



POLICY MANUAL  
VOLUME 7.1 (A)

**Alcohol and Drug Policy**

*Approved by the Bethany College Board of Trustees on  
October 8, 2021*

**Policy dictates that the Officers of Bethany College are:**

**President of the College  
Provost and Dean of Faculty  
Chief Financial Officer  
Chief Advancement Officer**

**Specific titles for the latter three may vary according to organizational structure. For the purpose of Bethany College policy documents for the 2021-22 academic year, the Chief Academic Officer is the Provost and Dean of Faculty; the Chief Financial Officer is the Vice President for Finance; and, the Chief Advancement Officer is the Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Alumni Affairs. Titles for these three positions may change at the discretion of the President of the College.**

## **Volume 7.1 (A)**

### **Alcohol and Drug Policy**

#### **I. Introduction**

Bethany College complies with federal, state, and local laws that regulate the possession, use, and sale of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances. The College also complies with the Drug Free Work Place Act of 1988 and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act of 1998. The following activities, among others as detailed in the Bethany College Policy Manual Volume 7 – Student Life Policy, are prohibited on College premises or at College sponsored activities:

- a. Distributing, possessing, or using any illegal drug or controlled substance;
- b. Providing alcoholic beverages to individuals under 21 years of age or possessing alcoholic beverages by individuals under 21 years of age; and
- c. Illegally possessing an open container of alcoholic beverage, public intoxication, driving while intoxicated, or under the influence of illegal drugs or controlled substances, and drinking alcoholic beverages in an unlicensed public place.

Every Bethany student hereby agrees to abide by the policies and standards of the College as defined by the most current edition of the Policy Manual Volume 1 – Student Code of Conduct. Moreover, Bethany College and the Town of Bethany have policies that specify compliance with WV State Law. It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to possess or consume alcoholic beverages; it is illegal to knowingly provide alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21; and, it is illegal for anyone of any age to possess, use, or distribute illicit drugs.

Since the primary objective of Bethany College is to contribute to the growth and development of students, the College strives to maintain an environment free from conditions that may hinder that development. The use or misuse of alcohol often inhibits a student from achieving optimal academic success, reduces productive participation in a wide variety of enriching activities, and increases factors creating risks to healthy living. Therefore, Bethany College has adopted strict alcohol use policies here, in addition to the ones found in the Student Code of Conduct.

#### **II. Alcohol**

- a. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by any student under the age of 21 is strictly prohibited.
- b. Knowingly providing alcoholic beverages to anyone under the age of 21 is prohibited.

- c. The possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in any public area is prohibited unless permission has been granted for a social event by the Office of Student Life, Department of Safety and Security, and Director of Student Activities. Public areas include, but are not limited to, athletic facilities, campus grounds, academic buildings, and common lounge areas.
- d. Use or possession of alcoholic beverages by any student, regardless of age, in any residential facility designated as *incoming student housing only* by the Dean of Students and/or the Office of Residence Life is prohibited.
- e. If a student over the age of 21 is assigned to live in a residential facility designated as *incoming student housing only* (for example, Community Assistants), they may receive an exemption from the above prohibition from the Director of Student Conduct.
- f. Persons aged 21 and over are permitted to possess and consume alcoholic beverages in moderation and in the privacy of their individual rooms or apartments, if in buildings not designated as *incoming student housing only*. Of age students may be permitted to have in their possession, a maximum amount of one six pack or less of beer or one bottle of unfortified wine per person for personal consumption.
- g. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity of alcoholic beverages, except when purchased from, supplied and staffed by licensed third party vendors, is prohibited in any facility. Bulk quantity is defined as kegs, pony kegs, beer balls, or cases. Any quantity of beer or wine in excess of the amount stated above is considered a bulk quantity.
- h. Excessive drinking, on-campus or off-campus, is considered irresponsible use of alcohol and a violation of this Policy. Excessive drinking includes, but is not limited to, intoxication, binge drinking, drinking games, and drinking to the point of physical illness or incapacitation.
- i. Drinking games, including any activity that encourages the rapid ingestion of alcohol, are not permitted. Such games include, but are not limited to: Quarters, Beer Pong, Beirut, Power Hour, and Flip Cup. Paraphernalia identified as having been used in a drinking game, including tables, may be confiscated by College Officers and will become the property of the college.
- j. Students are not permitted to display alcohol-related paraphernalia in plain view (empty bottles, funnels, beer bong, etc.) at any time. Alcoholic beverage containers of any kind should not be in view of the public. Violations of this regulation may result in disciplinary action to the housing unit and/or the individuals involved.
- k. Serving, possessing, and/or consuming hard liquor or grain alcohol is strictly forbidden in all College-owned facilities.

