

# Laws, Policies & Ordinances Involving Alcohol & Other Drugs

The University of Michigan seeks to provide an environment free of the adverse effects of alcohol and other drug abuse. Alcohol abuse is a major national public health issue on college campuses. Behaviors related to alcohol and other drug use can lead to life-altering consequences such as regretted decisions, lost academic potential, discipline, arrest and serious harm to self and others.

Members of the University community can be held accountable for violations of federal, state and local laws and ordinances, as well as the University Policy on Alcohol and Other Drug Use under the Statement of Students Rights and Responsibilities.



## Under 21

- It is illegal to drink alcohol if you are under 21 and can result in a Minor in Possession (MIP) violation.
- It is illegal to purchase, provide or serve alcohol to anyone under 21.
- The body is considered a container. If someone under the age of 21 has consumed alcohol & police have a reasonable suspicion that they have been consuming alcohol, police can issue an MIP.



## Drinking and Driving

- It is illegal for those under 21 to drive after drinking any amount of alcohol.
- It is illegal for those 21 and older to drive with a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .08 or higher or any BAC if driver appears impaired.



## Parties

- It is illegal to serve alcohol to anyone under 21 at a private party.
- Hosts can be held responsible for injuries an intoxicated person causes or incurs at and after leaving a party.
- Police may issue noise violations if any unreasonable noise may be heard beyond the property line and/or is disturbing others. There is a specific city ordinance that covers the hours of 10pm-7am.



## Public Urination

- It is illegal to urinate where someone else may see you or on any public property including alleys.
- A person caught urinating in public may be charged with indecent exposure.



## Open Containers

- It is illegal to be on public property with open containers of alcohol. Public property includes sidewalks, streets and public buildings.
- It is a violation of University policy for anyone to consume or possess alcohol inside any University athletic facility, including Michigan Stadium.



## Fake IDs

- It is illegal to possess, use or make a false ID.



## Prescription Drug Misuse

- It is illegal to misuse prescription medication, i.e. continue to use medication when the prescription is no longer valid, use prescribed drugs contrary to the prescription, and give or sell prescribed drugs to another person. Misusing prescription drugs can result in conviction with jail time.



## Marijuana

- It is illegal to possess marijuana.
- Possession of marijuana on U-M property is a misdemeanor with the consequences of fines and possible jail time.
- Possession of marijuana in the City of Ann Arbor (but not on U-M property) is a civil infraction with a fine.
- The Michigan Medical Marijuana Act of 2008 conflicts with federal laws, so the use, possession or cultivation of marijuana continues to violate U-M policies and is prohibited on U-M property.



## Smoke-Free Campus

- U-M is smokefree on all grounds, parking structures and buildings.



## Assault, Battery and Criminal Sexual Conduct

- It is a violation of University policy and state and local law to physically harm, sexually assault or haze another person.
- Consent is a clear and unambiguous agreement, expressed outwardly through mutually understandable words or actions. It is always freely given and both people must feel that they are able to express yes or no at any point during sexual activity. The partner escalating sexual activity is responsible for obtaining consent before proceeding.
- A person who is incapacitated is unable to give consent. Incapacitation means a person lacks the ability to make informed, rational judgments about whether or not to engage in sexual activity. When alcohol or other drugs are involved, incapacitation is a state beyond drunkenness or intoxication; the level of impairment must be significant enough to render a person unable to give consent.
- Students should be cautious before engaging in sexual activity when either person has been drinking alcohol or using drugs. Forego sexual activity when there is any doubt about either person's level of intoxication.



## Disorderly Conduct

- It is a violation of University policy for anyone to vomit, fight, urinate, defecate or engage in any behavior (yelling, jumping or throwing objects) in a University bus, passenger van or other vehicle which interferes with the safe operation of the vehicle or the safe enjoyment of the other passengers in the vehicle.
- It is illegal to be intoxicated in public.



## Enforcement

- Police officers from U-M Department of Public Safety and Security (DPSS) and the City of Ann Arbor cite students for alcohol and other drug-related offenses, both on and off-campus.
- Police boost enforcement on weekends that are associated with increased activity. This increase is often before/after major athletic events, and the beginning and the end of the school year.
- Medical personnel will not call the police when an underage drinker is at the hospital. However, if DPSS or Ann Arbor police are involved, an MIP can be issued.



## Medical Amnesty

- People under 21 will be exempt from prosecution if they voluntarily present themselves or initiate contact with law enforcement or medical services for the purpose of obtaining medical assistance for an alcohol or prescription drug overdose.
- This law also provides amnesty from prosecution for alcohol possession or consumption for minors who report experiencing criminal sexual misconduct or who assist those who report experiencing such misconduct.



## Parent/Family Communication Program

- Because of the health and safety risk inherent in alcohol and other drug misuse, U-M notifies parents/family members when first-year students under age 21 are involved in serious or repeated alcohol or other drug events.

# Resources

U-M offers resources to educate campus and community members about the consequences of illegal or excessive alcohol and other drug use, and to assist them with making informed choices.

## **UHS, Wolverine Wellness, Alcohol & Other Drug Prevention**

[uhs.umich.edu/aodpp](http://uhs.umich.edu/aodpp)  
734-763-1320

## **Parent/Family Communication Program**

[uhs.umich.edu/parent-communication](http://uhs.umich.edu/parent-communication)  
734-763-1320

## **Office of Student Conflict Resolution**

[oscr.umich.edu](http://oscr.umich.edu)  
734-936-6308

## **University Housing Student Conflict Resolution**

[housing.umich.edu/undergrad/hscr](http://housing.umich.edu/undergrad/hscr)  
734-647-4718

## **Department of Public Safety and Security**

[police.umich.edu](http://police.umich.edu)  
911 (Emergency)  
734-763-1131 (Non-Emergency)  
Tip Line: 734-763-9180

## **Student Legal Services**

[studentlegalservices.umich.edu](http://studentlegalservices.umich.edu)  
734-763-9920

## **Counseling & Psychological Services (CAPS)**

[caps.umich.edu](http://caps.umich.edu)  
734-764-8312

## **Ann Arbor Police Department**

[a2gov.org/departments/police](http://a2gov.org/departments/police)  
911 (Emergency)  
734-994-2911 (Non-Emergency)

# Information

## **University Policy on Alcohol and Other Drug Use**

[alcohol-drug-policy.umich.edu](http://alcohol-drug-policy.umich.edu)

## **Statement of Student Rights and Responsibilities**

[oscr.umich.edu/statement](http://oscr.umich.edu/statement)

## **Stay in the Blue: Download the App!**

[uhs.umich.edu/stayintheblue](http://uhs.umich.edu/stayintheblue)

## **City of Ann Arbor Ordinances**

[www.municode.com/library/mi/ann\\_arbor/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](http://www.municode.com/library/mi/ann_arbor/codes/code_of_ordinances)

## **State of Michigan Laws**

[legislature.mi.gov](http://legislature.mi.gov)

**CHOOSE  
TO BE  
SAFE  
&  
LEGAL**

Laws, Policies and  
Ordinances Involving  
Alcohol and Other Drugs



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