

OREGON INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Possession and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages OIT-30-031

I. INTRODUCTION

This alcohol policy, like other standards of conduct applicable to the College community, is intended to further the educational mission of the Oregon Institute of Technology. OIT's mission includes the development of ethically sensitive and responsible individuals who are able to understand and appreciate the need for both individual freedom and to accept the restrictions intrinsic to living in a community. Thus, while we balance personal liberty with responsibility, and educational opportunity with liability concerns, our intent is to determine the appropriateness of alcohol at each event, attempting to strike the appropriate balance of these conflicting principles.

The development of a philosophy and corresponding regulations concerning the use of alcoholic beverages at OIT is challenging, yet essential. Such a policy must show concern for the health, safety and welfare of all individuals (members of the campus community as well as those from outside the campus), and for the social and educational environment of the College community. Thus, this policy includes statements regarding our Commitment to Education (Appendix A), Consequences (Appendix B), Health Risks (Appendix C), and Campus and Community Resources (Appendix D). OIT strives to balance the following principles:

- § The OIT alcohol policy must be in compliance with the laws of the State of Oregon, the local community, and the College;
- § In our litigious society, institutions are often found to be liable for individual behavior, particularly as to college students. At OIT functions, both on and off campus, we strive to minimize OIT's liability in this regard;
- § OIT strives to provide an educational setting in which students can learn about both the freedom and the responsibility involved in the exercise of personal choice.

II. GENERAL POLICY AND RULES GOVERNING ALCOHOL USE

The decision as to the extent and use of alcohol at OIT functions (on and off campus), and all non-OIT functions on the OIT campus resides with the Vice President for Finance and Administration or his/her designated representative.

A. OIT Prohibits:

1. The illegal or unauthorized possession, consumption, or sale of alcoholic beverages, or the furnishing or possession of alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21 years on property owned or controlled by the college or as part of any OIT event, or possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages in unauthorized areas by those over 21 (OAR 578-033-0220, subsection 18).

2. The consumption of alcoholic beverages by all College students and employees so as to 1) adversely affect academic or job performance, 2) endanger the physical well-being of others/oneself, and/or 3) leads to damage of property.
3. The possession, sale, distribution, promotion or consumption of an alcoholic beverage in a manner that constitutes a violation of federal, state or local laws, including the sale, directly or indirectly, of any alcoholic beverages at a premise or by an entity not licensed for such sales on OIT property or as part of any OIT event. No State funds (including College and student fees) may be used to purchase alcohol.
4. Alcoholic beverages are not allowed on campus for athletic contests or events unless authorized by the President.

B. Policy for Events with Alcohol (on or off campus)

In order to minimize the risk of alcohol abuse, promote compliance with the law, and encourage all campus constituents to make responsible decisions about alcohol, the following rules are designed to control the volume and nature of alcohol products available, and ultimately, reduce the risk of alcohol-related problems.

1. All events with alcohol available must be registered and subsequently approved by the Vice President for Finance and Administration or his/her designated representative. In addition, student organizations must also gain approval by the Vice President for Student Affairs or his/her designated representative. Non-OIT groups must pay a deposit when the room reservation is made. See the "Registration Form for Events with Alcohol" (see Appendix E) for specific directions, available at the College Union Information Desk and Food Service.
2. At any event at which alcohol is available, sufficient quantities of non-alcoholic beverages must be available. Food must also be available at no additional charge (above the cost of the event).
3. Advertisements of social events with alcohol shall not promote or describe (text or graphics) the availability of alcoholic beverages nor promote the consumption of alcohol by minors.
4. College regulations prohibit the possession or consumption of any alcoholic beverage on OIT grounds unless the College has sanctioned the location and/or conditions for possession or consumption. The location of the event must identify an area where the alcohol is served and consumed. This area must be secure so that only those individuals 21-and-over have access to the serving area.

5. The service of alcohol at

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**Appendix A
COMMITMENT TO EDUCATION**

Consistent with OIT's educational mission, the College sponsors programs which help eradicate misperceptions about alcohol use among peers, create opportunities for open, honest dialogue about alcohol use and abuse, and promote awareness of the physical and psychological, social and behavioral effects of alcohol consumption. OIT's commitment to alcohol education is provided through multiple sources:

- § new student orientation;
- § programs sponsored by the Student Health Advisory Committee and Housing and Residence Life;

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**Appendix B
CONSEQUENCES**

All members of the OIT community are expected to comply with applicable local, state and federal laws regarding the possession, use or sale of alcohol, whether on or off campus. All members are expected to comply with all College regulations regarding alcohol possession or use while on duty or on official state business, or in attendance at an OIT event, whether on or off-campus. If attendance at an event is not urged by management and no state funds or resources are used, and the event is not state business (i.e., you are attending a private party as a private citizen), then members are not subject to this policy. At that point, while the decision to consume alcohol belongs solely to the individual, he/she should use discretion as an OIT representative in the community.

- A. Any student who violates College policies or applicable law may be subject to disciplinary actions and/or referral for prosecution. Disciplinary actions for students may range from warning to expulsion as provided by OAR Chapter 578, Division 33, Student Conduct Code, and the OIT Student Handbook, and may include referral to the Office of Counseling and Testing or another agency for evaluation and treatment. The severity of action will depend, in part, on whether this is a first incident or a repeat violation, the seriousness of the misconduct, and the student's attitude.
- B. Any employee found to be in violation of this policy or applicable law may be referred to an employee assistance program or alcohol treatment program through the Office of Human Resources, and subject to disciplinary action, which may include termination from employment and/or referral for prosecution. By law, employee health coverage provides for some treatment for alcohol dependency.
- C. When Non-OIT groups violate this policy prior to the scheduled event, the event will be cancelled. If a violation is found to have occurred during the event, the sponsoring group will forfeit the deposit and may be charged additional fees as necessary.
- D. Oregon Revised Statutes related to alcohol include:
 - 1. ORS 471.410 Providing liquor to a person under 21 or to an intoxicated person is illegal, and may result in the following penalties: up to one year in prison; restitution; community service; fine in the amount of \$350 (first conviction), \$1000 (second conviction), and jail time plus \$1000 fine (third conviction).
 - 2. ORS 471.430 Purchasing or possessing alcohol by a person under 21 or entering a licensed premise by a person under 21 is illegal, with a fine of not more than \$250. A person under 21 years of age who misrepresents his/her age may be required to perform community service and his/her driving privileges and right to apply for driving privileges may be suspended by the court for up to one year.
 - 3. ORS 813.100 Driving under the influence of intoxicants and the person is subject to criminal penalties if a test indicates the person is under the influence (.08 blood alcohol content), with fines up to \$2500 plus one year in jail. A person under 21 years of age that is driving under the influence violates this statute with a blood alcohol content over zero.

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**Appendix C
HEALTH RISKS**

For many people in our society the use of chemicals is a daily reality. These chemicals include over-the-counter medications, prescription drugs, and illegal drugs such as marijuana, cocaine, and LSD. They also include legal chemicals such as alcohol, nicotine and caffeine. However, the potential for health problems can develop fr

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**Appendix D
CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES**

The following is a list of OIT and community resources where additional information about alcohol or its effects can be obtained:

OIT Student Health Center
OIT Counseling and Testing Services
OIT Office of Human Resources
Lutheran Family Services
Alcoholics Anonymous

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**Appendix F
EVENTS WITH ALCOHOL CHECKLIST**

1.

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3. How will you monitor access in order to limit consumption to stay within reasonable health guidelines and legal intoxication limits?

4. Who will be serving the alcohol? Describe what