Philosophical Statement on Alcohol

Furman University’s “Values and Character Statement” emphasizes the development of the whole person as a central tenet of the University’s purpose. The University is committed to providing a campus environment free of the abuse of alcohol and the illegal use of alcohol and drugs. The University affirms the abuse and illegal use of alcohol are at odds with the mission of the institution. As such, the University provides alcohol education programs throughout a student’s matriculation at the university via online resources, workshops, written materials and special programs, events and speakers focused on assisting students in enhancing their personal decision-making skills and assessing their values and actions related to the use of alcohol.

The University recognizes that too many college students, both legally and underage, drink to excess. Such abuse can lead to serious health risks and behavioral problems, i.e. violence, sexual assault, accidents, vandalism and other dangerous acts. Furman’s alcohol policy, therefore, grows out of the commitment to maintain a campus environment that supports the educational program and promotes the general welfare of the University community. The University affirms the following ideals related to alcohol use:

1. The University supports the decision of students not to use alcohol.
2. Alcohol education is an important and on-going process provided to students throughout their undergraduate experience.
3. Students that drink alcohol and infringe on the rights of others or disrupt the University community will be subject to student conduct action.
4. The University upholds and supports all federal and state laws related to the regulation and use of alcohol. Students who violate such laws may be held accountable by local and university authorities.
5. The University emphasizes prevention education and low-risk decision-making as cornerstones of the overall educational experience of students at the university. As such, the University provides medical and counseling assistance for individuals who experience alcohol related concerns.

6. The University supports behavior and social interactions that are legal, low-risk, healthy and reflective of the University’s values and character.

**Alcohol Policy**

The purpose of the alcohol policy is to outline Furman’s expectations of responsibility and accountability regarding the use of alcohol. Ultimately, decisions about the use of alcohol are the responsibility of the individual within the constraints of the law and university policy.

1. Furman embraces the ideals of a healthy and balanced social environment in which students model the character and values of the institution.
2. The University upholds and supports all federal and state laws in regard to the regulation and use of alcohol.
3. The goal of the policy is to encourage students to either abstain from the use of alcohol or to make low-risk choices regarding the use of alcohol.
4. The residence halls are unique living units on the campus intended for large groups of students to reside without undue peer pressure related to the use of alcohol. As such, alcohol is not allowed in any of the residence halls on campus.
5. The North Village and Vinings apartment complexes are living units in which those 21 years of age or older have the option to drink alcohol in the privacy of the apartments themselves, however alcohol is not allowed outside the apartments (i.e. not allowed on balconies, porches, stairwells, etc.), nor may be provided to anyone under the age of 21.

The regulations and practices governing the use of alcohol on the campus apply to all Furman students as well as their guests and visitors. As with all other student conduct policies, the responsibility for knowing and abiding by the policy rests with the student.

All local, state and federal laws are in effect and violations may result in student conduct action and/or local law enforcement action.

**General Regulations**

Furman University prohibits the following:

- Possession and/or consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21.
- Possession and/or consumption of alcohol in the residence halls regardless of age.
- Abusive, excessive and/or harmful consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- Public consumption and/or possession of alcohol in common areas of buildings and outdoor venues unless previously approved by the University as a special event.
- Alcohol in academic facilities.
- Public intoxication.
- Driving under the influence of alcohol.
Possession and/or use of an identification that falsely represents the bearer to be 21 or older (which is considered a violation of the Falsification of Records Policy and Dishonesty Policy). This also violates Furman’s Integrity Pledge.

- Public display of alcohol and/or alcohol containers carried around campus.
- Empty alcohol containers in the residence halls, including those used for decorative purposes.
- Residents may be responsible for providing the environment for underage consumption/possession of alcohol by others in their assigned housing units whether or not the residents purchased and/or actually provided the alcohol.
- Distribution and/or provision of alcohol to anyone under the age of 21.
- Common containers of alcohol beverages or excessive amounts of alcohol on university-owned property including but not limited to: kegs, pony kegs, party balls, bulk containers or bulk amounts of individual containers or other devices used for drinking games.

**High-risk drinking, drinking games and drinking game paraphernalia (including but not limited to: beer pong tables, funnels, etc.) are strictly forbidden because they encourage the abuse of alcohol.**

- Sponsorship of activities involving the use of alcoholic beverages without prior written approval by the University. Specifically, parties are not allowed in any of the residential buildings or apartments.

