

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

POLICY TYPE: ADMINISTRATIVE

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL TITLE: VICE PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

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EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/27/88

NEXT REVIEW DATE: APPROVAL PLUS FOUR YEARS

SUPERSEDES POLICY: ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE POLICY AND REGULATIONS

(ADMIN. REG. AR-II-5.0-1)

BOARD OF REGENTS REPORTING (CHECK ONE):

PRESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION (CONSENT AGENDA/VOTING ITEM)

PRESIDENTIAL REPORT (INFORMATION ONLY)

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Institutional Statement of Policy

Students at Northern Kentucky University who are 18 years of age or older are legally adults capable of increasing their ability to manage their affairs. Current Kentucky law and Northern Kentucky University's policy prohibit the possession and use of alcohol by those under 21 years of age. Although the University does not condone violation of the law for persons of any age, neither does it operate in loco parentis with regard to students. The law, however, does require that universities exercise a duty of care in acting reasonably to provide a safe environment for their students. Northern Kentucky University's responsibility toward students is not to control their behavior, but rather to educate them to make appropriate and effective decisions in their own lives.

If members of the Northern Kentucky University community decide to consume alcoholic beverages, it is the policy of the University to encourage responsible use and to discourage the misuse and abuse of alcoholic beverages. The University recognizes that each person, within the limits of law, has the right to decide freely whether or not to consume alcoholic beverages; however, no person has the right, under the influence of alcohol or otherwise, to abuse the rights or endanger the health, welfare, and property of self or others.

The University supports the following statements relating to the consumption of alcoholic beverages by all persons:

1. There are acceptable alternatives to drinking alcoholic beverages.
2. It is acceptable not to drink; each individual needs to make a personal, informed choice.
3. If an individual chooses to drink, he/she should do so responsibly and in moderation. Furthermore, he/she should adhere to state and local laws pertaining to the sale and use of alcohol and University policies and regulations.
4. Consumption of alcoholic beverages should not be the main focus of an event.
5. Accurate information about the consumption of alcoholic beverages is available.
6. Treatment is encouraged for the progressive disease of alcoholism.

Today's students live in a society in which alcohol is widely used and often abused. Attaining legal drinking age does not ensure that individuals will be able to make wise decisions involving alcohol consumption. Northern Kentucky University is committed to providing information in the form of

discussions, displays, and programs promoting alcohol awareness and responsible decision-making. Members of the University community will be provided information and planning materials in order to promote positive social activities that do not emphasize the consumption of alcoholic beverages. Furthermore, the University will provide opportunities for learning the skills and developing the attitudes needed to handle alcohol use or non-use in ways which are beneficial to the self and others.

Regulations Concerning Alcoholic Beverages

1. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages on the campus of Northern Kentucky University is prohibited except as permitted by law (KRS [§222.202](#), KRS [§244.080](#), KRS [§244.085](#)) and institutional policy stated herein. See paragraph 3 below.
2. The possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages in Northern Kentucky University residence halls is absolutely prohibited. (See Student Housing Handbook and Housing/Dining Agreement Terms and Conditions - <https://inside.nku.edu/housing/current-students.html>.)
3. Alcoholic beverages may be served and consumed at official University functions and approved non-University functions in the President's home and other non-public areas of the NKU campus, as designated by the President, according to the following guidelines:
 - A. If alcoholic beverages are sold, all applicable state and local permits must be obtained.
 - B. Alcoholic beverages shall not be sold or served to anyone under the age of 21.
 - C. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold or served to an intoxicated and/or disorderly person.
 - D. Public funds shall not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages.
 - E. Non-alcoholic beverages must be readily accessible in reasonable quantities and must be presented as appealingly as are the alcoholic beverages.
 - F. Reasonable quantities of snacks or food are required to be served with alcoholic beverages.
 - G. The serving of alcoholic beverages at open or cash bars should end no later than one-half hour before the scheduled end of the event.
 - H. No person under the age of 21 years shall be permitted to sell or serve alcoholic beverages.
 - I. No persons authorized to sell or serve alcoholic beverages may consume such beverages while they are so engaged.
4. Alcoholic beverages may be served and consumed at official University events held off-campus according to the following guidelines:
 - A. All faculty, staff, and students must obey all applicable state and local laws and University regulations pertaining to the sale and use of alcoholic beverages.
 - B. The sale, serving, and consumption of alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited except in areas and at times and dates licensed by the Kentucky Alcohol Beverage Control Board, or similar agencies in other states.
 - C. Persons under 21 years of age shall not legally possess or consume alcoholic beverages in Kentucky. The furnishing of alcoholic beverages to underage persons is strictly prohibited both by policy of the University and by statute of the Commonwealth. Use of fraudulent identification to procure alcoholic beverages is also prohibited.

