



FRATERNITY & SORORITY SOCIAL POLICY

Fraternity & Sorority Life
Department of Student Engagement and Leadership
Division of Student Development

The Appalachian State University Fraternity & Sorority Social Policy (FSSP) applies to any member, new member or guest of a member, on or off the chapter premises, or at chapter events/functions or any event that an observer may associate with the fraternity/sorority.

SECTION 1: POLICY

- A. The possession, use and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages, during an official fraternity/sorority event, or in any situation sponsored by the chapter, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, county, city and university policy.
- B. All social events sponsored by a recognized fraternity or sorority at Appalachian State University where alcohol is present, must be registered with Fraternity and Sorority life.
- C. All Social Event Registrations Forms (SERF) must be submitted on AppSync one week (7 days) prior to the hosted event. This is for all recognized fraternities and sororities of the Interfraternity Council (IFC), the National PanHellenic Council (NPHC), and the Panhellenic Council (PHC) at Appalachian State University. A SERF must be completed by ALL sponsoring and/or co-sponsoring organizations of the event.

Upon review of the completed SERF, the Fraternity and Sorority Life staff will approve or deny the event. Any questions regarding the approval or denial of any social event should be directed to the Assistant Director for Fraternity and Sorority Life.

3. All social events sponsored by a fraternity or sorority, on or off campus, involving alcohol must be either Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB) or a Third Party Licensed Vendor Function. Organizations must follow the specified event type guidelines identified below in SECTION 3: EVENT TYPE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES.
4. All print materials publicizing a social event where alcohol is served must be submitted to Fraternity and Sorority Life for approval ONLY after an on-line SERF has been submitted and no less than five (5) business days prior to the date of the social event. ***This submission requirement applies to all organizations.***
5. Themes for all social events **must be appropriate** and must not contain any references to alcohol and should not be derogatory in any way. This also applies to themes for t-shirts. This includes sexually charged themes or events that negatively exhibit males or females in any way. Those chapters who submit inappropriate themes will be asked to change the theme or risk not hosting the function at all. Any unapproved theme changes will be subject to sanctioning.

6. Failure to complete or submit a SERF may result in the event sponsor(s) having Administrative Hearing or being referred to the Organizational Conduct Board for hosting an unregistered event.
7. Failure to complete a SERF by the required deadline will result in the cancellation of the event. It is up to the discretion of the Fraternity and Sorority Life Office to approve or deny **any** event.
8. **The hosting chapter(s) is responsible for the actions of both members and guests at any event.**
9. All New Member Activities and Meetings must be dry. This includes any pre or post activities, meetings, New Member Presentations, Initiations, and Big/Little activities as outlined in FIPG.
10. The guidelines and regulations below reflect the social policy for recognized fraternities and sororities at Appalachian State University. All organizations must also comply with FIPG and Inter/National guidelines regarding the sponsoring and/or hosting of social events. In all instances, the most stringent policy applies.

SECTION 2: GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR ALL SOCIAL EVENTS

The following guidelines must be met in order for a social event to be approved by Fraternity and Sorority Life:

- A. **Alcohol:** The sale of alcoholic beverages by any sponsoring or co-sponsoring organization (collectively) or an individual is prohibited. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through or utilizing chapter funds. Nor may the purchasing of alcohol for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter(s) sponsoring or co-sponsoring the event.
- B. **Controlled Substances:** Possession, sale and/or the use of any illegal drugs or controlled substances, collectively or individually, at any social event is strictly prohibited.
- C. **Advertising:** Graphics illustrating alcohol use, sexism or racism and/or slogans implying alcohol abuse, sexual abuse or racism shall be prohibited on all posters, t-shirts and advertising materials.
- D. **Entrance:** All social events at which alcohol beverages are served/consumed must have at least two (2) initiated members or one (1) executive member from the sponsoring organization must remain sober and present at the entrance throughout the entire event. A list of members working the entrance must be included when completing the SERF.
- E. **Identification:** All persons shall have their identification and age checked at the entrance to the event. All persons under the age of 21 will not be allowed to bring or use alcohol at the event. Every organization must have a system for determining which guests are of legal age. It is recommended that each person over the age of 21 will receive a wristband.
- F. **Sober Monitors:** Sober monitors must be equal to or more than 10% of your invited guest list. A list of sober monitors, birth dates and contact numbers must be included when completing the SERF. They are expected to be members of the sponsoring organization, be on duty for the ENTIRE duration of the event and are responsible for the proper management of the registered event.
- G. **Duration:** Events at which alcoholic beverages are served/consumed may not last longer than five (5) hours. Events longer than five (5) hours must be approved by the Assistant Director for Fraternity and Sorority Life.
- H. **Containers:** There shall be no alcohol served by use of a common container. Therefore, kegs, party balls, and punches containing hard liquor are prohibited.

