

USAO Housing Alcohol Policy

Illegal use of drugs and alcohol is in direct violation of local, state and federal laws as well as University policies included in this policy, and the Student Code of Conduct. University policy strictly prohibits the illegal use, possession, manufacture, dispensing or distribution of alcohol, drugs, or controlled substances in the workplace, on its premises, or as part of any University sponsored activities.

Alcohol

1. Residents and their guests who are under the age of 21 may not possess or consume alcohol.
2. No resident, or their guests, regardless of age, may possess or consume hard alcohol in the residence halls. Hard alcohol is defined as alcohol that is equal to or greater than 15 percent alcohol by volume or 30 proof.
3. Residents of the age of 21 or older are permitted to consume alcohol in the presence of those under 21.
4. It is a violation for any resident to provide alcohol to any under the age of 21.
5. It is a violation of housing policy to provide alcohol to anyone regardless of age who is visibly intoxicated.
6. It is a violation of housing policy to be publicly intoxicated in the residence halls. Students 21 or over who are disruptive because of the use of alcohol may be considered in violation of this policy.
7. Open containers of alcohol are not permitted in public or common areas either inside or outside of the residential buildings. Common areas include, but are not limited to, outside entry or adjacent sidewalk areas, all lounges, Lawson Clubhouse, Lawson pool, community kitchens, recreation rooms, entertainment areas, hallways, lobby restrooms, stairways, fire exits, and laundry rooms.
8. Residents entry doors must remain closed while consuming alcohol.
9. Any activities that induce, encourage, or result in the rapid consumption of alcohol are prohibited. Items used for drinking games or other activities that encourage the excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol (e.g. keg, beer pong tables, beer bongs, funnels, etc.) are prohibited.

University officials will ask individuals who violate the alcohol policy to dispose of all alcohol in their possession. Students who violate the alcohol policy may be referred for disciplinary action. University officials have discretion to call police.

There are several actions that are permissible in university housing in dealing with alcohol violations:

- Names and photo identification will be taken from all residents in any room/apartment where a staff member believes a violation has taken place. This also includes serving alcohol to underage persons on university housing premises.
- Under federal legislation adopted in 1998, the university may notify parents or guardians of residents under the age of twenty-one who are found guilty of an alcohol or other drug violation. Notification of parents may occur when residence life staff believes it will help the resident. When practical, conversations may be held with the resident before contact is made with parents to determine whether such contact is the best course of action.