

Alcohol Policy



The use of alcohol impedes the ability of a student to achieve optimal performance levels. The CUAD does not support underage drinking, irresponsible use of alcohol or alcohol-related behavior that leads to involvement with the criminal justice system. Clemson University, Clemson University Housing, and South Carolina law restrict the use of alcohol. Students should refer to the Clemson University Code of Conduct for further information on these restrictions.

Students who consume alcohol will be held accountable for any alcohol-related incident in which they are involved on or off campus. In such cases, the student may be subject to CUAD or team disciplinary action. If the alcohol-related incident does not result in legal action, the head coach of that student's team will recommend to that team's sports supervisor the appropriate course of action. If the student is charged, convicted or pleads guilty to an alcohol-related incident, the course of action will follow CUAD's protocol for addressing violations of the department's Standard of Conduct/Disciplinary Policy, which are set forth in the Student Handbook. The student may also be subject to University sanctions as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.

Examples of Alcohol Incidents Involving the Legal System

- Driving under the influence (DUI/DWI) or other motor vehicle violations involving alcohol.
- Public Intoxication.
- Drunk and disorderly conduct (DD/DDC).
- Minor in possession (MIP).
- Possession of a false identification card.

Students are subject to university sanctions for conduct associated with the irresponsible use/possession of alcohol. If an incident is reported to the University, and sanctions subsequently imposed, CUAD will review and determine whether further sanctions/requirements will be imposed.

Possible Sanctions/Requirements in Response to Alcohol Violations

- Education
- Counseling
- Suspension of team privileges
- Suspension/separation from the team

NOTE: Parents/legal guardians of the student will be informed of all incidents involving irresponsible or illegal use of alcohol pursuant to the Standard of Conduct/Discipline Policy.

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Clemson University Medical Alcohol Amnesty Policy (MAAP)

Clemson University's MAAP states: "Anyone who receives emergency medical attention for alcohol consumption, or seeks assistance for someone in an alcohol-related emergency will not be charged with violations of university alcohol-related policies. No one may receive protection under this policy more than once in a two-year period." CUAD acknowledges, and supports this policy, however, the student's head coach may use their judgment in how to address the incident, particularly with regard to the health/safety/performance of the student. However, since the Department's alcohol policy focuses upon education and support, those aspects of the offense schedule related to counseling, and informing parents/guardians will be retained.

Students should note that the University policy does not provide a defense from criminal charges that may ensue from the alcohol-related behavior.

The University offers early-intervention and other counseling programs for students using alcohol inappropriately. Contact Natalie Honnen (864-656-9254) for a referral, or contact Redfern Health Center directly (864-656-2415).