



Policy Title: GE2048 - Alcohol Use and Sale on Campus

Subject Area: General

Responsible Official(s): Executive Vice President and Chief Operating and Financial Officer

Responsible Office(s): Business Continuity & Risk Management

Policy Statement

This Policy sets out the conditions under which alcoholic beverages may be sold, served and/or consumed on University of Memphis (“University”) property or University-related events regardless of the location. This Policy does not prohibit the use of alcoholic beverages in academic coursework where said beverages are not consumed but are used solely in the cooking and/or tasting process in a manner consistent with standard culinary practices and state law. See T.C.A. § 57-4-109.

Definitions

University Property - All land, ground structures and any other physical property owned, controlled or operated by the University.

University Event - Any function, activity or gathering that is under the direction and control of the University, regardless of its location.

Sports Authority Facility - Any facility on University Property that is designed and used for University-sanctioned public sporting events. The following is an exclusive list of facilities that shall be deemed Sports Authority Facilities under this definition: Elma Roane Fieldhouse, FedExPark, Softball Complex, Larry Finch Center and Billy J. Murphy Track & Soccer Complex.

Performing Arts Facilities - Any facility on University Property that is designed and used for University-sanctioned public performing arts such as concerts, plays, theatre, or other public engagements. The following is an exclusive list of facilities that shall be deemed Performing Arts Facilities under this definition: Scheidt Family Performing Arts Center, Harris Concert Hall, Humphries Building Main Stage Theatre.

Policy

Possession, Consumption and Service of Alcoholic Beverages on University Property

Selling, possessing, consuming or serving alcoholic beverages on University Property is prohibited except as provided for in this Policy. The President, or the President's designee, has the authority to make exceptions to this policy, if such exceptions are deemed to be in the best interest of the University, and in compliance with the requirements of the laws of the State of Tennessee. Such exceptions shall be in accordance with the following procedures:

- Alcoholic beverages shall only be served by a University approved bartender licensed in the State of Tennessee. In addition to a valid bartender license, any individual or third-party vendor serving alcohol must also provide proof of adequate insurance coverage.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages shall not be the essential element of any University Event.
- Only persons of legal drinking age under Tennessee state law may possess or consume alcoholic beverages.
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages by students is prohibited on property owned or controlled by the University. However, students of legal drinking age may consume alcohol at events at which consumption of alcohol has been approved pursuant to this policy.
- No student organization shall be permitted to possess or serve alcoholic beverages on University Property or at a University Event. Student organizations hosting off-campus events must comply with all applicable University policies and procedures for student organization events.
- Consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in classrooms, labs, faculty or administrative offices and residence halls, except as allowed in the cooking and/or tasting process in a manner consistent with standard culinary practices and state law. *See T.C.A. § 57-4-109.*
- Alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted at any event where the event is marketed and promoted primarily to students.
- Food and non-alcoholic beverages must be available concurrently with the service of alcoholic beverages at any University Event.
- The only alcoholic beverages that may be possessed or consumed at University Events are those alcoholic beverages that are served at the University Event. Furthermore, alcoholic beverages served at University Events must be consumed within the facility or area designated for the event.
- No state funds or state accounts can be used to purchase alcoholic beverages except as equipment and supplies for approved University academic programs.

- No alcohol shall be stored in University facilities under the control of a third-party vendor due to risk management issues related to safety and security.

Sale of Alcoholic Beverages

The sale of alcoholic beverages is permitted as described below:

- The sale of alcoholic beverages is allowed at Sports Authority Facilities during approved events and the following University Division 1 sporting events: Women's Basketball, Men's Baseball, Women's Volleyball, Men's and Women's Soccer, Women's Softball and Men's and Women's Track and Field, provided the appropriate third party service contracts, licensing, and insurance documentation is in place and has been verified by the Office of Business Continuity and Risk Management.
- Alcoholic beverages can be sold or served by the Kemmons Wilson School of Hospitality and Resort Management in connection with prescribed academic programs.
- Alcoholic beverages can be sold at Performing Arts Facilities during approved internal and external public performances and events, provided the appropriate third-party service contracts, licensing, and insurance documentation is in place and has been verified by the Office of Business Continuity and Risk Management
- Sale of alcoholic beverages by University employees, students and volunteers is strictly prohibited. Alcoholic beverages may only be sold by a University-approved third-party vendor licensed in the State of Tennessee. A certificate of insurance and State of Tennessee Bartender Service license will need to be presented at the time of approval, except when using University catering.
- Any sale of alcoholic beverages on University Property must be conducted within the requirements of the laws of the State of Tennessee and in compliance with any rules, restrictions or regulations of the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission.

Approval Procedure for Service of Alcoholic Beverages

Prior approval is required before alcoholic beverages can be served at a University Event. Organizers and sponsors of University Events, where it is desired that alcoholic beverages be served, must submit the Request for Alcohol Service Exception form to the President, or the President's designee, for approval within five (5) business days of the University Event.

When submitting the Request for Alcohol Service Exception form, the sponsoring group is responsible for identifying an individual to be present at the event who will be responsible for ensuring that the event complies with this Policy and all applicable state and local laws regarding the serving of alcohol.

The Request for Alcohol Service Exception form may contain additional requirements or stipulations and the sponsoring group is responsible for compliance with any additional requirements. The University, through the President or the President's designee, reserves the sole right to deny approval for alcohol service for any reason, including, but not limited to,

failure to adhere to this Policy or failure to adhere to additional requirements imposed by the Office of Business Continuity and Risk Management.

FAQs

Who do I contact with further questions?

Contact the [Office of Business Continuity and Risk Management](#).

Related Documents, Policies and Forms

[Request for Alcohol Service Exception](#)

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