

**Title:** Drug and Alcohol Policies -- Use of Alcohol at Boston College  
**Code:** 1-300-050  
**Date:** 2-1-96rev  
**Approved:** JDM

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## Policy

As an educational institution, the primary mission of the University is an academic one. The uncontrolled, irresponsible, or abusive use of alcohol by members of the Boston College community is counterproductive to this mission. Ideally, policies related to the use and service of alcoholic beverages on campus should be self-policing, and faculty, staff, students, alumni, and other members of the University community should be trusted to observe the relevant policies and laws. Educational efforts and enforced, reasonable drinking policies will contribute to this desired goal of enhanced civility. Their successful implementation will require the cooperation and support of all members of the University community.

Boston College complies with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts related to the use and service of alcoholic beverages ([EXHIBIT A](#)), and those laws and/or regulations promulgated by any local or city agency with regulatory authority in this area. The use and possession of alcoholic beverages on the campus by persons other than those of legal drinking age as defined by the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will not be condoned. Use and possession of alcoholic beverages by those of legal drinking age is limited according to the procedural guidelines set forth below.

## Procedural Guidelines

### Locations for Alcohol-Related Events

#### Licensed Facilities

1. Beer and wine sales are permitted under the auspices of the Dining Services Department in the Faculty Dining Room in McElroy Commons (full year), the Welch Dining Room in Lyons Hall (full year), the Boston, Heights, and Newton Rooms in the Lower Campus Dining Facility (full year), the Joseph L. Shea, S.J. Room and Luxury Boxes in Conte Forum (October 1 - March 31), and the Luxury Boxes in Alumni Stadium (October 1 - March 31). For full liquor service, a one-day license is required.
2. The Alumni Association holds an all-alcohol license for Alumni House and is responsible for assuring that events are in compliance with this policy. The Alumni Association is also responsible for procuring any one-day licenses that are required for alumni events held at other locations. The Alumni Association is responsible for all events at which alcohol is served at both Alumni House and elsewhere, whether the event is sponsored by the Alumni Association or groups with whom they are affiliated (e.g., Class Government Council).
3. Alcoholic beverages and/or service must be provided by Dining Services (except as noted above) in conjunction with events or functions scheduled through the Bureau of Conferences. Alcoholic beverages cannot be sold on a per drink basis at any campus function or social event except at those events held in licensed locations as noted in paragraphs 1 and 2, above, or in other locations when an appropriate one-day license is obtained.
4. A Boston College Police detail may be required for any event with more than 50 guests or as required by appropriate licensing authorities. The level of coverage required, as well as any exceptions, are to be determined by the Chief of the Boston College Police.

5. Boston College Dining Services or the Alumni Association, as appropriate, must provide the alcohol and utilize trained bartenders for all events that are held in licensed facilities and/or that require a one-day license. All bartenders must be certified by programs such as T.I.P.S., Servsafe, or other alcohol server programs.

#### Non-Licensed Facilities and Public Areas

1. Functions held in nonlicensed locations at which any type of alcoholic beverage is available require a one-day license if:
  - (a) there is a cash bar;
  - (b) the cost of alcoholic beverages is built into the cost of the meal; or
  - (c) an admission fee is charged.
2. The license for such events must be secured by the Director of Dining Services.
3. All events that do not require a license that have an expected attendance of more than 25 guests must employ Dining Services to serve the alcohol (with the exception of the Alumni Association, as noted above) unless approved by the Director of Dining Services.
4. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in any common or public area of the campus, or in a campus facility, is prohibited (e.g., Alumni Stadium, the Campus Green, any athletic field or facility, lounges and hallways). Exceptions to this general policy are allowed for special events or activities sponsored by various groups associated with the University, provided that the required registration process has been completed. All such events must be formally scheduled through the Bureau of Conferences and appropriate licenses secured.
5. A Boston College Police detail may be required for any event with more than 50 guests or as required by appropriate licensing authorities. The level of coverage required, as well as any exceptions, are to be determined by the Chief of the Boston College Police.
6. Any scheduled student social event that will involve alcoholic beverages must be approved in advance by the Office of the Dean for Student Development or the Law School Associate Dean for Students, and the Director of Dining Services.
7. "Tailgating" in conjunction with home football games is restricted to designated areas on campus.
  - (a) Tailgating activities are to commence not earlier than two and one-half hours before the start of any game.
  - (b) All tailgating activities must terminate within two hours following the completion of any game scheduled to begin prior to 4:00 P.M., and no later than one hour following the completion of any game scheduled to begin at 4:00 P.M. or later. No tailgating is allowed after games that begin at 6:30 P.M. or later.
  - (c) Kegs and beer balls are prohibited and subject to confiscation.
  - (d) Alcohol is prohibited in Alumni Stadium except in licensed facilities.
  - (e) Quantities of alcohol must be reasonably proportionate to the number of legal-age individuals present.
  - (f) The availability of food and nonalcoholic beverages at tailgate functions is strongly recommended.

