

Alcohol Policy FAQs

FAQ:

[I received a letter stating I may have violated the Alcohol Policy. What do I do now?](#)

Review the letter and the attached process flow chart. In your letter is a date to attend your initial meeting. If there is not a date listed or you cannot attend at that time, please contact the Office of Student conduct at 919-962-0805 or jpa@unc.edu ^[1] to schedule your meeting.

[What is the preliminary meeting? Is it required?](#)

The preliminary meeting is optional and offered to students who wish to meet prior to the initial meeting to discuss only the process and procedures pertaining to the Alcohol Policy. To schedule a preliminary meeting, contact the Office of Student Conduct at 919-962-0805 or jpa@unc.edu ^[1].

[What happens in the initial meeting?](#)

The initial meeting is a part of the administrative procedures as outlined by the [Alcohol Policy](#) ^[2]. The initial meeting is intended to serve as an opportunity to gain the student or student leader's perspective on the alleged violation(s) and determine whether a reasonable basis exists to charge a student or organization with a potential violation. Included in this meeting is the review of evidence and the incident report received, the review of procedural alternatives available to the student in responding to any charge(s), and applicable procedural and appeals rights available to the student.

[Can I bring someone to the meetings? Can they join by phone?](#)

Yes. Student can have anyone accompany them to conduct meetings or proceedings in person or by phone. Students must sign a [FERPA waiver](#) [3] so, the hearing officer can share information regarding your student records with that person.

Do I have to go to the initial meeting?

It is in your best interest to attend the meeting and be honest and open about the alleged incident. If you choose not to attend this meeting, a determination related to a charge may be made without the benefit of your input.

Why do I have an enrollment hold from the Office of Student Conduct on my account?

Typically, enrollment holds are placed on students' accounts when they do not complete all their sanctions by the stated deadline. If that's you, please look at your final outcome letter from our office to determine how to move forward with completing those sanctions in a timely manner. [You can submit your sanctions here.](#) [4]

In the case that you have already submitted your sanctions, please allow up to five (5) business days for our office to process your sanctions and update records accordingly.

What is the University's Medical Amnesty Policy?

The health and safety of students is our top priority. The University wishes to promote an environment where students are not afraid to seek help in medical emergencies due to the added fear of disciplinary action from the University. The Office of Student Conduct is committed to giving students who are granted Medical Amnesty the opportunity to learn through support, resources, and intervention without disciplinary action. Please note, if you do not complete your sanctions while granted Medical Amnesty, the Office of Student Conduct can rescind Medical Amnesty and you can face disciplinary action under the University's Alcohol Policy. For more information regarding the University's Medical Amnesty policy, including qualifications and definitions, please see the [University's Alcohol Policy](#) [2].

Will my parents be notified?

It depends. UNC typically only notifies parents *at the time of incident* if your safety is in immediate danger (e.g. during an alcohol related transport to the hospital where a student is not conscious), or if you are under the age of 18. While it is possible, it is not common practice for parents to be contacted as a sanction outcome from a finding of responsibility for an Alcohol Policy violation.

How long does an Alcohol Policy violation stay on my record?

A violation of the University's Alcohol Policy will remain a part of your disciplinary record for seven (7) years and is maintained in the Office of Student Conduct. If you were granted Medical Amnesty and completed all the appropriate sanctions by the deadline, the incident is not considered part of your disciplinary record.

I am already involved in criminal court proceedings for this incident. Why am I also being held accountable to the Alcohol Policy?

When joining the Carolina community, students pledge "not to lie, cheat, or steal" and to hold themselves to a high standard of academic and non-academic conduct while both on and off Carolina's campus. This commitment to academic integrity, ethical behavior, personal responsibility and civil discourse exemplifies the "Carolina Way", and this commitment is codified in both the University's Honor Code and in the Alcohol Policy. In situations where the University interest is impacted by the student's behavior, the University may hold students accountable to these University policies in addition to student's experience in the criminal court proceedings.

I am involved in a criminal court proceeding for this incident. Is there someone at the University who can help me prepare for that process?

Yes. As a student who pays the student fee, you are eligible to work with Carolina Student Legal Services (CSLS). Find more information for CSLS on their [website](#) [5].

I had my case dismissed in the criminal court proceedings for this incident. Can my University violation be dismissed, too?

The University's Policy violations are determined based on the behavior that occurred

to cause law enforcement to respond, and the burden of proof determined for the Policy, not the outcome of the court proceeding. Therefore, the outcome of the court process does not have an impact on the University violation outcome or case status.

I am over 21. Why does the Alcohol Policy apply to me?

The Alcohol Policy takes a public-health approach, where all community members take part in our behavior regarding alcohol. While many potential violations are pertinent to being at or above the legal alcohol possession or consumption age, there are still expectations for individuals who are over 21. For example, carrying an open container of alcohol on public property, or making alcohol-fueled decisions that pose potential harm to yourself or others, regardless of age, could be violations of the University's Alcohol Policy.

Can I receive a copy of my file?

Yes. Fill out the [Electronic File Request form](#) [6] and our office will email you a copy of your file. Please note, that all information in your file relating to other students will be redacted from the file given to you.

If you are a student leader requesting a file, please note all student identifying information will be redacted from the file before the request is fulfilled.

Attachments:

 [Alcohol Policy Process Flowchart.pdf](#) [7]

 [FERPA Waiver.pdf](#) [8]

 [Electronic File Request.pdf](#) [9]

Source URL: <https://studentconduct.unc.edu/alcohol-policy-faqs>

Links

[1] <mailto:jpa@unc.edu>

[2] <https://unc.policystat.com/policy/6993377/latest/>

[3]

<https://studentconduct.unc.edu/sites/studentconduct.unc.edu/files/documents/FERPA%20Waiver.pdf>

[4] https://cm.maxient.com/reportingform.php?UNCCChapelHill&layout_id=13

[5] <http://uncstudentlegal.unc.edu/>

[6]

https://studentconduct.unc.edu/sites/studentconduct.unc.edu/files/Electronic%20File%20Request_0.pdf#overlay-context=alcohol-policy-faqs

[7]

<https://studentconduct.unc.edu/sites/studentconduct.unc.edu/files/Alcohol%20Policy%20Process%20Flowchart.pdf>

[8] https://studentconduct.unc.edu/sites/studentconduct.unc.edu/files/FERPA%20Waiver_0.pdf

[9]

https://studentconduct.unc.edu/sites/studentconduct.unc.edu/files/Electronic%20File%20Request_0.pdf