

The Alcohol Policy

Introduction:

There are numerous sections of the Crime Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that deal with intoxicating liquor. An increasing public concern about alcohol abuse and alcohol-related injuries has been followed by a developing body of case law that has extended the liabilities of vendors to non-commercial or “social” hosts on whose premises alcohol is served to minors or intoxicated persons of any age. The Haverford College Policy of Drug-Free Schools, adopted in compliance with federal requirements, forbids the unlawful possession, use of, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol. Mindful of legal obligations, Haverford College has developed a policy that seeks to achieve the following goals:

Goals of the Alcohol Policy:

1. To remind students of the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and of the Honor Code, all of which should govern their behavior with respect to alcohol. Students are entrusted to hold themselves to high standards of conduct, such as concern for the safety of themselves and others, and respect for others’ decisions concerning alcohol and other controlled substances, so long as these decisions are not in violation of the Policy;
2. To stress moderation, safety, and individual accountability for those who choose to drink.
3. To maintain a respectful social atmosphere that is free of coercion for those who choose to drink, and those who choose not to drink and a climate in which alcohol is not the center of parties or other social events;
4. To maintain a community in which alcohol abuse and its effects are minimal;
5. To promote an ethos in our community that promotes affirmative consent and holds every individual accountable for their actions, with the understanding that sexual misconduct includes any instance where a participant is inebriated;
6. To create and promote a social culture that is actively vigilant for any signs of sexual misconduct, especially when alcohol is involved;
7. To promote a social culture that empowers members of the community to prevent the perpetuation of rape culture and prepares them to interrupt or stop acts of sexual violence or sexual misconduct, including when explicit and uncoerced consent cannot be given. One can find definitions of sexual violence, sexual misconduct, rape culture, and consent in these two links:
 - a. <https://www.haverford.edu/sexual-misconduct/what-sexual-misconduct>
 - b. <http://www.wavaw.ca/what-is-rape-culture/>
8. To provide confidential and effective guidance for those with specific needs related to alcohol use and alcoholism;
9. To establish the composition and responsibilities of the Joint Student-Administration Alcohol Policy Panel (JSAAPP); and

10. To provide information and education about the effects of alcohol for all its students with the expectation that each student reads the policy on their own.

All members of the community are expected to be familiar with and abide by the Alcohol Policy. It is the duty of all students to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the Honor Code and the Alcohol Policy and to help others to do the same. With regard to the consumption of alcohol, it is recognized that students are responsible for their own well-being, as well as the well-being of others. Thus, behavior that puts lives at risk, in terms of mental and physical health and legal liability, cannot be condoned.

The Policy:

Article I

Students have the responsibility to confront others whose behavior under the influence of alcohol is inconsistent with the welfare of themselves and others in the community, as well as the responsibility to call upon administration and JSAAPP when feeling that alcohol has caused peers to act in violation of the policy. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, mental/verbal violence, physical violence, sexual violence, and sexual misconduct. This also includes, but is not limited to, any racist, sexist, homophobic, and transphobic behavior or language. When community members lose their ability to reason and control their actions due to excessive alcohol consumption, it is threatening to them, to those around them, and ultimately to the community as a whole. Students are responsible for preventing themselves and others from ever reaching that point – and thus should take the necessary steps to do so. Inebriation shall not be seen as an acceptable or justifiable excuse for disruptive behavior and confrontation for such behavior shall be dealt with as prescribed by the Honor Code.

Article II

Any infractions of Article II will fall under the jurisdiction of Honor Council and JSAAPP. Students have the responsibility to preserve the natural integrity of the campus and therefore to maintain the good condition of the College by preventing any instances of destruction, defacement, littering, and other offenses that can occur as results of alcohol consumption. Events that involve the consumption of alcohol can often lead to the scattering of cups, broken glass, and other waste that affects the condition of the grounds and the safety of the students. In addition, excessive consumption of alcohol can lead to the defacement and vandalism of campus buildings by community members. Students have the responsibility for preventing and resolving these issues in the interest of student safety and the College's ecological and aesthetic environment.

