

The University of Oklahoma
STUDENT ALCOHOL POLICY

Revised by the University of Oklahoma Board of Regents September 19, 2011

All campus-affiliated student organizations and all students who are currently enrolled at the University of Oklahoma or are pre-enrolled for subsequent semesters and have attended the institution for at least one semester in the current or past academic year are responsible for following federal, state and local laws, the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code, and the Student Alcohol Policy.

- (1) All fraternities, sororities, and residence halls shall be dry. Alcoholic beverages will not be allowed inside fraternity houses, sorority houses and OU residence halls or on the grounds surrounding them. Fraternity officers and members will sign an agreement to abide by this policy, which will be strongly enforced. Enforcement for campus alcohol violations and punishments has been increased.
- (2) To curtail alcohol abuse on and off campus, the University has adopted a mandatory, minimum “Three Strikes” policy. The first alcohol violation, whether off campus or on campus, automatically will result in appropriate parent/guardian notification and further alcohol education. A second violation will also automatically carry parent/guardian notification and an appropriate sanction. A third violation will result in automatic suspension from the University for a minimum of one semester.
Parents/guardians will be informed of this policy at the time their son or daughter enrolls at OU.
- (3) Events where alcohol is served, which are sponsored by campus-affiliated student organizations, shall be restricted to only Friday nights and Saturday nights.
- (4) Transportation to and from off-campus parties sponsored by campus-affiliated student organizations shall include designated drivers or public transportation provided by the sponsoring group.
- (5) Alcohol education programs have been expanded and all entering undergraduate students, age 22 and under, are required to complete these programs to remain in good standing. In addition, upon joining a fraternity or sorority, new members will participate in a University-approved alcohol education program before their new member program begins.
- (6) An anonymous, confidential hotline has been established where violations of the anti-hazing and dry fraternity, sorority and residence hall policies may be reported.
- (7) All fraternity and sorority recruitment events are alcohol-free. In addition, regulations have been established for IFC fraternities to regulate summer recruitment activities. These regulations include: mandatory registration of recruitment-related facilities, notification one calendar week prior to recruitment events, and open invitations to IFC and University representatives to attend any recruitment activities.
- (8) Campus-affiliated student organizations are required to present a plan annually for organizationally-sponsored events prior to any activities where alcohol is served.
- (9) Fraternity and Sorority Student Life has enhanced the University’s statement on prohibited hazing activities. Fraternity and sorority officers will sign a pledge to abide by this policy and report violations. It will also be provided to new members who will sign a statement promising to report violations. This statement on prohibited hazing activities will also be given to the new members’ parents/guardians, who will be urged to report any violations.
- (10) The University has established a formal relationship with licensed alcohol counselors for immediate student referrals.
- (11) The University has established the SafeRide program that is contracted with local public transportation companies to provide safe rides to discourage drinking and driving.
- (12) Because of the critical student health and safety issues, any conflicting policy or process will be waived.

The University of Oklahoma THREE STRIKES POLICY

Definition of a Strike

A “strike” is the University’s official recognition of a student’s or organization’s violation of the University’s Student Alcohol Policy. Nothing herein shall waive a student’s right to due process. A strike is a final University disciplinary action that finds the accused guilty of an alcohol-related violation. A student or organization may be charged with an alcohol-related violation based on the following:

1. A conviction, deferred sentence, or a plea that has the effect of conviction of an alcohol-related violation of which the University is made aware;¹ or
2. A University finding or allegation that a student or organization may have committed an alcohol-related violation prohibited by the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code. Such violations include, but are not limited to, the conduct prohibited by Title 16 of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code, the Student Alcohol Policy, incident reports and citations. Upon notification of the foregoing, or any other violation reasonably related to alcohol, the University may charge the student pursuant to the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code and the student shall be entitled to an appropriate hearing as defined by the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code. Whether by decision of an appropriate disciplinary body, administrative official, or by a negotiated settlement, any final University disciplinary action resulting in a finding of guilt for an alcohol-related violation shall be considered a strike.²

Reporting Mechanisms

The University may act on any reliable information it receives. Although not an exhaustive list, the University may be notified of prohibited conduct in the following ways:

1. A police report from the University of Oklahoma Police Department;
2. A police report from the Norman Police Department;
3. Reports from other law enforcement or security agencies that are received by the University;
4. Notification by a University official that an alcohol violation occurred; or
5. Any other information deemed reliable by the University that comes to the attention of a University official.

