



## Social Event Policy

### Philosophy Statement on Alcohol:

Texas Tech University believes in the benefit of student organizations and advocates for the students in their pursuit of upholding their organizational purpose. Our mission is to provide a quality undergraduate student experience enhancing student development with a commitment to [...] prevention with all community stakeholders. Texas Tech University is committed to providing a safe social experience for members and guests. Texas Tech University believes that alcohol abuse and unsafe social events prevent individual members from realizing their full potential as citizens and contributing members of the campus community.

While the moderate and legal consumption of alcohol, in and of itself, does not constitute a problem, the illegal use and abuse of alcoholic beverages is widely recognized as a major problem in our society. Seeking to be a responsible member of the Texas Tech University community we are highly concerned with alcohol abuse. The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life staff believes very strongly in the betterment of men and women through our fraternity and sorority chapters and upholds the following philosophy specifically related to alcohol:

- The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life expects that our fraternity and sorority chapters and students will follow all applicable laws concerning alcohol.
- Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life supports and enhances the mission of Texas Tech University through the application of student development theory.
- The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life works to address the negative behaviors associated with alcohol misuse and abuse. As such, the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life strives to address these behaviors with a comprehensive educational approach.
- Through education, training, and partnerships, we provide the tools to help students make good choices and to understand the consequences of their choices. The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life will hold chapters and



individual members accountable for the choices they make.

- The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life expects personal responsibility from its chapters' members and accountability through self-governance.
- The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life follows a consistent and progressive discipline strategy with our chapters in partnership with students, advisors, inter/national headquarters staff, and the Office of Student Conduct.
- We are concerned for the safety and well-being of our members and guests.

**Purpose of Policy:**

The purpose of the Social Event Policy is to allow the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life the ability to work with fraternity and sorority chapters and student leaders to better understand their inter/national organizations' policies if applicable and provide a backstop for the expectations we have of our organizations while hosting social events.

**The Policy:**

The Social Event Policy shall apply to all fraternity and sorority chapters listed by the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life website.



## Alcohol & Other Drugs

1. The chapter, members, and guests must comply with all federal, state, provincial, and local laws. No person under the legal drinking age may possess, consume, provide, or be provided alcoholic beverages.
  
2. The chapter members and guests must follow federal law regarding illegal drugs and controlled substances. No person may possess, use, provide, distribute, sell, and/or manufacture illegal drugs or other controlled substances while on chapter premises or at any activity or event sponsored or endorsed by the chapter.
  
3. Alcoholic beverages must either be:
  - Provided and sold on a per-drink basis by a licensed and insured third-party vendor (e.g., restaurant, bar, caterer, etc.); or
  - Brought by individual members and guests through a bring-your-own beverage ("BYOB") system.
  - The presence of alcohol products above 15% alcohol by volume ("ABV") is prohibited on any chapter premises or at any event, except when served by a licensed and insured third-party vendor.
  - Common sources of alcohol, including bulk quantities, which are not being served by licensed and insured third-party vendors are prohibited (i.e., amounts of alcohol greater than what a reasonable person should consume over the duration of an event).
  
4. Alcoholic beverages must not be purchased with chapter funds or funds pooled by members or guests (e.g., admission fees, cover fees, collecting funds through digital apps, etc.).



5. A chapter must not co-host or co-sponsor, or in any way participate in, activity or event with another group or entity that purchases or provides alcohol.
  
6. A chapter must not co-host or co-sponsor an event with an event promoter, or alcohol distributor; however, a chapter may rent a bar, restaurant, or other licensed and insured third-party vendor to host a chapter event.
  
7. Attendance by non-members at any event where alcohol is present must be by invitation only, and the chapter must utilize a guest list system. Attendance at events with alcohol is limited to a 3:1 maximum guest-to-member ratio and must not exceed the local fire or building code capacity of the chapter premises or host venue.
  
8. Any event or activity related to the new member joining process (e.g., recruitment, intake, rush, etc.) must be substance free. No alcohol or drugs may be present if the event or activity is related to new member activities, meetings, or initiation into a chapter organization, including but not limited to "bid night," "big/little" events or activities, "family" events or activities, and any ritual or ceremony.
  
9. The chapter members or guests must not permit, encourage, coerce, glorify or participate in any activities involving the rapid consumption of alcohol, such as drinking games.

**The Procedures:**

This policy applies to all social events, on or off campus, planned by the chapters registered through the Office of Sorority & Fraternity Life. The Office of



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Fraternity & Sorority Life™

---

Fraternity & Sorority Life and the Office of Student Conduct will utilize the “Reasonable Observer Rule” to determine if the event is associated with a chapter.

**The Education:**

The Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life staff will educate chapter leadership and advisors on this policy annually through requested presentations, social event management digital resources, and Risk Management Training.

For more information, refer to the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life website: [www.fsl.ttu.edu](http://www.fsl.ttu.edu).

**The Enforcement:**

Failure to meet the expectations of any part of this policy will be a violation of the *Student Code of Conduct, Section B., 16. Violation of Published University Policies, Rules, or Regulations* will be referred to the appropriate governing council judicial board or the Office of Student Conduct at the discretion of the Office of Student Conduct staff.

*Policies are based on the NIC Alcohol & Drug Guidelines.*