- l. Alcoholic beverages (beer or wine only) may be served at social events, only through third party vendors, approved by the Office of Student Life. The officers of a student organization sponsoring a social event where alcoholic beverages are to be served are required to sign a statement accepting full responsibility for compliance with the laws of the State of West Virginia and with Bethany College policies. Registration forms for events and guidelines for parties are available in the Office of Student Life.
- m. Students and student organizations are responsible for the conduct of their guests and for compliance with State law and College policy.
- n. Violations of the alcohol policy will result in student disciplinary action and/or legal action.

### **III. Illegal Drugs**

- a. It is illegal for anyone of any age to possess, use, or distribute illicit drugs.
- b. Possession of prescription drugs by those other than the named prescription holder is prohibited.
- c. Distribution of prescription drugs to anyone other than the named prescription holder is prohibited.
- d. Possession of drug paraphernalia is prohibited and will result in student disciplinary action and/or legal action.
- e. Violations of the Illegal Drug Policy will result in student disciplinary action and/or legal action. Student disciplinary action will be determined on a case-by-case basis, and may include up to suspension or expulsion.
- f. Bethany College follows West Virginia state law with regards to usage, sale, and possession of marijuana.
  - i. For a student's first violation of this Policy with regard to marijuana usage, the student will be placed on disciplinary probation for a specific period of time and must complete a mandatory drug prevention training program facilitated by the College.
  - ii. For a student's second violation of this Policy with regard to marijuana usage, the student may be subjected to further disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

### **IV. Medical Amnesty Policy**

Student health and safety are of primary concern at Bethany College. As such, in cases of intoxication, alcohol poisoning, or other drug-related medical emergencies, Bethany

encourages individuals to seek medical assistance for themselves or others.

A. Amnesty Policy for Bystanders

A Bystander is any student or student organization who, in good faith and in a timely manner, seeks emergency medical assistance for a person who reasonably appears to be experiencing an overdose from alcohol or drugs.

A bystander may not be held responsible for a violation of prohibited alcohol or drug related conduct, as defined in this Code, only if the student or student organization does all of the following:

1. Remains with the person who reasonably appears to be in need of emergency medical assistance due to an overdose until such assistance is provided;
2. Identifies themselves if requested by emergency medical assistance personnel, law-enforcement officers, or College officials;
3. Cooperates with and provides any relevant information requested by emergency medical assistance personnel, law-enforcement officers, or College officials needed to treat the person reasonably believed to be experiencing an overdose; and
4. Completes any additional conditions imposed on the student or student organization by the Director of Student Conduct.

B. Amnesty Policy for Distressed Students

If the person who reasonably appears to be experiencing an overdose from alcohol or drugs is also a student, the student will not be held responsible for a violation of prohibited alcohol or drug related conduct, as defined in this Policy, but may be required to complete additional conditions imposed by the Director of Student Conduct in order to receive amnesty.

This Policy applies only to those students who seek emergency medical assistance in connection with an alcohol or drug-related medical emergency.

This Medical Amnesty Policy does not excuse or protect students who repeatedly violate the College's Student Code of Conduct. In cases where repetitive violations of the College's Student Code of Conduct occur, Bethany College reserves the right to take action on a case-by-case basis regardless of the manner in which the incident was reported. Additionally, the College reserves the right to adjudicate any case in which the violations are flagrant violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

The Dean of Students, Director of Student Conduct, or their designee reserves the right

to contact any student to discuss an incident whether the Amnesty Policy applies. In addition, Bethany College reserves the right to notify parents as per The Parental Notification Policy.

This provision only applies to violations of this Policy. As it relates to any criminal prosecution, students should see the West Virginia Alcohol and Drug Overdose Prevention and Clemency Act, W. Va. Code §§ 16-47-1 to -6, which can be found here:

<http://www.legis.state.wv.us/wvcode/Code.cfm?chap=16&art=47#47>.