

**YALE UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE POLICY**

**RESPONSIBLE USE OF ALCOHOL AT STUDENT-ORGANIZED EVENTS**

**Background**

Yale School of Medicine (YSM) is a community of adults, and the responsible consumption of alcohol has a place within student-organized events. In view of the importance of promoting and encouraging the responsible use of alcohol in the School of Medicine setting, the liability issues connected with alcohol service and consumption, and compliance with Connecticut state law, the following policies and procedures have been adopted by YSM.

**Policy**

1. Alcohol may only be purchased with school funds available to the Medical Student Council (MSC) Social Committee. Student organizations will not be reimbursed for alcohol purchases for group events.
2. The MSC Social Committee has discretion over the funds allocated to them for social events including those where alcohol will be served. The funds do not have to be used only for "Club Med"; other events can be planned with alcohol if approved by the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. No events can have a theme that promotes alcohol, i.e. "beer pong party", etc. Social Committee funds must also be used for an equal number of events that do not involve alcohol.
3. Alcohol that is purchased with MSC school funds must be served on the YSM campus and must be served by a bartender who is certified by TIPS or a similar organization, is not a YSM student, and remains on duty for the entire length of time that alcohol is served.
4. MSC school funds may not be used to fund private parties or parties at student or faculty homes.
5. Beer and wine are the only alcoholic beverages that may be served. Mixed drinks or other "hard" alcoholic beverages are not permitted. Alcohol may be served at MSC-sponsored events off-campus at the discretion of the Associate Dean of Student Affairs and may include the fall and spring formal events. Transportation to and from the medical school must be provided for school events that occur off-campus outside of the downtown New Haven area and involve alcohol.
6. Whenever alcohol is served, appropriate quantities of non-alcoholic beverages and substantial finger food must be available at the same location. Potato chips, pretzels, etc., do not meet the requirement for "substantial" food. Consult the Director of Student Programs, for guidance.
7. A Yale Police Officer must be hired to be present at all events where alcohol is served.

8. In accordance with Connecticut state law, alcoholic beverages may be dispensed only to individuals who are 21 or more years old and may not be dispensed to any intoxicated person.
9. The Office of Student Affairs reserves the right to limit the amount of alcohol purchased and/or served at any student event. Only one drink at a time may be served to each individual.
10. Alcohol served on the YSM campus must be consumed within the room or area in which the event is held; taking open containers of alcohol to other rooms or areas is not permitted. Alcoholic beverages not purchased by school funds cannot be brought to the event by students. At the end of the event, unopened containers of alcohol must be removed by the bartender(s); similarly, any unconsumed alcohol in opened containers must be disposed of by the bartender(s). A member of the Social Committee must be present at all times.
11. Any exception to the above policies and procedures must be approved in advance by the Office of Student Affairs.
12. Violations of any of the above policies and procedures may be referred to the Progress Committee for disciplinary action.
13. The Medical Student Council (MSC) will be held responsible for damages to physical facilities incurred as a result of the event. Any charges will be deducted from the Social Committee's operating budget.
14. Students are encouraged to assist each other and also impaired guests, either by contacting the University Health Service (432-0123) if the person's condition appears serious or by helping to arrange transportation (by calling a cab, ordering a SafeRide (432-6330), Uber, Lyft or enlisting the help of sober friends to take the impaired guest home).
15. Students are subject to all other University policies regarding the use of alcohol. Please see information on the Alcohol and Other Drugs Harm Reduction Initiative ("AUDREY").

\*Adapted from the Yale School of Management alcohol policy and the Alcohol and Other Drugs Harm Reduction Initiative