

# *Alcohol Standard*

Nicholls State University is committed to upholding all local, state and federal laws concerning use and abuse of alcohol and other drugs, and will support efforts in the campus community to confront violations of these laws. The University is also committed to maintaining a safe, healthful environment that supports its educational mission. The abuse of alcoholic beverages by its students, faculty, staff and their guests interferes with the accomplishment of this mission. More specifically, the abuse of alcohol (1) negatively impacts the life and well-being of citizens; (2) interferes with student learning, student retention, and student graduation; (3) generates a cost to the University through personal injury, crimes, property damage, and risk management; and (4) negatively affects the image of the University. Because Nicholls State University seeks to create a social environment that enhances learning, the following values with regard to alcohol will be upheld: (1) abstinence, as an option, is always supported and should never be discouraged; (2) although moderate and legal alcohol use may be permitted, the drinking of alcohol is never encouraged; (3) abusive consumption of alcohol is always discouraged; and (4) participation in illegal behaviors involving alcohol is not tolerated

Furthermore, inappropriate behaviors and associated negative consequences of alcohol misuse will not be tolerated. All persons on campus regardless of their status (e.g., students, faculty, staff and guests) must adhere to the Nicholls State alcohol policies herein.

The following principles will guide the University's policy regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs (on or off campus):

1. Students, faculty and staff are expected to take full responsibility for their own choices and behavior.
2. Alcoholic beverages may not be possessed, distributed, served, or consumed on campus by persons under the age of 21. Proof of age shall be required at the time of purchase, entry into the event, or at any time of the event, including during consumption. Proof of age may be requested by any authorized University or law enforcement officials.
3. Abstinence, as an option, is always supported and should never be discouraged.
4. Activities and functions without the consumption of alcohol are to be promoted.
5. The campus food service contractor is the licensed vendor for alcoholic beverages on campus. The serving and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages will not be allowed at events open to the public.

6. Heavy consumption of alcohol is discouraged.
7. All persons on campus regardless of their status (e.g., students, faculty, staff and guests) must adhere to the Nicholls State alcohol policies herein.
8. Assistance for alcohol misuse or abuse is to be provided through education, counseling, and referral.

**On-Campus Confidential Contacts:**

|                    |              |                       |              |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Counselling Center | 985-448-4080 | Human Resource Office | 985-448-4041 |
| Health Services    | 985-493-2600 |                       |              |

All student organizations, groups and/or teams serving or permitting alcoholic beverages at any campus event must (1) use the designated University food service contractor for cash bar service, (2) use one of the University's designated sites and (3) have University Police on duty throughout the function. Nicholls State Police Department requires at least 10 days advance notice. Thibodaux City Police or Lafourche Parish Sheriff Departments (Off-Campus Events) may only be used with the permission of NSU PD. The University reserves the right to determine the number of officers and other security measures required for an activity. Organizations that fail to arrange security through NSU PD, or that fail to arrange payment for security in a timely manner are subject to University sanctions, including the loss of the privilege to have events.

### *Definitions*

1. Alcohol: Beer, wine, or distilled spirits (liquor) as defined by state law.
2. Authorized Vendors/Servers: University food service contractor
3. Possession: Any situation in which an individual is or reasonably can be assumed to be holding, drinking, or transporting an alcoholic beverage. The totality of the circumstances, including the presence of alcoholic beverage containers and the number of people present under age 21, may indicate evidence of possession.
4. University Approved Sites: Sites designated by the University as approved locations for the service and consumption of alcohol whether as a part of a closed event, a fixed retail food and beverage operations or as professionally catered events. Approved sites: Colonel Club, Student Union (excluding Snack bar area), Football Stadium (excluding field), Baseball Field (excluding diamond), and tailgate area. The President of the University must approve all other.
5. Special Permission: Written permission from the University President for alcohol to be possessed, distributed, served, or consumed at any location other than the approved sites.

## *General Policies*

The serving, possessing, and consuming of alcoholic beverages on the campus of Nicholls State University may be done only in accordance with the provisions of the State and local laws and ordinances, and applicable University regulations. The following University policies shall apply:

1. Alcoholic beverages may not be possessed, distributed, served, or consumed on campus by persons under the age of 21. Proof of age shall be required at the time of purchase, entry into the event, or at any time of the event, including during consumption. Proof of age may be requested by any authorized University or law enforcement officials.
2. There must be a University advisor or designated representative and a non-drinking organization officer who will assist with any problems that might arise during the event including discipline or assistance if a guest should be asked to leave.
3. The serving and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages will not be allowed at any student organization event open to the public. An open event is an activity where participation and attendance is not limited to members, their immediate family, and individual dates/escorts. (Note: An event becomes open to the public once it is posted on social media.
4. Beverage containers may not be brought into any event nor may they be taken out of the event.
5. Events in which alcoholic beverages are being served cannot be scheduled longer than four (4) hours in length. When the event is scheduled for more than two hours the cash bar will be closed the last hour of the event.
6. Hosting organization(s) and/or members will be held responsible for any damages to University or the designated University food service contractor owned property by the member(s) and/or guest(s) of the organization(s) during the time of the event, including set-up and clean-up.

## *Residential Living*

Alcohol may be possessed/consumed by persons at least 21 years-of-age only in private rooms/apartments unless the entire facility is designated as alcohol-free. Alcohol is not permitted in the lobby, public areas, and immediately adjacent property of campus residences except when a special permission has been granted.

