

Muhlenberg College Student Alcohol Policy

This document clarifies the College's approach and expectations related to the use of alcohol by students.

Preamble

Muhlenberg College is committed to the health, safety and well-being of each member of the Muhlenberg community. While focusing on our core academic mission and fostering a sense of intellectualism and curiosity, Muhlenberg also strives to equip students with critical life skills and provide them with opportunities to exercise leadership and apply their learning outside of the classroom setting. As such, the College wishes to encourage students to shape the social life of the campus in ways that foster community, promote vibrant and diverse social options, and encourage responsibility and accountability. In addition, our aim is for this policy to assist the College in creating a culture that supports students who do not use alcohol and students who choose to socialize with alcohol in a safe, legal and responsible manner on and off campus.

In our pursuit of academic excellence and student health and well-being, all members of the College community—students, faculty and staff—have a role in safeguarding a healthy learning environment. Alcohol misuse and abuse continue to be one of the leading public health issues causing harmful consequences on college campuses. To this end, we encourage students to serve as healthy role models for one another, intervene with their peers when a student's health is in jeopardy, and report incidents related to alcohol misuse that may lead to harm of individual students or our broader campus community. We also encourage faculty and staff to be active participants in the lives of our students, to support student health and safety, and to reach out for assistance if concern arises about alcohol related issues on campus. [The Department of Prevention Education](#) on campus provides educational resources to assure that students understand the effects of alcohol misuse and how to engage in bystander intervention practices.

Finally, members of the Muhlenberg community are expected to abide by all federal, state and local laws, including those governing alcohol consumption and distribution. Under Pennsylvania law, it is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase alcohol or to possess alcohol in a public space. It is also illegal for anyone to furnish alcohol to an individual under the age of 21. Other state laws governing the use of alcohol can be found here.

The College does not tolerate reckless drinking - lawful or unlawful - and its consequent harmful behaviors. Responsibility for application of the Student Alcohol Policy resides with the [Dean of Students](#) and the [Office of Student Conduct](#). In addition, the Director of Prevention Education reports to the Executive Director for Health and Counseling Services and is tasked with developing and implementing alcohol and other drug educational programs. The College's [Drug Use and Controlled Substance Policy](#) is also applicable. The Muhlenberg College [Department of Campus Safety/Police](#) enforces federal, state and local laws among students, other community members, guests and visitors.

Alcohol Policy Violations

Students found in violation of the Muhlenberg College Student Alcohol Policy, Pennsylvania Laws and/or city ordinances will be subject to disciplinary action at the discretion of the Associate Dean of Students/Director of Student Conduct. Please refer to the [Student Code of Conduct](#) for more information.

Regulations Regarding Personal Alcohol Consumption

The regulations contained in this policy apply to all students. Muhlenberg's Student Alcohol Policy is in effect throughout the calendar year.

1. The attempted or actual purchase, consumption, transportation, or possession of alcoholic beverages by a person under 21 is prohibited.
2. Alcohol may not be consumed and alcohol containers may not be possessed on/in any properties leased or owned by the College by anyone who is under the legal drinking age.
3. It is a violation of the Student Alcohol Policy for anyone to possess or use any item (including but not limited to beer bong, water pong, tap device, Beirut table, funnel, etc.) that could lead to the excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol such as drinking games, etc.
4. Public intoxication, including alcohol-induced disorderly conduct, property destruction, intimidation, or other infringement upon the rights or privacy of others will not be tolerated. Furnishing alcohol to persons who appear to be intoxicated is prohibited.
5. In accordance with the laws of the City of Allentown, no open containers of alcohol are allowed in public places. The College prohibits open containers outside of areas designated for a social event.
6. The possession or use of alcohol at College sports events or in athletic facilities is prohibited unless it is part of a sanctioned College-approved student event to occur outside of the specific venue in which the athletic competition is played.
7. No one shall be permitted to sell alcoholic beverages or alcoholic beverage tickets (including but not limited to wristbands, cups, T-shirts, bandannas, etc.), to raffle the sale of beverages as prizes or to engage in any activity including but not limited to the sale of admission tickets, which may reasonably be construed as a sale or indirect sale of such beverages.
8. The purchase, storage, or use of a bulk quantity or a common source of alcoholic beverages, such as kegs or party balls, is prohibited.
9. No student shall furnish alcoholic beverages to underage persons.
10. In accordance with state laws, religious uses of wine are exempt from age limitations.
11. The sale, purchase, possession, and use of an alcohol vaporizing device are prohibited. Alcohol vaporizing device is defined as any machine or process which mixes spirits, liquors or other alcohol products with oxygen or any other gas to produce a vaporized product for consumption by inhalation.