

Complete Policy Title: <b>McMaster University Alcohol Policy</b>	Policy Number:
Approved by: <b>President</b>	Date of Most Recent Approval: <b>December 10, 2013</b>
Date of Original Approval: <b>May 11, 1998</b>	Supersedes/Amends Policy dated: <b>May 11, 1998</b>
Responsible Executive: <b>Vice-President (Administration)</b>	Policy Specific Enquiries: <a href="#">Vice-President (Administration)</a>
	General Policy Enquires: <a href="#">Policy (University Secretariat)</a>
<b>DISCLAIMER:</b> <i>If there is a discrepancy between this electronic policy and the written copy held by the policy owner, the written copy prevails.</i>	

## INTRODUCTION

McMaster University is committed to the health, safety and well-being of students, employees and guests. The intention of the McMaster University Alcohol Policy is to ensure the responsible management of alcoholic beverages being served on campus or during sanctioned university events. All McMaster community members are accountable for their own decisions regarding alcohol use; they are also responsible for knowing, understanding, and complying with applicable University policies (see related policies, below) and provincial laws related to alcohol.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all McMaster University students, staff, faculty, visitors, and contractors on all McMaster University owned, leased or controlled property. Further, all McMaster University sanctioned events and operations located on or off campus are subject to this policy.

## POLICY

### Authority & Responsibilities of the Liquor Licence Holders on Campus

1. The service and consumption of alcoholic beverages is governed by the *Liquor Licence Act of Ontario*. The University holds a licence issued by the Alcohol & Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) for the provision and service of alcohol in specific locations and under specific conditions. Specifically at McMaster University, there are four Liquor Licence holders: The McMaster Student's Union (in TwelveEighty), the Graduate Students Association (in The Phoenix), the University Club (in the Club) and McMaster University. No alcohol is to be sold or served on campus except by the

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licence holders in their respective premises Selling and/or delivering alcohol on campus except as arranged by the licence holders is strictly prohibited.

2. The Licence Holders have the ultimate responsibility for the interpretation of and compliance with the Liquor License Act and the Occupiers' Liability Act.
3. In addition, the Licence Holders have the ultimate responsibility in their respective jurisdictions for the formulation and ongoing review of procedures to regulate:
  - a. the retailing, service, consumption and possession of liquor at the University;
  - b. the renewal and extension of Liquor Licences;
  - c. the review of all physical and financial aspects of the Licensed Premises; and
  - d. the service of alcohol, to ensure that all persons serving alcohol comply with all sections of the Liquor Licence Act
  - e. the monitoring of licensed events to prevent violations of the Liquor Licence Act and related McMaster University Campus Alcohol Policy regulations. Violations of the LLA or the Alcohol Policy should be reported to McMaster Security Services.
4. Hospitality Services on behalf of the University Licence Holder also oversees the following services:
  - a. receipt and approval of all applications for temporary permits and licence extensions on campus. Hospitality Services has this authority on campus.
  - b. continuing information services for University staff regarding changes to the Liquor Licence Act, regulations or policy, changes to smart serve programs or serving practices, etc.;
  - c. advice in regard to the planning of special events where liquor is served;
  - d. monitoring special events to ensure that policies are being followed;
  - e. ordering and issuing of all liquor products for McMaster University with the exception of the areas under the jurisdiction of the other licence holders.

## **Conduct**

All serving and consumption of alcohol must conform to the provisions of the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario, the Liquour Licence Act of Ontario, and this policy.

1. Any violations of this policy by Liquor License Holders may result in the loss of the Liquor Licence.

2. In addition to any penalties applied under the Liquor Licence Act, Municipal By-Law and/or the Criminal Code, any violations of the University Alcohol Policy shall be reported to and reviewed by the appropriate department.
3. This policy is not intended to cover behaviour resulting from the use of alcohol
  - a. Student behaviour (including student groups and clubs) resulting from the misuse of alcohol will be referred to McMaster Security Services and/or the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards and/or Housing and Conference Services
  - b. Employee behaviour resulting from the misuse of alcohol will be referred to McMaster Security Services and/or Human Resources
4. Any McMaster sanctioned student club planning university events on or off campus must do so in accordance with the [Students Groups \(Recognition, Risk Assessment and Event Planning\), Policy on](#) (see related policies, below). Any events where alcohol will be available must be at licensed establishments.
5. Any McMaster employees planning university events off campus must do so at licensed establishments if alcohol is to be available. If university events are hosted at a private venue (including private residences), the use of a licensed caterer/vendor is required.
6. No vehicle will be permitted on campus for the purpose of transporting individuals to a non-University sanctioned event where alcohol will be served. Buses may be used to transport individuals to university approved events where alcohol will be served in compliance with this policy.

## Security

McMaster Security Services is able to provide policing assistance to any organization requesting such assistance on campus by assigning uniformed or non-uniformed officers. The individual or organization requesting this assistance will be responsible for the cost of this service. The request for assistance should be made no later than one week prior to the commencement of the event or function.

The Director of Security Services or designate shall have the authority to terminate any function on campus where the possession, consumption or sale of alcoholic beverages is being conducted in violation of this policy or the law and regulations of Ontario (e.g. Liquor Licence Act, Trespass to Property Act).

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## RELATED PROCEDURES OR DOCUMENTS

- [Residence Agreement Contract 2019-2020](#)
- [Code of Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
- [Students Groups \(Recognition, Risk Assessment and Event Planning\), Policy on](#)
- [University Facilities for Non-Academic Purposes, Use of](#)
- [Health and Safety Policy](#)
- [Liquor Licence Act of Ontario](#)
- [Occupiers' Liability Act of Ontario](#)