Alcohol Policy

I. Policy Principles

Wentworth Institute of Technology is a community dedicated to the academic and personal development of its members, and is committed to educational and social programs promoting these ends. The Institute recognizes that the use of alcohol in the local community and the larger society can present serious problems, including harm to users and non-users and the encroachment upon values and rights considered fundamental to educational development and personal well-being.

The Institute affirms that the fundamental responsibility for personal behavior associated with the use of alcohol rests with the individual. The Institute, however, provides constructive leadership in delineating the rights of community members and protecting those rights from violation. In addition, the Institute maintains and strictly enforces rules and regulations deemed appropriate and necessary to preserving conditions essential to academic and personal well-being. The Institute expects faculty, staff, and administrators to be positive role models for students through their own responsible use or non-use of alcohol. The principle aims of the Institute’s policy concerning the use of alcoholic beverages on the campus include:

- Formulating and enforcing regulations for social events and individual conduct.
- Encouraging responsible, moderate, and safe use of alcoholic beverages by those who use alcohol.
- Reducing pressures on those who do not wish to use alcohol in social settings.
- Providing a disciplinary framework for those who violate the alcohol policy and for those whose use of alcohol is associated with infringements of the rights of other community members.
- Providing information, educational programs, and counseling services to support community interests and values affected by social and individual use of alcohol.
- Minimizing problems associated with alcohol use and assisting all students in pursuing their goals for educational and personal development.
- Providing opportunities for community-wide participation in the formulation, dissemination, and enforcement of regulations.
- For those times when alcohol service is permitted on campus, defining reasonable restrictions and approved location for such alcohol service.

II. Alcohol Use Regulations

- The use of alcohol at Wentworth is subject to the requirements, restrictions and approvals prescribed by this alcohol policy.
- Wentworth observes all laws and regulations governing the sale, purchase, and serving of alcoholic beverages by all members of its community, and expects that these laws and regulations will be adhered to at all events associated with the Institute. This includes all activities on Wentworth’s campus, and activities at off-campus functions sponsored or supported by Wentworth or any of its affiliated groups.
This alcohol policy permits the responsible use of alcohol by members of the Wentworth community who are at or above the legal drinking age of 21. It prohibits all other uses of alcohol by members of the Wentworth community. The obligation to observe existing laws and regulations in an environment where the majority of the undergraduate student body is not of legal drinking age makes it necessary for the college to impose constraints on those who are of legal drinking age. The fact that someone is of legal drinking age does not exempt him or her from the requirements of the Institute's alcohol policy.

The following general rules apply to the use and serving of alcohol under this policy:

- Alcohol will not be served or offered to students at any event which students must attend as part of their required course work.
- Where students of the Institute are present, alcohol will be allowed only at specially approved and significant events such as the annual Women at Wentworth event.
- The Vice President of the Division sponsoring the event is responsible for approving alcohol at the event.
- Only beer or wine will be approved at events.
- Public Safety officers and other Institute officials will monitor and strictly enforce these policies.
- Alcoholic beverages may only be possessed by, served to, or consumed by persons of legal drinking age:
  - at events that have been approved by the Vice President of the Division sponsoring the event;
  - in areas of Wentworth campus that are allowed to serve alcohol; (see site-specific locations in section III below);
  - in on-campus staff residences; and
  - by students of legal drinking age as described in the Student Code of Conduct.
- Alcohol served at any event on the Institute campus must be served by Chartwells using TIPS certified servers.
- Under no circumstances will outside groups or organizations that are using or renting Wentworth facilities be allowed to have alcohol at their event.
- Possessing, serving, or consuming alcohol is prohibited under all other circumstances on the Wentworth campus.
- Alcohol services at events where students are present or where individuals under the age of 21 are present must be approved by the Vice President of Finance.
- Alcohol services at an event on Wentworth’s campus shall be restricted to locations identified in this policy or as may be approved by the Vice President of Finance.

III. Planning and Serving Alcohol at Events

A. PROCEDURES FOR PLANNING AN EVENT WITH ALCOHOL

1. Event Organizer
The Event Organizer is the individual from the sponsoring Wentworth organization or department who takes primary responsibility for the event. The Event Organizer must be a manager. He or she is responsible for understanding this alcohol policy and for planning and serving alcohol at events. He or she must:

- consult with the Director of Business Services about the event before presenting the event for VP approval.
- obtain the written permission of the Vice President of the division which is sponsoring the event using the “Request to Serve Alcohol” form; a copy of the approved form must be submitted to the Director of Business Services;
- be a minimum of 21 years of age if alcohol will be served at the event;
- be required to hire an Alcohol Server through Chartwells Dining Services;
- be present for the entire event or designate an alternate manager (designated organizer, who otherwise meets the criteria of an event organizer under the policy) over 21 years old to be present for the entire event; and
- be sober and not consume alcohol during the event.
- Chartwells Dining Services will obtain a one day license from the City of Boston for your event which will be an additional cost charged to the department sponsoring the event. The cost of the one day license must be paid for by the event organizer.
- A request to serve alcohol must be received by Business Services and Chartwells at least 4 weeks prior to the date of the event.

2. General Guidelines to serve Alcohol at an Event

a. Advertising at an event where alcohol will be served

Advertising must focus on the event, not the alcohol. Phrases such as "Beverages Available" and "Positive ID Required" are acceptable, while phrases such as "Wine & Cheese Party," "Free Beer and Wine," and "Beer Bash" are not. Advertising may not promote the availability of free alcohol, provide details of the type or brand of alcohol to be served, or include phrases such as "All You Can Drink." The Vice President of the division sponsoring the event must approve of such advertising.

b. Site-specific locations

Unless otherwise approved as provided in this policy, Alcohol may only be served in the following site-specific locations and only after the Vice President of the Division sponsoring the event has approved:

- Casella Gallery
- Watson Hall
- Multi-Purpose Room (Beatty 119)
- Board of Trustees Room
- Douglas D. Schumann Library and Learning Commons (when closed to general student population)
• Quad (note: open locations, such as the Quad, may require additional people to monitor alcohol consumption)
• Other locations: from time to time additional locations may be used with the approval of the Vice President for Finance. Alternative sites for alcohol service will be reviewed with the following factors; visibility of the event to the community exposure to students; ability to control alcohol restricted location; and quiet enjoyment of adjoining spaces.

c. No sale for alcohol
At no event will the sale of alcohol be permitted.

d. Public Safety
Public Safety may require an additional public safety officer detail for a four-hour minimum. The cost of the additional public safety officer will be paid by the department sponsoring the event. Public Safety reserves the right to halt the serving of alcohol at any event if they observe any violations of the alcohol policy.

e. Age Requirement
Except as may otherwise be approved by this policy any event at which alcohol is served, all guests, including students, MUST be 21 years of age or older to be served or to drink alcohol except as may otherwise be approved by this policy,

Alcohol may not be served to any individual who is under 21 years of age. Violation of this section may result in a fine of $1,000, 6 months imprisonment, or both under Massachusetts law (M.G.L. c138, § §34).

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