- D. Adequate alternative beverages and snacks and/or food must be readily available at all social functions where alcohol is served.
 - E. Sponsoring groups and organizations will be responsible for providing security to ensure that guests conduct themselves properly and to assist with crowd control.
 - F. Alcohol shall not be consumed or carried in open containers on any street, sidewalk, alley, or in a motor vehicle.
 - G. Sponsors of an activity should cease serving alcoholic beverages at least one-half hour prior to the end of the scheduled activity.
 - H. No persons under the age of 21 years shall be permitted to sell or serve alcoholic beverages.
 - I. No persons authorized to sell or serve alcoholic beverages may consume such beverages while they are so engaged.
 - J. Activity sponsors must examine the identification of all guests entering the activity. Guests under 21 years of age shall not be permitted to drink alcoholic beverages in the state of Kentucky. If the activity is located in another state, all applicable state and local laws regarding alcohol sales, service, and consumption shall prevail.
 - K. Littering, infringing upon the rights of others, and abuse of public or private property in connection with possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages are considered violations of this policy and of the disciplinary regulations and violations of law sections of the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#).
 - L. Promotion and advertising of events where alcohol will be consumed should not encourage any form of alcohol abuse, nor should events be advertised which place emphasis on quantity and frequency of use of alcohol (e.g., chugging events).
 - M. Beverage alcohol (kegs and cases of beer, bottles of distilled spirits or wine) should not be provided as awards or prizes to individuals or campus organizations.
 - N. No alcoholic beverages shall be sold or served to an intoxicated and/or disorderly person.
5. Possible penalties for violations of these regulations include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:
- A. Legal action by individuals or governmental authorities including possible sanctions of citation or arrest.
 - B. University disciplinary action under the [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#), [Faculty Policies and Procedures Handbook](#), [Salmon P. Chase College of Law Faculty Handbook](#), [Department Chair Handbook](#), or other university policies.
 - C. In addition to (A) and (B) above, students and/or student organizations may be subject to these penalties:
 - 1. Loss, curtailment, or elimination of student social functions, and functions, and notifications of national organizations where applicable.
 - 2. Loss of status as a registered campus organization
6. Student organizations shall designate one person, perhaps an officer of that organization, to assume responsibility for assuring that there is knowledge of and compliance with these alcohol

policies. It is recommended that this person participate in a special educational program offered by the office of the Dean of Students.

7. Beer distributors, liquor companies, bars, and night clubs are not permitted to: (a) advertise on campus; (b) co-sponsor an event with a student organization; (c) advertise on any schedule card, athletic brochure, press guide, invitation, or other printed material; and (d) provide advertising for University events presented on radio or television.
8. Northern Kentucky University does not assume responsibility for unofficial events held off campus involving individuals or groups affiliated with the University.
9. Violations of alcohol-related University policies and regulations by any member of the NKU community shall be reported to one of the following University offices:
 - A. Students – Dean of Students
 - B. Faculty – Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
 - C. Staff – Human Resources
 - D. Guests and all others – Department of Public Safety

II. ENTITIES AFFECTED

Faculty, Staff, Students, and Community

REVISION HISTORY

REVISION TYPE	MONTH/YEAR APPROVED
Minor edits and formatting updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • p. 1, first para., replaced “Administrative Regulations” with “policy” • p. 2, #1, added KRS hyperlinks • p. 2, #2, updated reference to housing documents and added URL • p. 2, #3, deleted outdated reference to the Mark R. Herrmann Center • p. 3, item K, added hyperlink to Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities • p. 3, #5, added hyperlinks and updated references to documents • Minor formatting and punctuation edits throughout 	August 1, 2019 (editorial)
Name change & format change	January 14, 2015 (Admin. Reg. that met criteria for Board-approved policy – see Presidential Recommendation C-7, p. 96 of BoR materials)
Administrative Regulation AR-II-5.0-1 “Alcoholic Beverage Policy and Regulations”	July 27, 1988