Once notified of alleged prohibited conduct, the University, may investigate the information received to determine if the conduct constitutes a violation prior to taking action. Nothing herein shall waive a student’s right to due process.

The University strongly supports and encourages any student seeking transportation assistance in the event he/she cannot safely operate a motor vehicle. Further, the University strongly supports and encourages students seeking medical and/or mental health care in the event of alcohol-related illness or other concerning behavior related to alcohol use. To ensure students prioritize their own safety and health, the University shall not utilize information that a student has sought or accessed

¹ Alcohol violations and misconduct shall include, but shall not be limited to, minor in possession; public intoxication; manufacture, use or possession of false identification; driving under the influence, driving while intoxicated, actual physical control and involvement in a crime while under the influence. Student Affairs, by and through the Student Conduct Office, shall determine if a charge is alcohol-related; however, the final determination shall be made by an appropriate disciplinary body or administrative official.

² A final disciplinary action shall be a decision to which no further right of appeal exists in the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code.

medical / mental health treatment or the SafeRide program as a basis upon which to initiate disciplinary action or as evidence in any disciplinary proceeding.

**The University of Oklahoma
THREE STRIKES POLICY
SANCTIONS**

INDIVIDUAL SANCTIONS:

The following sanctions are mandatory minimum sanctions for alcohol violations. Based on the severity of the infraction, the University reserves the right to impose any appropriate additional sanction(s). Any violation by an individual student remains part of the individual's record until graduation. If a student is suspended after the 3rd strike and is readmitted to the University of Oklahoma, the student is readmitted with 2 strikes.

1st Strike

- Parent/Guardian notification via return receipt certified mail.
- \$75.00 administrative fee.
- Satisfactorily complete a defined alcohol education program.
- Censure. The notation of Censure shall be removed upon graduation from the University of Oklahoma subject to completion of disciplinary sanctions.

2nd Strike

- Parent/Guardian notification via return receipt certified mail with a follow-up telephone call.
- \$150.00 administrative fee.
- Satisfactorily complete an approved alcohol counseling program.
- Satisfactorily complete 20 hours of approved community service.
- Disciplinary probation. The notation of Disciplinary probation shall be removed upon graduation from the University of Oklahoma subject to completion of disciplinary sanctions.

3rd Strike

- Parent/Guardian notification via return receipt certified mail with a follow-up telephone call.
- Automatic suspension.

Deferred Strike

The following individual alcohol violations shall be entitled to an automatic deferred first strike: minor in possession and/or public intoxication. In other similar, limited circumstances the University Vice President for Student Affairs, at his/her sole discretion, may grant a deferral for a first strike. A first strike based on a Driving Under the Influence (DUI) incident is not eligible for deferral. A deferred first strike will not be considered a "violation" and will not be maintained as a disciplinary record of the University unless the student commits another alcohol violation of any nature, within the 12-month period of deferral. In such event, the deferral of the first strike shall be revoked and the second alcohol violation shall be considered a second strike. To qualify for the ultimate removal of the deferred first strike, the student must not commit any other alcohol violation for a period of 12 months from the date the student is found responsible by the University for the deferred alcohol violation. Moreover, students are only entitled to one deferred strike during their attendance at the University.

Removal of Individual Strike

A student who has received a first strike may request that the strike and the record be removed from his/her student file provided the student meets the relevant eligibility criteria and provides documents evidencing the following criteria. This request must be made in writing to the Student Conduct Officer. In order to be eligible to request to have the strike and the record removed from his/her student file at the University, the student must present documentation of the following:

- (1) it has been one year since the student was found responsible by the University for an alcohol violation;
- (2) the student has not received any additional charges or alcohol related violations on or off campus since the student was found responsible by the University for the alcohol violation at issue;
- (3) the student timely completed all agreed upon sanctions required by the University.

Removal of the strike is at the sole discretion of the University Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designee. Additionally, this opportunity for a student to have a first strike removed from his/her University record does not apply to DUIs applies only to charges under the University's Three Strike Policy, and in no way limits any other available action by the University including, but not limited to, any violation of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code. Moreover, a student is only entitled to one strike removal during his/her attendance at the University.

ORGANIZATIONAL SANCTIONS:

Organizational sanctions will be administered based on the possession and use of alcohol in an organization's residence facility or the illegal or prohibited use of alcohol at an organizational event.

