

Alcohol Guidelines for New House 2011

Below is a list of some scenarios involving alcohol that may be encountered by a House Team member; the House Team includes the Housemaster, GRTs, RLA, and House Manager. The guidelines listed provide expectations of the House Team Member and are in accordance with the “House Team Minimum Response Guidelines” as established by the Institute.

The guidelines are not all encompassing and the House Team member acts on their discretion in instances not clearly defined below. As always, when in doubt, a House Team member may call another member of the House Team or the MIT Police for assistance.

A House Team member is aware that a gathering will occur with alcohol:

- The House Team member approaches the student coordinating the event and determines if the student has registered the gathering. If the student has not, the House Team member should inform the student that they need to do so. *(Ideal time frame is to begin the process 5 business days or more before the event.)*

A House Team member comes across an intoxicated student:

- The House Team member assesses the situation and determines their level of comfort in addressing the needs of the student. If a student is intoxicated to the point where a House Team member feels the student will need to be supervised or checked in on the House Team member should call MIT Police for an ambulance to assess the student. The responding House Team member or a different House Team member should also follow-up with the student the following day. Information regarding the situation should be passed along to the Housemaster.

A House Team member comes across alcohol consumption in a common area and has determined by speaking with the event host that the gathering **IS** registered:

- The House Team member observes the gathering to see if anyone underage is consuming alcohol.
 - If no one underage is consuming alcohol, the host has not requested any assistance in removing unwanted guests or addressing a situation **AND** the House Team member observes no situation that requires attention (i.e. unconscious person), the House Team member then departs from the gathering.
 - If anyone underage is consuming alcohol, the gathering is dispersed and appropriate attention is given to any intoxicated persons. A follow-up conversation is conducted with the host(s) to gather information regarding the presence of underage drinking. The information is then passed along to the Housemaster.

A House Team member comes across alcohol consumption in a common area and has determined by speaking with the event host that the gathering is **NOT** registered:

- The House Team member observes the gathering for 1) amount of alcohol, 2) number of people at gathering, and 3) underage consumption of alcohol.
 - Small amount of alcohol, 6 or fewer people, and **NO** underage consumption of alcohol – the gathering can be moved into the host’s room as long as the host is 21 years of age. If the host is not 21, then the alcohol needs to be discarded.
 - Large amount of alcohol, 6 or fewer people, and **NO** underage consumption of alcohol – Kegs and other common sources of alcohol are not permitted. Any common sources must be emptied/removed from the premises. If no common sources of alcohol are present the gathering can be moved into the host’s room as long as the host is 21 years of age. If the host is not 21, then the alcohol needs to be discarded. A follow-up conversation should be had with the host regarding the alcohol to person ratio if the House Team member believes it to be an issue. Consultation with the Housemaster/RLA about the follow-up conversation is available.
 - Small/Large amount of alcohol, high number of people, and **NO** underage consumption of alcohol – The House Team member works with the event host to send some guests away in an effort to move the gathering into the host’s room. The host’s room should not exceed the occupancy limit before the House Team member departs. All other parameters discussed in the previous two bullet points apply.
 - Small/Large amount of alcohol, high/low number of people, and underage consumption of alcohol – The House Team works to disperse the gathering and appropriate attention is given to any intoxicated persons. A follow-up conversation is conducted with the host(s) to gather information regarding the presence of underage drinking. The information is then passed along to the Housemaster.

Consequences

The consequences within this document are pertinent to only New House and the relationship between the New House residents and NH House Team. Consequences may be implemented by parties outside of New House depending on the nature of the incident. The House Team will take consequences from parties outside of New House into consideration when determining the appropriate in-house consequence.

The consequences listed below are typical actions following an offense. However, circumstances may call for a less or more severe consequence than typical. For example, an individual may be referred to BASICS on their first offense.

Individual Behavior

- First Offense: A conversation with the Housemaster/RLA/GRT and an issued warning. A copy of that warning will be kept until departure from New House and if a second offense occurs it will

be shared with the appropriate parties; such parties include but are not limited to Residential Life Programs.

- Second Offense: A conversation with the Housemaster/RLA/GRT. Possible referral to BASICS. Revocation of the privilege to register events and possible probation (*see definition below*) for the duration of one semester. If the incident occurs within 4 weeks of the end of the semester, the probation will extend until the end of the following semester. For example, an incident occurring 4 weeks before the end of the fall semester will result in probation until the end of the spring semester.
- Third Offense: The student may be removed from Housing and/or referred to the Committee on Discipline (COD) via a formal complaint. The Office of Student Citizenship will review the complaint on behalf of the COD and determine next steps. The student may be allowed to stay but will be asked to at a minimum explain their value to the community, to identify specific steps toward adhering to community standards, and outline their effort to assist in supporting the community standards in New House before determining if they will be permitted to stay.

Group Behavior

A group is defined as three or more individuals from the same house. The consequences below pertain to the House of the offending group. The consequences may also be used when there is an incident at a House sponsored event even if only one member of the house is present. Consequences have been created to reflect the anticipated outcome should a House have multiple offenses within an academic year. It is up to the discretion of the Housemaster to determine the status of the House in the following academic year.

- First Offense: A conversation with the Housemaster/RLA/GRT and an issued warning.
- Second Offense: A conversation with the Housemaster/RLA/GRT. Revocation of the privilege to register events and possible probation for the duration of one semester. If the incident occurs within 4 weeks of the end of the semester, the probation will extend until the end of the following semester. For example, an incident occurring 4 weeks before the end of the fall semester will result in probation until the end of the spring semester. The House Team will also work closely with the community to create other ways of building community.
- Third Offense: Commitment of community members to engage in a redevelopment process of the community (i.e. retreat, weekly/semi-weekly meetings, etc.) Restrictions on house funds for at least one month, but not exceeding a year. Restrictions may include but are not limited to:
 - Approval for expenditure of funds
 - Withholding house funds that would be utilized for events.

Probation is defined as a finite period of time in which a student or group will likely receive a more severe consequence than normal should they violate an established community standard.