- I. **Drinking Games:** No members or guests shall permit, tolerate, encourage or participate in “drinking games” of any type.
- J. **Safe Environment:** The location of the event must be clean and free of potential hazards.
- K. **Crisis Management Plan:** The sponsoring organization must have a crisis protocol plan completed and on file with Fraternity and Sorority Life. The plan must be submitted at the beginning of each semester by the indicated due date.
- L. **Transportation:** Safe transportation (i.e. buses, sober drivers, taxis) must be provided for every organization sponsored event for members and guests.
- M. **Alternate Beverages and Snacks:** Snack food and non-alcoholic beverages must be available at the event and provided by the sponsoring organization.
- N. **Enclosed Area:** Alcohol beverages must be served and consumed within an enclosed area of the building.

SECTION 3: EVENT TYPE SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

The following guidelines must be met (in addition to the General Guidelines for all Social Events) in order for a social event to be approved by Fraternity and Sorority Life:

- A. **Bring Your Own Beverage Function (BYOB)**
 - 1. **A Bring Your Own Beverage (BYOB) Function** is considered to be a social event which requires all members and guests to provide their own alcoholic beverage.
 - 2. **Location:** A BYOB event may only occur at a location listed on the chapter’s Property of Record Form (PORF) on file with Fraternity and Sorority Life or an otherwise approved location.
 - 3. **Guest List:** A guest list with Banner IDs **OR** birthdates must be included with the SERF submission. The number of individuals in attendance must be in accordance with the venue’s fire code for maximum capacity or no more than two (2) guests per member (whichever is smaller). All guests must be invited by personal invitation only.
 - 4. **Limits:** The limit on the amount of alcohol shall be one (1) six—pack of 12 ounce beers/wine coolers (72 oz.) **OR** 750 ml of unfortified wine per person per event. No bottled beverages are allowed throughout the event. Bottled beverages must be poured into a cup.
 - 5. **Entrance:** There shall be one main entrance to the event. The entrance shall serve four purposes:
 - a. To ensure every person entering the event is either a member or guest;
 - b. To check identification of individuals entering the event;
 - c. To ensure that no visibly intoxicated person(s) is admitted to the event, and
 - d. To ensure that no one is permitted to leave the event with an open alcoholic beverage.

Several exits should be made available to adhere to applicable fire codes and laws; however, exits cannot be used as entrances; only one entrance shall be used.
 - 6. **Security:** The certified/professional security guard will be present to legitimately check members’ and guests’ identification (IDs).
 - 7. **Serving Area:** There is to be only one (1) serving area monitored by sober members who are of legal drinking age. Member servers will serve all beverages but may not consume alcoholic beverages before or during the event. No alcohol may be distributed from any other area during the event. Servers will not serve any persons who are visibly intoxicated. A list of servers and their birthdates must be included when completing the SERF.

8. **Collection and Distribution:** Upon entry into the event, a person of legal drinking age must drop off their alcohol at the serving area. The sponsoring organization will be responsible for monitoring the event to make sure no one is drinking who is not of legal age and that no person is in possession of more than one (1) alcoholic beverage at a time. No bottled beverages are allowed throughout the event. Bottled beverages must be poured into a cup.
9. **Containers:** All beverages packaged in a glass container must be served in a plastic cup.
10. **Event Closing:** Upon the conclusion of the event, guests may retrieve any remaining alcohol. Sober monitors must escort all guests and unopened alcohol off the premises.

***Tailgates are considered BYOB functions. BYOB policies that must be followed are listed below in Section 4: Tailgate Policy**

B. Third Party Licensed Vendor Function

1. **A Third Party Licensed Vendor Function** is considered to be a social event in which the use of alcohol is monitored and distributed by a professional and permitted agency independent of the sponsoring organization. This type of event may take place on or off campus, but the venue must be permitted to serve in accordance with the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission. There shall be no alcohol served by use of a common container unless monitored by the professional agency, which is required to use a cash bar system (by the cup). Therefore, kegs, party balls, and punches containing hard liquor are prohibited.
2. A chapter may not sponsor or co-sponsor an event with an alcoholic distributor, charitable organization or tavern where alcohol is given away, sold or otherwise provided by those present. All *Class A* restaurants in the State of North Carolina are required by law to generate 51% of their gross sales from food.
3. **Third Party Responsibilities:** The sponsoring organization must ensure that the Third Party Vendor meets the following requirements:
 - a. Provides monitoring of the location's entrances and exits;
 - b. Provides necessary security to ensure the proper safety of all guests;
 - c. Checks the identification of each member and guest to ensure that, if they choose to drink, they are of the legal drinking age;
 - d. Provide snack food and non-alcoholic beverages at the cost of the Third Party Vendor or sponsoring organization.

