

Alcohol violations on campuses, is it a problem at UMBC?



Do not drink underage... or at least don't get caught.

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Some students have always wanted to drink alcohol. The real question of the matter is if the violations on campus have gotten out of hand. For UMBC students, the rules you would have to follow to not get an alcohol violation are clear-cut and simple. Don't drink, sell, possess, or serve alcohol if you're under 21 (kind of a no-brainer). That also means that you can't have someone who is of legal age drinking in your room. And then specifically from the Reslife website, "Kegs and other multi-quart containers are not permitted in or around any residential facility." This probably means you can't have any sort of empty container. One last rule I found was saying that you couldn't create alcohol in any of the facilities on campus (duh).

What does that all mean exactly? Don't drink on campus. If you do and you get caught, you can get into some trouble. "But Nate, I'm sure you've heard about all the partying at College Park. 'Yes I have.' Haven't you heard that cops were walking right by frat row and doesn't Towson have more of a party school reputation than UMBC?" Sure, I guess all this might be true.

I guess people will always drink alcohol on campus; it doesn't matter which one you're at, and some might have a worse problem than others. Even so, that means that the problem could exist at UMBC. I'm not saying that alcohol is this ta-

boo thing that shouldn't exist. What I'm saying is if there is a rule that is broken, someone has to enforce it. With that being said, in all reality, there shouldn't be any alcohol violations (I mean, they're not fun for anyone).

If you were to get even an alleged citation, you would have to go through a lengthy two-week process at minimum just to prove that you were innocent. Assuming that you were innocent and the system thinks you weren't, then you have to wait longer to go to a court hearing through judicial services. Now at this point, it is just like a trial in real life. This is assuming you're innocent, I won't tell you what happens if you're guilty. All right, fine. Your penalties can range from a minor citation to getting the boot off of campus. If that's the case, your record of that one instance where you made a poor choice follows you for the rest of your life. If you're guilty, it might be easier to just come clean, it helps to solve at least one problem (that is wasting everyone's time).

So, any time someone had an alcohol violation, there is a problem. That would mean if lots of students had alcohol violations, then it would be a big problem. How do we solve it? Hmm... I think there are two options here. First, don't get the alcohol violation. Second, (and probably better) just don't drink alcohol on campus. That makes sense.

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10-05-09