

Auburn University

Student Organization Social Event Policy

I. POLICY STATEMENT

Auburn University's Student Organization Social Event Policy is intended to address high risk behaviors associated with social events by empowering students to plan, promote, and host safe and responsible social events.

High risk behaviors diminish the student social experience, degrade the learning environment, endanger the health and safety of all members of the Auburn community, and counteract the shared pursuit of Auburn students to win the respect and confidence of their peers and communities.

II. POLICY PRINCIPLES

A. Social Event Requirements

The following are requirements for any social event or activity, sponsored or endorsed by the student organization that occurs on or off campus.

i. Social Event Registration

Student organization social events must be registered through AU Involve at least seven (7) school days prior to the event. Any event, regardless of nature, that meets the criteria outlined in the [University Event Policy](#) must be registered through the Campus Event Planning System (CEPS).

If a question regarding the proper classification of an event or activity exists, it is the responsibility of that organization to consult with the appropriate office(s) before proceeding with the event.

ii. Education

Before a student organization is permitted to host events, student organization leaders must participate in annual risk management training. Trainings are hosted by Campus Recreation (Club Sports), Greek Life (Fraternities & Sororities) and Student Involvement (RSOs, SSOs).

iii. Security

Security may be required through other Auburn University policies, and/or Auburn University event registration processes or guidelines. The student organization must use a security vendor that meets all Auburn University vendor requirements and Alabama statutory requirements set forth in the

Alabama Code § 34-27C-1 et seq. It is the registering organization's responsibility to ensure that their hired security vendor adheres to all Auburn University policies and all relevant federal, state, and local laws and ordinances.

iv. Guests and Event Occupancy

Student organization social events are limited to Auburn University students and their guests. Attendance at events must not exceed local fire or building code capacity of the event facility or host venue. Attendance by non-members at any social event where alcohol is present must be by invitation only, and the organization must utilize a guest list system.

v. Alcohol and Other Drugs

1. The student organization, its members, and guests, must comply with all applicable city, county, state, and federal laws. No person under the legal drinking age may possess, consume, provide, sell, or be provided alcoholic beverages.
2. Student Organization members, and guests, must follow the federal law regarding illegal drugs and controlled substances. No person may possess use, sell, distribute, or manufacture illegal drugs, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia while on university premises or during any event sponsored or endorsed by the organization.
3. Alcoholic beverages must either be: (1) provided and sold on a per-drink basis by a licensed and insured third-party vendor (e.g., restaurant, bar, caterer, etc.); or (2) brought by individual members and guests through a bring your own beverage ("BYOB") system. Common sources of alcohol, including bulk quantities, common containers, or freely available container(s), which are not being served by a licensed and insured Third Party Vendor, are prohibited. The presence of alcohol products above 15% alcohol by volume ("ABV") is prohibited at any event, except when served at an event by a licensed and insured third-party vendor.
4. No alcoholic beverages may be purchased through or with organization funds or funds pooled by members or guests. This includes, but is not limited to, the use of apps to collect funds for purchasing alcohol.
5. Organizations must not co-host or co-sponsor any activity or event with another group or entity that purchases or provides alcohol, illegal drugs, or controlled substances.

6. An organization must not co-host or co-sponsor an event with an alcohol distributor, bar, event promoter or alcohol distributor, however, an organization may rent or use a room or area in a bar, restaurant, or other licensed and insured third-party vendor facility to host an event or activity.
7. Any event or activity related to new members joining an organization 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.
8. Organization members or guests must not permit, encourage, coerce, or participate in any activities involving the rapid consumption of alcohol, such as drinking games.

III. EFFECTIVE DATE

Policy Effective: May 6, 2019
Policy Revised: August 1, 2021

IV. APPLICABILITY

This policy governs events hosted by all Auburn University recognized student organizations (RSO), Auburn University sponsored student organizations (SSO), competitive clubs, club sports, and fraternities and sororities.

V. POLICY MANAGEMENT

Responsible Office: Division of Student Affairs
Responsible Executive: Senior Vice President for Student Affairs
Responsible Officer: Director of Student Conduct

VI. DEFINITIONS

Student Organization: The university recognizes five categories of student organizations, including: Registered Student Organizations, Sponsored Student Organizations, Competitive Clubs, Club Sports, and Fraternities and Sororities. For additional information on student organizations, please see the [Student Organization Policy](#).

Organization Event: Any event consisting of prospective, new, active, recently active and alumni members (or some combination thereof) that is sponsored or endorsed by the organization.

Examples of organization events include, but are not limited to:

- Campus-wide events
- Organization meetings
- Leadership training
- Retreats and conferences
- Community service
- Philanthropic events
- Club sport team events
- Competitions
- Intake and recruitment events
- New member meetings
- New member swaps
- Sisterhood events
- Brotherhood events
- Alumni/ae or parent events (without alcohol)

Social Event: An organization event held on or off campus that is social in nature.

Social events may include, but are not limited to:

- Hang outs
- Movie nights
- Band parties
- Date parties
- House parties
- Socials
- Any event with alcohol

Third Party Vendor Facility: A licensed (city, county, state, federal, as appropriate) and properly insured establishment (facility) not affiliated with the organization sponsoring the event may host the event per the requirements outlined in this policy.

Third Party Vendor: A company licensed (city, county, state, federal, as appropriate) and properly insured to serve or sell alcohol at a student organization event.

VII. POLICY PROCEDURES

See policy principles above.

VIII. COMPLIANCE AND SANCTIONS

Only student organizations in good standing with the university are permitted to host events per this policy. If an organization is prohibited from hosting events, both the organization and individual members may be referred to Student Conduct for disciplinary action. involved. A function may still be considered an event if the organization's leadership is unaware of the event, whether intentionally or unintentionally.

Auburn University student organizations alleged to have violated this policy are subject to review by Student Conduct or referral to other applicable university disciplinary processes.

Any conduct outcome listed in the [*Code of Student Conduct*](#) or other applicable

policies may be imposed upon individual students or a student organization found responsible for violating this policy. Depending on the violation and severity, conduct outcomes include but are not limited to warning, loss of privileges, educational sanctions, fines, or loss of university recognition.

X. INTERPRETATION

These regulations shall be interpreted, administered, and enforced by the Senior Vice President for Student Affairs.

This policy does not supersede any local, city, state, or federal law, university policy, or policies of an organization's inter/national headquarters. If the laws and policies do not agree, the organization must adopt the more stringent of the two.