

# **Alcohol Policy**

## **General Policy Statement**

Montana Tech is committed to promoting and fostering the student's personal and intellectual development. Social interaction represents a significant developmental component in the lives of students. Social activities are important toward meeting a student's need for friendship and peer involvement.

The misuse and abuse of alcohol, within the social fabric of student lives, threatens the well-being, health, and safety of a large segment of the college student population, and inappropriate and irresponsible marketing and promotion of alcohol on campus can contribute significantly to the problems of alcohol misuse. Alcohol abuse contributes to vandalism and property damage, accidents, poor academic performance, emotional stress, interpersonal conflicts and, in some cases, serious bodily injury, illness, and death. Students are responsible for their actions and any encroachment on the wellbeing of others.

The development of campus policies and procedures which protect the health and welfare of college students and larger academic community is an important responsibility of students, faculty, and campus administration.

Educational programming, effective campus policies and procedures, and common sense practices form the basis for a responsible approach to alcohol use on campus.

Therefore, the Montana Tech Student Wellness Task Force endorses this Montana Tech Alcohol Policy and recommends its implementation to govern the use of alcohol on the campus.

## **Pertinent Statutes, Regents Policy, and Regulations**

- Shaw Amendment to the Title IV Reauthorization Act (for financial aid) of 1986, requiring colleges and universities to offer drug and alcohol education programs to students.
- Board of Regents' Policy, 503.1 Alcoholic Beverages (quoted in part):
  - *Consumption of alcoholic beverages is permitted on property belonging to the Montana University System only by persons of legal drinking age.*
- Authorizations by the Chancellor for consumption of alcoholic beverages in locations other than apartment housing units shall conform to the following considerations:
  - *Consumption will be in connection with a substantive event, such as a banquet, official entertainment, or reception.*
  - *Food and non-alcoholic beverages shall also be available.*
  - *The event shall be monitored to prevent consumption by a person not of legal age.*
- Each unit may establish additional regulations, not in conflict with this policy, controlling the consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- Montana Statute and Liquor Regulatory Agencies state that:
  - *No person under the legal age may consume or be served alcoholic beverages. Serving a minor involves "absolute liability."*
  - *No person who is intoxicated may be served alcoholic beverages. A person serving an intoxicated individual may be held legally liable.*
  - *A beer license is required for giving or selling beer and wine.*
  - *A liquor license is required to serve spirits.*
  - *Any person, particularly the organizers or sponsors of an event involving the consumption of alcohol, may be held personally liable for damages and injury associated with the drinking.*

## **Procedures And Regulations**

- 1 The person(s) directly responsible for organizing and sponsoring an event or activity shall be accountable for compliance with the regulations and procedures associated with the use of alcohol on the Montana Tech campus or at Montana Tech sponsored events. It shall be the responsibility of the Campus Scheduling Officer and/or Dining Services to inform the organizers of events of the regulations and procedures associated with this policy and all other related campus scheduling procedures. All events, including those involving alcohol, must be scheduled through the Campus Scheduling Office and be specifically approved. When an event is scheduled, a specific plan identifying compliance with these regulations and procedures will be attached to the Scheduling Form.

- 2 Events at which alcohol will be served (which are governed by these and other campus policy and procedures) shall be substantive in nature (i.e., do not involve the use of alcohol as a significant or primary purpose) and have a defined theme not associated directly with the consumption of alcohol.
- 3 Promotion and publicity should be discreet and judicious when advertising the availability of alcohol at an event. In no case will the advertising solely mention alcohol.
- 4 The serving and consumption of alcohol at Montana Tech shall be limited to the following areas of campus: Mill, SUB, Student Union mall area, Leonard Field, and the Alumni Field area (excluding athletic events). Alternative locations must be approved by the Chancellor or his/her designee.
- 5 Serving and consumption of alcohol at an event will not begin prior to the scheduled starting time nor continue past the scheduled ending time of the event.
- 6 When alcohol is served at an event on the Montana Tech campus, it will be the responsibility of the event organizers and sponsors to insure that adequate amounts of food (i.e., sandwiches, snacks, hors d'oeuvres, etc.) and alternative non-alcoholic beverages are available to all event participants. Food and nonalcoholic beverages must be as, or more, prominently displayed and available as the alcoholic beverages.
- 7 At events at which alcoholic beverages are being served, they shall be provided in individual servings to the participants in amounts that are equal to or less than are commonly used (beer: 12 oz. or less, wine: 6 oz., and spirits: 6-8 oz.). If sold, the beverage should be sold by the drink.
- 8 The quantity of alcohol at an event will be reasonably compatible with the number of event attendees and cannot exceed the amount understood to surpass responsible consumption. Extravagant displays of alcohol are discouraged to avoid abuse and encouragement to drink.
- 9 Any practice which would encourage the consumption of alcohol is not allowed.
- 10 Campus Security will be notified in advance of all events that will involve the serving of alcohol. Depending upon the size and nature of a particular event, the Director of the Student Union/Activities or designee (Scheduling Officer) may determine and arrange for sufficient numbers of officers (Campus Security or Butte-Silver Bow police or a combination thereof) to be either present at the event or in close proximity. Any cost for security will be paid for by the event's organizer or sponsor. Arrangements for security will be made through the Director of Facilities.
- 11 The Campus Scheduling Officer (CSO) will determine which alcohol use permits or licenses are required for an event. The CSO will then inform the event organizers of the procedures established to obtain the necessary permits. The responsibility for obtaining the permits lies with the event organizers or sponsor. The event organizers shall provide the CSO with original copies of the permits and will keep them on file.
- 12 No persons under the legal age for consumption will be served alcohol. It is the responsibility of the event's organizers and sponsor to institute adequate measures to assure compliance with this requirement.
- 13 No persons who are intoxicated will be served alcohol. It is the responsibility of the event's organizers and sponsor to institute adequate measures to assure compliance with this requirement and to provide reasonable care for an intoxicated individual.
- 14 It is generally recommended that students not serve alcohol to other students at events that are primarily organized for student participation.
- 15 Persons who are serving alcohol at an event will be adequately trained and capable of enforcing all pertinent requirements and regulations of this policy. The Director of the Student Union/ Activities has the authority to enforce all regulations associated with this policy. At events where a relatively large number of participants (50 or more) are in attendance, it is recommended that a licensed and bonded caterer/bartender provide liquor service.
- 16 All pertinent state and local statutes and regulations, and all related Regents policies, will be strictly enforced.
- 17 The appropriate Montana Tech administrative offices will develop specific implementation procedures to facilitate and support the intent of these policies and regulations.

The Director of the Student Union and Campus Scheduling Office will review each event at which alcohol was served. If it is determined that alcohol related problems did occur or if violations of this policy were apparent, a report will be filed with the Chancellor through the Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services/Dean of Students (AVCSS/DS). The Provost, the Vice Chancellor for Administrative Affairs, the event organizers, and any student group advisors will receive a copy of the report. The AVCSS/DS will conduct a thorough review of the incident(s) and, in concert with the Chancellor, apply sanctions if appropriate. Any specific instances of student misconduct on the part of event organizers or participants may result in a referral to the College Community

Expectations Program (Student Judicial System). Misconduct on the part of non-students will be referred to the appropriate agency or office.

\*Updated/Reviewed by Student Wellness Committee July 2, 2014