol license.
  2. The third-party vendor is responsible for ensuring compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

## **II. Closed Events**

Closed events include on-campus events where admission is limited to McCourt students, faculty, and staff. Closed events with alcohol should be clearly advertised as being closed events. This includes course-related activities with faculty or closed student organization meetings. During these events, the organizer of the meeting will be responsible for taking reasonable precautions to ensure the safe and legal consumption of alcohol by event attendees.

## **III. Individual Consumption**

Individuals consuming alcohol in Old North are responsible for ensuring their compliance with DC laws and regulations.

#### **IV. TIPS Training**

TIPS training provides individuals the skills to ensure the responsible serving, sale, and consumption of alcohol.

- A. The McCourt Student Association (MSA) is responsible for generating and maintaining a current list of a minimum of 25 TIPS-trained individuals.
  - 1. All Executive Board members of MSA are required to be TIPS trained. Exceptions will be considered by the Assistant Director of Academic & Student Affairs.
  - 2. At least one officer per student organization is required to be TIPS trained.
  - 3. Event organizers hosting an event that requires TIPS trained servers should contact the individuals on this list.
  - 4. The designated TIPS trained individuals must be identified before event approval.
- B. Individuals who complete TIPS training are required to provide TIPS service at no less than 3 events per semester.

#### **V. Enforcement**

- A. If an individual is found to be consuming alcohol underage or over-consuming alcohol then that person is asked to leave the event immediately.
  - 1. Individuals who are asked to leave events because of violations of this policy must pass through the arbitration process described below.
- B. If an organization is found to be in violation of this policy, the organization must pass through the arbitration process described below.
- C. Arbitration Process
  - 1. The arbitration process includes consideration and determination of responsibility and reprimand by an impartial committee.
  - 2. Each violation is considered on a case-by-case basis.
  - 3. The committee is comprised of the Associate Dean of Academic and Student Affairs, the Associate Dean for Finance and Administration, the Assistant Director of Academic & Student Affairs, and two students (nominated annually by the student organizations).
  - 4. The committee should meet as needed.
  - 5. The committee should consider the following factors:
    - (a) The severity of the violation
    - (b) The effort of the organization or individual to adhere to the alcohol policy
  - 6. Individuals and organizations will have the right to present their case during the arbitration process.
  - 7. Sanctions determined by the committee may include:
    - (a) Exclusion of individuals from future McCourt-sponsored events
    - (b) Not permitting an organization to hold events with alcohol for the remainder of the academic year
    - (c) Not permitting an organization to hold any events for the remainder of the academic year

- (d) Disbanding an organization for the remainder of the academic year
8. The committee should make a final decision in 30 days.