Before imposing an organizational sanction, as opposed to solely an individual sanction, the University will consider the entirety of the circumstances surrounding the organizational event, including, but not limited to, whether:

- (1) the alcohol violation was endorsed, sponsored, sanctioned, enabled, furthered, or funded, in whole or in part, by the organization, its officers, or the officers of its local, state, or national organization acting with actual or apparent authority, and any of them knew or should have known of the alcohol violation and they took insufficient action to prevent or cease the violation; or
- (2) the alcohol violation occurred on property owned, leased, rented or occupied by the organization, and the officers of the organization took insufficient action to prevent or cease an alcohol violation they knew or should have known existed; or
- (3) alcohol is located in the organization's campus or campus-affiliated residence facility (e.g. fraternity/sorority chapter houses), unless otherwise exempted; or
- (4) regardless of its location, the alcohol violation occurred at an event or any gathering of two or more individuals of the organization conducted in furtherance of the mission or purpose of the organization, including any event, program or ceremony; or
- (5) the alcohol violation occurred at any gathering utilizing the organization's name or logo, or that was advertised by the organization; or
- (6) the alcohol violation occurred at any gathering of two or more individuals that would typically be in furtherance of the organization's activities, but is designed to circumvent these rules.

The Vice President for Student Affairs has the discretion to determine whether, based on the criteria above and the totality of the circumstances, the alcohol violation occurred at an organization event and warrants an organizational sanction.

Any violation by the group remains part of the organization's "Three Strikes" record for a period of three calendar years, unless the organization requests and the University grants removal of an eligible first strike in accordance with the Student Alcohol Policy, below.

1st Strike

- At the discretion of the University and after considering all relevant information, the University will impose a minimum administrative fee of \$500.00 or a per capita rate of \$1.00 to \$20.00 based on the organization's membership at the time of the violation, whichever is more appropriate.
- 100% of the organization's membership must complete a defined alcohol education program.
- An aggregate community service requirement for the organization of 10-25 hours per capita based on the organization's membership at the time of the violation. It is at the discretion of the University as to whether pledges or associate members will be included in fulfilling the requirements of the sanction.
- Censure: A written reprimand for violation of specified regulations, including the possibility of more severe disciplinary sanctions in the event of the finding of a violation of any University regulation within a stated period of time. This type of action does not create new restriction for the organization.

2nd Strike

- At the discretion of the University and after considering all relevant information, the University will impose a minimum administrative fee of \$1,000.00 or a per capita rate of \$5.00 to \$20.00 based on the organization's membership at the time of the violation, whichever is more appropriate.
- 100% of the organization's membership must complete a defined alcohol education program.
- An aggregate community service requirement for the organization of 10 to 25 hours per capita based on the organization's membership at the time of the violation. It is at the discretion of the University as to whether pledges or associate members will be included in fulfilling the requirements of this sanction.
- Disciplinary Probation: Exclusion from participation in privileged or extracurricular University activities set forth in the notice for a period of time specified. Other conditions of the probation may apply to any other activities of the organization in the University community, except those that would affect organization's academic pursuits.

3rd Strike

- At the discretion of the University and after considering all relevant information, the University will impose a minimum administrative fee of \$1,500.00 or a per capita rate of \$10.00 to \$20.00 based on the organization's membership at the time of the violation, whichever is more appropriate.
- 100% of the organization's membership must complete a defined alcohol education program.
- An aggregate community service requirement for the organization of 10 to 25 hours per capita based on the organization's membership at the time of the violation. It is at the discretion of the University as to whether pledges or associate members will be included in fulfilling the requirements of this sanction.
- Organizational Suspension: The organization will be suspended for a minimum of one year. University approval is required before the organization will be reinstated.

Removal of Organizational Strike

An organization that has received a first strike may request that the strike and the record be removed from its file provided the organization meets the relevant eligibility criteria and provides documents evidencing the following criteria. This request must be made in writing to the Student Conduct Officer. In order to be

eligible to request to have the strike and the record removed from its file at the University, the organization must present the following documentation:

- (1) it has been one year since the organization was found responsible by the University for an alcohol violation;
- (2) the organization has not received any additional charges or alcohol related violations on or off campus, since receiving the alcohol violation at issue;
- (3) the organization timely completed and exceeded all sanctions required by the University.

Removal of an organizational strike is at the sole discretion of the University Vice President for Student Affairs. Additionally, this opportunity for an organization to have a first strike removed from its University record applies only to charges under the University's Three Strikes Policy and in no way limits any other available action by the University including, but not limited to, any violation of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Code.

If removal of the strike is granted, the Organization cannot request the removal of another strike for a period of three calendar years from the date the strike is removed. Organizations are not eligible for deferred strikes.