

Social Events Policy **Revised Fall 2019**

All responsibility for ensuring compliance with this policy lies with the hosting chapter and sponsor chapter(s). The Office of Student Life - Fraternity & Sorority will not monitor social events. However, the Office of Student Life - Fraternity & Sorority will respond to reports of any failure to comply with this policy.

Article I. Definition of Social Events

- A. Social events hosted by Chapters are limited to the following types of events.
- a. **Formals/Date Function:** a social event with a guest list that includes only members of the host Chapter and one guest per member. This section also applies to Semi-Formals and parties here more than one guest per chapter member may be invited. (Guest list = 2 x roster maximum, 25 minimum)
 - b. **Mixer:** a social event with a guest list of members from two host Chapters; closed to guests not on the host Chapters' roster. Mixer may not exceed more than 4 host chapters. These chapter members hosting a personal guest assume responsibility for orienting the individual to all social event policies, monitoring their behavior at all times at the event and ensuring that their conduct is in full compliance with established policies. All paperwork of all chapters must be handed in together in one packet. (Guest list = combined rosters maximum, 25 minimum)
 - c. **Special Event:** a social event with Alumni, Parents, or for a special circumstance. Special Events are subject to this rule unless exceptions are made in writing by the Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life. To obtain an exception, Chapters must notify the Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life who will determine which requirements of the Rule will apply to the event.
 - Alumni Social Events are events where chapter members, alumni members, and their guests are present. A chapter with 25% of its active membership in attendance assumes responsibility for: orienting alumni members and guests to all social event policies, monitoring their behavior at all times at the event, and insuring that their conduct is in full compliance with established policies.
 - Away Weekends are where chapter members or chapter members and guests go to a pre-determined in or out of state destination for more than one day. Away weekend registrations need to include standard social event requirements
 - d. Pre-gaming: "Pre-games" are not allowed according to the national insurance policies and regulations.

Article II. General Policies

- A. All events involving alcohol must be registered with the Office of Student Life - Fraternity & Sorority Life, no later than seven (7) business days before scheduled date of event.
- a. In order to host or sponsor events with alcohol, the chapter must attend any Events with Alcohol (EWA) related educational meetings. Chapters must complete the required education, within the time requirements set forth each semester.
- B. The chapter/organization, members and guests must comply with all federal, state, county, and local laws. No person under the legal drinking age may possess, consume, provide or be provided alcoholic beverages.
- C. The chapter/organization, members and guests must follow the 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/organizational premises or at any activity or event sponsored or endorsed by the chapter/organization.
- D. Alcoholic beverages must either be:
- a. Provided and sold on a per-drink basis by a licensed and insured third-party vendor (e.g., restaurant, bar, caterer, etc.); or
 - b. 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/organization premises or at any event, except when served by a licensed and insured third-party vendor.

- E. Common sources of alcohol, including bulk quantities, which are not being served by a licensed and insured third party vendor, are prohibited (i.e., amounts of alcohol greater than what a reasonable person should consume over the duration of an event).
- F. Alcoholic beverages must not be purchased with chapter/organizational funds or funds pooled by members or guests (e.g., admission fees, cover fees, collecting funds through digital apps, etc.).
- G. A chapter/organization must not co-host or co-sponsor, or in any way participate in, an activity or event with another group or entity that purchases or provides alcohol.
- H. A chapter/organization must not co-host or co-sponsor an event with a bar, event promoter or alcohol distributor; however, a chapter/organization may rent a bar, restaurant, or other licensed and insured third-party vendor to host a chapter/organization event.
- I. Attendance by non-members at any event where alcohol is present must be by invitation only, and the chapter/organization 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 local fire or building code capacity of the chapter/organizational premises or host venue.
- J. All events with alcohol are closed events, thus there must be no flyers, banners or anything else created or distributed advertising the event.
- K. 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 an organization, including but not limited to “bid night,” “big/little” events or activities, “family” events or activities and any ritual or ceremony.
- L. The chapter/organization, members or guests must not permit, encourage, coerce, glorify or participate in any activities involving the rapid consumption of alcohol, such as drinking games.

Article III. Off Campus Events with Alcohol Policies

Section 1. General

- A. Off-campus events with alcohol can take place any day. Events held on Monday through Friday may not begin prior to 4pm. No event may last more than 4 hours, organizations may only have one (1) event beginning each day, and events must end by 1:30am
- B. All off-campus events with alcohol must be held at a non-residential venue with a third-party vendor and the venue must be properly licensed to dispense alcohol and have a properly licensed bartender(s). Chapters with leasing agreements must work with landlord to make sure all FIPG policies are followed.
- C. Events sponsored by a chapter or events with a majority of chapter members attending, which include guests, that require overnight stays, or “weekenders” must follow all off campus events with alcohol policies.
 - a. Chapters must show proof that their event is in compliance with their inter/national policies and insurance requirements when completing the registration process.
 - b. Chapters may use correspondence from inter/national headquarters staff to prove that the event is in compliance with their organizational policies and insurance.
- D. The ability to collect money for admittance into an event is determined by the chapter’s inter/national policy. If money is collected, it cannot be used to purchase alcohol for or at the event.
- E. Off-campus events with alcohol can include a live performance (i.e. bands, concerts, DJ etc.).
 - a. Chapters must show proof that their event is in compliance with their inter/national policies and insurance requirements when completing the registration process.
 - b. Chapters may use correspondence from inter/national headquarters staff to prove that the event is in compliance with their organizational policies and insurance

Section 2. Security

- A. All events are required to have adequate security for the event. The venue manager must

- G. No chapter may sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor or establishment where 50% of the distributor's proceeds are generated from the sale of alcohol.
- H. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21.
- I. No one under the age of 21 may consume or possess alcohol. If guests appear visibly intoxicated, they will not be served.
- J. An attendance list is mandatory for all social events at a third-party vendor. This list will be used to facilitate sign-in at the entrance of the event. This must be a printed list and it must be accompanied by a copy of the ticket(s) for the event. Anyone not on the list must be turned away.
- K. Door monitors (chapter members) and bouncers (employees of the establishment) are required for all social events at third party vendors. Door monitors are responsible for any alcohol entering or leaving the event, the signing in of all guests, and making sure the bouncers/management are checking of IDs and wrist banding/marketing of attendees.
- L. At the entrance, IDs will be checked and all guests over 21 years of age will receive a wristband; all guests under the age of 21 will be marked or stamped.
- M. All establishments must be closed to the general public during fraternal events or the establishment must have multiple rooms that are able to be designated specifically for the chapters involved.
- N. Reasonable amounts of food (unsalted snacks) and non-alcoholic beverages (bottled water and other drinks in closed containers, not tap water) must be provided for guests free of charge.
- O. Departing guests will be monitored to assure that guests have a safe means of transportation.
- P. No exotic dancers may be hired for any event
- Q. No parties/celebrations are allowed for the following occasions: initiation, induction, big/little brother/sister, and revelations.
- R. No fireworks or explosives may be at an event.

Policy Violation

Violations of the Social Events Policy and/or the Grand Valley State University Code of Conduct will result in referral to the Greek Standards Board and/ or the Dean of Students Office.