Article III

1. Events: Since the majority of the students are under twenty-one, the legal drinking age in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, alcoholic beverages are not to be served or consumed at student events open to and/or advertised in the college, bi-college, or tri-college communities with the exemption of special events that have been approved by JSAAPP. In order to receive permission for an aforementioned “special event,” the event coordinators must first submit a proposal for the event to JSAAPP, by emailing jsaapp@haverford.edu. These events must meet the following criteria in order to be considered:
 - a. The event may only take place in Lunt Basement and James House
 - b. The event must be aimed towards promoting the fine or performing arts, campus community, or diversity and inclusion.
 - c. The event organizers plan the event with the aim of promoting the goals of the Alcohol Policy in mind—stressing moderation, safety, and individual accountability for those who choose to drink and providing a positive drinking atmosphere in which alcohol is not the center of the event. Additionally, online discussions relating to the presence of alcohol at an event are highly discouraged.
 - d. Alcohol may not be served at the event if the event coincides with Prospective Student Weekend.
 - e. If the event organizers wish to organize a series of events, they can apply once at the beginning of the semester for all the events that semester, given JSAAPP approval.
2. Private Parties: Outside of approved special events, alcoholic beverages may be consumed only in private spaces or reserved registered party spaces. A private space is defined as a student residence or an outdoor area, such as a stoop, porch, or yard that is immediately adjacent to a student residence. The College recommends students not consume alcoholic beverages outdoors on College grounds, hallways or stairwells. Furthermore, alcoholic beverages may only be served in indoor private spaces or adjacent areas. Serving or consuming alcohol on athletic fields used by any College team or outside group is prohibited, in compliance with NCAA regulations.
3. Alcoholic beverages may neither be served nor consumed in public spaces such as, but not limited to, Founders Great Hall and Common Room, the Dining Center, all classroom and laboratory buildings, all libraries, any athletic fields used by any College team or outside group, and any space not defined as a private space without the express written permission of the President of the College.
4. The guidelines apply to all students, including those twenty-one years of age or older.
5. If drinking, students should work to curtail behaviors that may pose a hazard to the comfort and safety of party or event guests, other occupants of the dormitory, and themselves, including, but not limited to, creating excessive noise and/or blocking corridors, stairwells, or doorways, mental/verbal violence, physical violence, sexual violence, and sexual misconduct.

6. As is the case with JSAAPP approved special events, all private parties must not advertise the presence of alcohol.

Article IV

1. JSAAPP is composed of two Co-Heads, elected for the entire year, one member of Honor Council, and one member of the Gender Resources and Sexual Education (GRASE) Center who are appointed by their respective bodies at the beginning of each semester; one student representative from the Office of the Dean of the College or the Dean themselves. The election of the JSAAPP Co-Heads will follow the procedures set forth in Section 5.08 of the Constitution of the Haverford College Students' Association (entitled "Nomination and Election of the Students' Council").
2. Communicative Responsibilities of JSAAPP include:
 - a. No later than one month before the first day of class of a given academic year, Co-Heads of JSAAPP shall reach out to the Dean of the College and Customs Co-Heads via email. This email should contain a formal introduction requesting a meeting with these individuals to take place during or before customs week. The purpose of this meeting is to set up a mandatory presentation to all first year students (8).
 - b. JSAAPP Co-Heads shall move into their Haverford residential spaces prior to the end of customs in order to accommodate the presentation mentioned above.
 - c. No later than two weeks before the first day of class of a given academic semester, Co-Heads of JSAAPP shall reach out to the Head of Campus Safety via email. This email shall contain a formal introduction requesting an in-person meeting with the Head of Campus Safety.
 - d. No later than two weeks after the first day of class of a given academic year, Co-Heads of JSAAPP shall send an introductory email to the entire Haverford student body (Copying the Dean of the College), containing the following information:
 - i. Both of their names and email addresses, resource of jsaapp@haverford.edu for any pressing concerns with respect to the Alcohol Policy;
 - ii. A link to the current alcohol policy, as ratified in the previous academic year;
 - iii. A proclamation that all students of the college must read aforementioned alcohol policy in its entirety; and
 - iv. A statement that JSAAPP is available to provide information about alcohol education, Campus Safety, and available, alcohol related resources.
 - e. No later than two weeks after the first day of class of a given academic semester, Co-Heads of JSAAPP shall reach out to the Honor Council, GRASE, and the