## Residence Halls

1. Those students who are 21 years of age or older may keep limited quantities of alcohol, for personal consumption only, in their residence hall rooms, apartments, or suites.
2. Alcoholic beverages may be served at social gatherings in residential areas on the lower campus only. The policies governing social gatherings that have been established by the Office of University Housing must be complied with in all such instances.
3. Central sources of alcohol, including kegs and beer balls, are prohibited in all residence hall areas and are subject to confiscation.

## Alcohol-Related Events

In addition to the above procedural guidelines, alcohol-related events must be in compliance with the following:

1. Any social event held at Boston College at which alcoholic beverages will be served must have a sponsor who is at least 21 years of age.
2. The sponsor is responsible for full compliance with the requirements of this policy and must be present for the duration of the event. The sponsor of an event, as well as those responsible for dispensing alcoholic beverages, are responsible for assuring that function attendees do not drink to excess.
3. Only one alcoholic beverage at a time may be served to each individual.
4. Nonalcoholic beverages and appropriate food items, as determined by the Director of Dining Services, must be made available by the sponsor of the event at no additional charge to the attendees.
5. Drinking contests or other activities that promote the consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited.
6. Student-related events at which alcohol is served are limited to those students who are 21 years of age or older. Proof of age is to be determined by the Boston College Dining Service's Alcohol Identification Program ([EXHIBIT B](#)). Exceptions to this policy, which may provide for alternative means of identification or for separate serving/consuming facilities for underage students, must be approved by the Office of the Dean for Student Development or the Law School Associate Dean for Students or the Director of University Housing, and the Director of Dining Services.
7. Open bars are not permitted at any student-sponsored or student-related event. Exceptions to this policy may be approved, in advance, by the Office of the Dean for Student Development or the Law School Associate Dean for Students, and the Director of Dining Services.
8. All off-campus alcohol-related events, including student-sponsored events that involve the use of Boston College funds, must comply with applicable state and local laws. It is the responsibility of event sponsors to ensure this compliance, and to ensure that off-campus facilities have in place alcohol policies comparable to those of Boston College.

## Advertising and Promotion of Alcohol-Related Events

Marketing efforts that promote or encourage the sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages are prohibited by Boston College. The University does not accept sponsorship of its events, publications,

or programs by corporations or businesses in the alcohol beverage industry. Advertisements for events at which alcohol is to be served must be in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. All student-related promotional materials or activities must be registered with, and approved in advance by, the Office of the Dean for Student Development or the Law School Associate Dean for Students.
2. Alcoholic beverages (e.g., kegs or cases of beer) are not to be provided as awards or contest prizes to individuals, to residence floors or halls, or to campus organizations.
3. Unless approved by the Office of the Dean for Student Development or the Law School Associate Dean for Students, postings and/or leafleting promoting commercial liquor establishments are prohibited.

### **Policy Violations**

To be effective, laws and policies require consistent university-wide enforcement. Those who choose to violate them either individually or collectively will be sanctioned as outlined in the DRUG-FREE CAMPUS AND WORKPLACE PROGRAM distributed annually to all faculty, staff, and students. (For additional information, please see policy [1-300-025](#), Drug-Free Schools and Campuses.)

Violations of this policy by undergraduate and graduate students will be dealt with through the Student Judicial System in accordance with procedures set forth in the BOSTON COLLEGE STUDENT GUIDE. Substantiated violations may result in sanctions up to and including suspension or dismissal from the University.

Violations of this policy by law students will be addressed at the Law School by the appropriate Law School committee in accordance with the Law School's ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL, this alcohol policy, and the BOSTON COLLEGE STUDENT GUIDE.

Violations of this policy by faculty and staff will be dealt with in accordance with procedures set forth in the UNIVERSITY STATUTES and the EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK respectively. Such violations may result in sanctions up to and including termination from the University.

In addition, serious violations of this policy by any member of the Boston College community may result in criminal charges and/or arrest.

Boston College's response to violations of this policy by persons not directly affiliated with the University will typically depend upon the severity of the violation and may include a warning, a request to leave the premises, criminal charges, or arrest.

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Posted: April 11, 1996

WWW: May 2, 1997

Update: July 7, 1999

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