SECTION 4: TAILGATE POLICY

1. A Social Event Registration Form must be submitted. If a form is not submitted, your tailgate reservation through the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership becomes null and void.
2. The following tailgate policies established by the Center for Student Involvement and Leadership must be abided by:
 - a. No alcohol consumption if you are under 21 years of age, before 3.5 hours of kick-off, during or after the game, inside the stadium, or outside of approved tailgate lots.
 - b. No kegs or common containers are allowed in tailgate sites at any time.
 - c. Drinking games, such as beer pong and any device used to accelerate consumption of alcohol are strictly prohibited.
 - d. Only beer and unfortified wine may be consumed on tailgate sites. No glass.

- e. If a person is caught consuming or carrying an open container of beer or wine outside an approved tailgate site at any time of the day, he/she is in violation of the policy and the Town of Boone City Ordinance.
- 3. The following BYOB policies in Section 3-A must be followed.
 - a. An area must be established within your tailgate site to collect and distribute alcohol that is being brought by those of 21 years of age and older.
 - b. Sober monitors will be appointed to secure, manage, and monitor the tailgate.
 - c. Guests/members that are 21 are only allowed (1) six—pack of 12 ounce beers/wine coolers (72 oz.) **OR** 750 ml of unfortified wine per person per event.
- 4. Each chapter is responsible for its members that are present on Duck Pond Field and for their assigned tailgate area.

SECTION 5: VIOLATIONS

Failure to comply with any or all parts of this policy will result in Informal Sanctioning through an Administrative Hearing or will be referred to the Organizational Conduct Board (organizations) and/or the Office of Student Conduct (individuals). A notice of allegations or violation will be submitted via email to the Chapter President and Advisor.

SECTION 6: DEFINITIONS

- A. **“Alcohol”** or **“alcoholic beverages”** with respect to prohibitions stated in this policy, means “any beverage containing at least one-half of one percent (0.5%) alcohol by volume, including malt beverages, unfortified wine, fortified wine, spirituous liquor, and mixed beverages. With respect to provision of this policy that allow possession or consumption of “alcohol” or “alcoholic beverages,” those terms refer to beer or unfortified wine, unless an organization is sponsoring an event where an ABC permit of spirituous liquor and mixed beverages has been issued.
- B. **“Fortified wine”** means any wine of more than sixteen percent (16%) no more than twenty-four (24%) alcohol by volume made by fermentation from grapes, fruits, berries, rice or honey; or by the addition of pure cane, beet, or dextrose sugar; or by the addition of pure brandy from the same type of grape, fruit, berry, rice, or honey that is contained in the base wine and produced in accordance with the regulations of the United States.
- C. **“Malt beverage”** means beer, lager, malt liquor, ale, porter, and any other brewed or fermented beverage containing at least one-half of one percent (0.5%), and not more than fifteen (15%), alcohol by volume.
- D. **“Mixed beverage”** means either of the following:
 - 1. A drink composed in whole or in part of spirituous liquor and served in a quantity less than the quantity contained in a closed package; or
 - 2. A premixed cocktail served from a closed package containing only one serving.
- E. **“Permit”** means any written or printed authorization, issued by the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission, which is valid for a particular location or event.
- F. A **“social event”** means:
 - 1. An event that appears to be hosted or supported by an organization. Per FIPG an event is one that is “perceived” as being an organizational event.
 - 2. A gathering that is scheduled, arranged, or announced by the Chapter; or when a member or members of the Chapter planned, solicited funds for, or promoted the gathering in a manner that creates a reasonable belief that the event has been organized, hosted, sponsored, or co-sponsored by the Chapter; AND
 - 3. Where alcohol is present.

A 'social event' shall not include gatherings when Chapter leadership notifies the University prior to a gathering that the function is not scheduled, arranged, or announced by the Chapter and takes reasonable steps to stop the event and/or disassociate itself from the event. The term 'social event' does not include a Chapter meeting or gathering where only Chapter members are in attendance.

- G. **"Spirituous liquor"** or **"liquor"** means distilled spirits or ethyl alcohol, including spirits of wine, whiskey, rum, brandy, gin and all other distilled spirits and mixtures of cordials, liqueur, and premixed cocktails, in closed containers for beverage use regardless of their dilution.
- H. **"Sponsoring/Co-Sponsoring Organization"** means any recognized fraternity or sorority whose name appears on the Social Event Registration Form (SERF).
- I. **"Unfortified wine"** means any wine of sixteen percent (16%) or less alcohol by volume made by fermentation from grapes, fruits, berries, rice or honey; or by the addition of pure cane, beet, or dextrose sugar; or by the addition of pure brandy from the same type of grape, fruit, berry, rice, or honey that is contained in the base wine and produced in accordance with the regulations of the United States.

SECTION 7: REFERENCES

- A. Appalachian State University Office of the Chancellor policy document regarding the "Possession and Use of Alcoholic Beverages"
- B. Appalachian State University Code of Student Conduct
- C. Fraternal Information & Programming Group (FIPG)