Dean's Office, requesting appointments from their respective organizations to JSAAPP.

3. JSAAPP Customs Presentations shall take place during customs week and first year attendance shall be mandatory. These presentations must be given by the JSAAPP Co-Heads, one or more Campus Safety officers, one or more GRASE representatives, and other experts as determined through collaboration between JSAAPP and the Dean's Office staff responsible for Customs. This presentation should include, but may not be limited to:
 - a. Briefly outlining the alcohol policy, with a special emphasis on a culture of vigilance and concern for peers who may be in danger of alcohol poisoning;
 - b. Information on how to take care of and seek help for individuals in danger of alcohol poisoning;
 - c. Alcohol Education spanning definitions of a standard drink, binge drinking, alcohol abuse, etc; and
 - d. Resources relating to any alcohol and/or substance consumption/abuse including but limited to Campus Safety and Substance Abuse Counselors.
4. Students should confront those in violation of the alcohol policy. If this confrontation does not or cannot lead to the satisfactory resolution of a problem, the confronting party must bring the matter to the attention of JSAAPP. JSAAPP can serve as a mediator between confronted and confronting parties. If deemed necessary by the JSAAPP Co-Heads, a meeting of JSAAPP will be called to settle the matter, to determine whether a case should be resolved through JSAAPP itself, Honor Council, GRASE, the Dean's Office, or a Substance Abuse Counselor. Flagrant or repeated violations of the Alcohol Policy may result in separation or exclusion of the confronted person(s) from the College.
5. JSAAPP proceedings shall occur under the following circumstances:
 - a. Semesterly and before Plenary, the entirety of JSAAPP shall convene to discuss the state of the alcohol policy. This meeting's purpose is to allow the groups represented in JSAAPP to express concerns related to the alcohol policy, and about alcohol use on campus, as well as to inform these groups of the policy's goals and mechanisms.
 - b. Monthly meetings between JSAAPP Co-Heads and the Dean of the college. These meetings exist to discuss the state of the alcohol policy on campus, and advise the Dean on supplementary actions that promote the effectiveness of the alcohol policy in achieving its goals.

Article V

1. It is expected that hosts will inform their guests of relevant provisions of the Honor Code and the Alcohol Policy. Should the provisions of the Alcohol Policy be violated by non-College members, their continued access to this campus may be restricted.

2. Faculty and staff members who entertain students should be aware of the responsibilities and risks to the College and to themselves as individual social hosts under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
3. If the Party Guidelines are not followed either by guests or hosts, it is the obligation of students aware of the violation to approach those in violation and seek a resolution.

Article VI

As with the Honor Code, the students of the community need to reaffirm their commitment to the Alcohol Policy to demonstrate that they accept both the freedom and privileges regarding alcohol consumption and the responsibilities that it entails. The Policy shall be re-ratified every year, and it may be amended at any Plenary. Amendments to the Policy may be proposed by any member of the Students' Association. Amendments will be passed by a two-thirds vote of the total attendance at Plenary. A two-thirds majority vote of those at Plenary shall be necessary for final ratification of the entire Policy. The final text of the Policy shall be immediately forwarded to the President and Dean of the College for presentation to and approval by the Board of Managers.

Ratified on 3/20/2022