**Common characteristics of a party can include, but are not limited to any or all of the following: presence of bulk volumes of alcohol, large volume of people, loud music or noise that disturbs neighbors or otherwise draws attention, and/or other behavior that draws attention to a student apartment/room.**

### Disciplinary Sanctions

The University will impose conduct sanctions on students who violate the alcohol policy regulations. The following **minimum** sanctions will apply for violations of the alcohol policy. Repeated violations of the alcohol policy may result in suspension or expulsion. **It should be noted that alcohol violations which are also in conjunction with other Student Conduct Code violations may result in more stringent sanctions.**

1. **Underage consumption and/or possession of alcohol:**
   - **1st offense:** $100 fine, AlcoholEdu for Sanctions, parental notification.
   - **2nd offense:** $150 fine, PRIME for Life, parental notification.
   - **3rd offense:** $300 fine, PRIME for Life, alcohol abuse assessment at student’s expense, disciplinary probation, parental notification.

2. **Providing environment for underage consumption:**
   - **1st offense:** $150 fine, AlcoholEdu for Sanctions, parental notification.
   - **2nd offense:** $200 fine, PRIME for Life, parental notification.

3. **Distribution/provision of alcohol to underage individuals:**
   - **1st offense:** $300 fine, PRIME for Life, parental notification.
   - **2nd offense:** $500 fine, disciplinary probation, PRIME for Life, parental notification.

4. **Public display:** $50 fine, written warning.

5. **Of-age possession/consumption in unauthorized campus locations:** $50 fine, written warning.

6. **Public intoxication:**
7. Driving while impaired:
   - 1st offense: $300 fine, PRIME for Life, parental notification, disciplinary probation, parking privileges suspended for one semester.
   - 2nd offense: suspension for minimum of one academic semester, $500 fine, parental notification, parking privileges suspended for one academic year upon return from suspension.

8. Possession and/or use of fake/false identification: $150 fine, parental notification and confiscation of fake identification by University Police.

9. Alcohol abuse or harmful use: $200 fine, PRIME for Life, possible off-campus alcohol abuse assessment at student’s expense, parental notification; two or more abuse violations are grounds for possible suspension or expulsion.

10. Underage purchase or attempt to purchase alcohol: $150 fine, AlcoholEdu for Sanctions, parental notification.

11. Possession of a common bulk container: $150 fine, risk management training, parental notification.

12. Evidence of or participation in a drinking game: $100 fine, AlcoholEdu for Sanctions, confiscation of the game paraphernalia, parental notification.

13. Sponsorship/hosting of an unauthorized party: $300 fine, risk management training, parental notification.

**Amnesty Policy**

In response to the abuse of alcohol and drugs, the University strives to maintain a balance between student support and accountability. While it believes strongly in addressing student health concerns directly and confronting dangerous behaviors, the University also encourages students to seek help in situations where a student’s health is endangered. The University’s first priority is to encourage student safety, and believes it is important for students to receive both immediate attention in dangerous situations as well as follow-up support to encourage healthier behaviors.

1. Students who seek medical attention as a result of dangerous behaviors, such as but not limited to alcohol and/or drug abuse, will be granted amnesty from the University’s student conduct process, required to meet with the AVP/Dean of Students, and given an opportunity to comply with education-related recommendations. These incidents must have been reported to University officials, such as Student Life, Housing and Residence Life, University Police, or Student Health Center.

2. Students who seek medical attention for their peer(s) as a result of dangerous behaviors will also be granted amnesty from the University’s student conduct process, may be required to meet with the AVP/Dean of Students, and given an opportunity to comply with education-related recommendations.

3. At the meeting, the AVP/Dean of Students will have a conversation intended to support student development through educational means and will recommend a specific course of action for that student to avoid being charged with disorderly conduct.

4. The course of action may include notifying parents, attending an alcohol education program, or any other recommendation deemed appropriate by the AVP/Dean of Students. Should the student follow through appropriately, such a meeting will not be a part of their student conduct record, rather a “for information only” (FIO) record. Students who fail or refuse to follow
through with these recommendations may be charged with failure to comply and be adjudicated through the University’s student conduct process and the amnesty will be nullified.

5. Students who violate the Student Conduct Code for the alcohol or drug policy a second time are not eligible for amnesty and any prior amnesty will become part of the conduct record.

6. This amnesty policy only applies to university policies and will not negate any criminal or civil charges.

**Drug-Free Campus**

**General Regulations**

1. Possession, consumption (without a legal prescription), sale and/or distribution of controlled and illegal substances (consistent with federal, state or local laws) is strictly prohibited. The possession or use of prescription drugs without a valid medical prescription and use of substances for purposes or in manners not as directed is prohibited.

2. Possession, consumption, sale and/or distribution of any substances used to cause impairment including intoxication or hallucination (e.g. Spice and Kratom) is prohibited.

3. Possession, consumption, sale and/or distribution of synthetic stimulants, such as “bath salts” (also known as Cloud 9, White Dove, Hurricane Charlie, White Lightning) is prohibited. Normal bathing salts are permitted.