## *Sale, Purchase and Cost of alcohol on campus*

1. Alcohol may not be distributed free-of-charge by an alcohol company or distributor at any university event or under any other circumstances on campus.
2. Alcohol may not be sold on campus by an alcohol wholesaler or distributor.
3. University units may not distribute alcohol free-of-charge to the general public (i.e. persons not members of the groups or their specifically invited guests).
4. Alcoholic beverages may not be furnished as an award or prize.
5. Nicholls funds may not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages.

### *Serving of Alcohol at Social Events* (On or Off Campus)

1. The vendor/server is responsible for assuring that no person under the age of 21 is served alcohol.
2. Alcoholic beverages are to be served as an adjunct to social events and may not be the primary focus of the event. For this reason, non-alcoholic beverages and food must be served.
3. All alcohol will be stored and legally dispensed in a designated service area within the approved site. The supply of alcoholic beverages must not be accessible to anyone except the server.
4. The sponsoring organization is responsible for ensuring that members and invited guests display responsible behavior. To that end:
  - a. It is prohibited to host an event where there is explicit or implicit pressure or an expectation for anyone to consume alcohol, or where there is no diversion from drinking alcohol, or where lewd, abusive or sexually degrading behavior occurs in conjunction with alcohol consumption.
  - b. Activities or events which encourage rapid drinking, drinking games, or drunkenness are prohibited.
  - c. Obvious intoxicated persons shall not be admitted or served alcohol at activities or social events.
  - d. Engaging in such high-risk activities or events may be considered aggravating circumstances if corrective measures are necessary.

In addition to the above regulations, the following policies shall apply:

1. The following rules apply when alcohol is served at an event hosted by a registered student organization:
  - a. Organizations wishing to hold a social event (on or off campus) with alcohol must have all new members and at least 75% of active members present at the Risk Management training sponsored by the University. This educational program is presented by the University.

- b. All registered student organizations wishing to hold social events at which alcohol may be served must have an advisor present during the entire event.
- c. No cover charge or admission charge shall be imposed at social events at which alcoholic beverages are served nor may alcohol be provided free in return for the purchase of another item (i.e. cup), and groups may not sell alcohol to participants (only Authorized Vendor/Servers may do this).
- d. Open source containers (e.g. kegs, party balls, trash cans, and punch bowls with an alcoholic beverage) are never permitted.
- e. Individuals determined to be eligible to consume alcoholic beverages must be identified with a non-removable wrist band.
- f. If an organization has received special permission for a function to occur in a residential facility, alcohol must be confined to the public areas of the building and grounds. Guests of the function are not allowed to enter the private living areas of the facility during the function. In addition, members of the organization may not drink alcohol in the private living areas of the facility during the social function nor bring alcohol into the function from their private living quarters.
- g. Individuals may not return to a social function after they have exited the function and consumed alcohol while absent from the function
- h. Alcohol may not be served at social events open to the public.
- i. Student organizations may not accept donations of alcoholic beverages.
- j. No student organization may promote and/or sell alcoholic beverages.
- k. Alcoholic beverages may not be served at any fundraising activity, whether it occurs on or off campus.

- l. Clear tumblers will be used at all events in which alcohol is being served. Party or occasion cups will not be used at functions in which alcohol is being served.
- m. When alcoholic beverages are being sold, provided, consumed, etc. the designated University food service contractor will be the sole vendor and must provide all beverages, including non-alcoholic ones.
- n. The designated University food service contractor shall refuse service to anyone who appears to be intoxicated.
- o. The designated University food service contractor reserves the right to discontinue service in the event of inappropriate actions by members or guests of the organization(s).
- p. The designated University food service contractor reserves the right to discontinue service if alcohol, other than the beverages provided the designated University food service contractor, are present.
- q. The designated University food service contractor reserves the right to discontinue service if the approved University advisor leaves or refuses to assist with violations of the University Policies.
- r. The designated University food service contractor will discontinue service if directed to do so by the Student Judicial Officer/Dean of Students or Director of Student Union (or other designated representatives).
- s. Food, in sufficient quantity, must be available throughout the duration of the event. The food items must be more substantial than just chips and dip.

## Regulations for Social Functions

Hours: Registered social functions involving the serving, possessing, or consuming of alcoholic beverages may not begin before 4:30 p.m. on Monday through Thursday and 3:30 p.m. on Friday. Registered social events must end by 1:00 a.m. Sunday through Thursday and 2:00 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday following events on Friday and Saturday. The administrator with whom the function must be registered may allow appropriate exceptions to the normally approved hours for social functions.

## *Tailgating*

Allowed on campus before a home game in a manner and in areas deemed acceptable by the University. Consumption of alcohol is not advised. Anyone under the age of 21 possessing/consuming alcohol, or anyone giving alcohol to an underage person, will be subject to arrest. Individuals determined to be eligible to consume alcoholic beverages must be identified with a non-removable wristband. Under no circumstances will any alcoholic beverages be permitted in Guidry Stadium other than at University Approved Sites. Anyone found in possession of alcohol entering the stadium is subject to being ejected without a refund of ticket price and will be subject to arrest. This provision does not allow the staging of events that would otherwise not be permitted.

Persons representing Nicholls State University off-campus or who reasonably could be construed as doing so (e.g., at conferences, seminars, competitions, performers, study abroad, other activities/events) must behave legally and responsibly regarding the use of alcohol, abiding by the laws and policies of the states and/or institutions where they are visiting. The University may take action against individuals who engage in off-campus consumption of alcohol when it has negatively impacted or threatened to negatively impact the University's mission or activities or the health, safety, or welfare of the University community.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Students are encouraged to follow these suggestions:

1. If alcohol is being served, drink in a responsible and moderate manners.
2. Offer a designated driver program at all events in which alcoholic beverages are being served
3. Always designate non-drinking officers/members to handle situations or make decisions throughout the event.