4. Students may not use or possess drug paraphernalia, including but not limited to weights, scales, rolling papers, e-cigs, blunts, vapes, hookahs and other smoking devices used to consume illegal substances.

5. Students may not be in the presence of the possession, sale or use of prohibited, controlled or illegal substances, to include prescription medications.

6. Students may not share prohibited, controlled or illegal substances, to include prescription medications.

7. Students may not sell prohibited, controlled or illegal substances, to include prescription medications.

8. Misbehaving or causing disruption as a result of drug use on or in university property, or at functions sponsored by the University or by a recognized university organization is prohibited.

9. Student-athletes may be randomly tested per athletic department and NCAA policies.

10. Students who violate Furman’s Drug-Free Campus policy may be sanctioned to random drug screenings. Testing positive for illegal substances will be considered consumption. Failure to complete a drug test within the given time frame will be treated as a positive result. Diluted samples will result in additional testing at the student’s expense.

11. Students convicted of any offense involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance may also be deemed ineligible to receive financial aid.

**Disciplinary Sanctions**

The University will impose conduct sanctions on students who violate the Drug-Free campus policy. The following minimum sanctions will apply for violations of the Drug-Free Campus policy. Repeated violations of the Drug-Free campus policy may result in suspension or expulsion. It should be noted that drug violations which are also in conjunction with other Student Conduct Code violations may result in more stringent sanctions.
1. **Simple possession and/or use of a controlled substance:** examples include but are not limited to marijuana, products containing THC, synthetic marijuana (K2 and “Spice”), edibles, salvia and pyrovalerone derivatives (found in substance marketed as “bath salts”); prescription drugs without a valid/current medical prescription; use of prescribed medication not as directed (over-use, snorting prescribed medication, etc.); huffing, snorting, smoking, eating or otherwise possessing or using legal substances not as intended.
   - 1st offense: $200 fine, random drug testing as determined on a case-by-case basis, parental notification, PRIME for Life, warning that a 2nd offense may result in a suspension for a minimum of one academic semester.
   - 2nd offense: suspension for a minimum of one academic semester, verification of substance abuse assessment and completion of all recommended treatment at student’s expense prior to application for re-enrollment, parental notification; PRIME for Life post re-enrollment, one semester disciplinary probation upon re-enrollment.

2. **Possession and/or use of other drugs:** examples include but are not limited to cocaine, heroin, LSD, and PCP.
   - 1st offense: suspension for a minimum of two academic semesters, $300 fine, parental notification, verification of substance abuse assessment and completion of all recommended treatment at student’s expense prior to application for re-enrollment, drug testing as determined on a case-by-case basis, possible loss of university housing privileges upon re-enrollment, PRIME for Life post re-enrollment, one year disciplinary probation upon re-enrollment.
   - 2nd offense: expulsion, parental notification.

3. **Possession of drug paraphernalia:** including but not limited to pipes, roach clips, bongs, , blunts, hookahs, blow tubes, papers, scales or any material or apparatus containing drug residue (which can include e-cigs, vapes, juuls, etc.).
   - 1st offense: $100 fine, AlcoholEdu for Sanctions, parental notification.
   - 2nd offense: $150 fine, PRIME for Life, random drug testing as determined on a case-by-case basis, parental notification.

4. **Present during the possession, use or sale of drugs:** being in the presence of the possession, sale or use of prohibited, controlled or illegal substances, to include prescription medications.
   - 1st offense: $100 fine, AlcoholEdu for Sanctions, parental notification.
   - 2nd offense: $150 fine, PRIME for Life, random drug testing as determined on a case-by-case basis, parental notification.

5. **Accessory to drug use or possession:** sharing prohibited, controlled or illegal substances, to include prescription medications.
   - 1st offense: $300 fine, PRIME for Life, random drug testing as determined on a case-by-case basis, possible one year disciplinary probation, parental notification.
   - 2nd offense: suspension for a minimum of one academic semester, $400 fine, PRIME for Life, parental notification, possible loss of university housing privileges.

6. **Distribution, sale or exchange (including without financial gain) of controlled, illegal or prohibited substances, to include prescription medications.**
   - 1st offense: possible expulsion (depending on type/amount of prohibited substance); if not expulsion, suspension for a minimum of two academic semesters, $400 fine, verification of substance abuse assessment and completion of all recommended treatment at student’s expense prior to application for re-enrollment, parental notification, PRIME for Life post re-enrollment, possible loss of university housing privileges upon re-enrollment, random drug testing as determined on a case-by-case basis, one year disciplinary probation upon re-enrollment.
   - 2nd offense: expulsion, parental notification.