

## Alcohol Service at Events Sponsored or Hosted by the University

**Summary/Purpose:** This policy describes the rules that apply to all University departments and administrative units if the department or unit plans to sponsor or host an event at which alcohol will be served.

For purposes of this policy, “alcohol” or “alcoholic beverage” means any beverage that contains alcohol, without respect to the beverage’s percentage of alcohol by weight or by volume. If a University department or office wishes to host an event where alcohol will be served, the department must comply with the following guidelines.

1. **Source of funds for purchase of alcohol.** Funds from University accounts may not be used to purchase alcohol. Only funds in University of Mississippi Foundation or other private or outside accounts may be used by University departments or officials to purchase alcohol.
2. **Permits.** Any event sponsored or hosted by the University must only serve alcohol in compliance with all applicable state and local laws and pursuant to any and all licenses or permits required by law. If the event occurs at a restaurant that is permitted to sell alcohol to customers on-site and the alcohol is purchased and consumed at that restaurant, no additional permits or licenses are typically required. If the event occurs anywhere else, then the department hosting or sponsoring the event must purchase alcohol from and the alcohol must be served by a vendor with a caterer’s permit issued by the state tax commission. If the event is in the City of Oxford but the alcohol is not purchased and consumed at a restaurant permitted to sell alcohol, the owner of the site where the event occurs may also have to obtain an event permit from the City of Oxford.
3. **Campus Facilities.** Not all campus facilities or locations may be used to host events with alcohol service. Facilities where alcohol may be served may have location-specific policies with respect to which sorts of alcoholic beverages (i.e., beer, wine or other alcohol) may be served in that location or facility. The department or office that manages or reserves a particular campus location or facility can provide University departments relevant information about alcohol service for that facility.
4. **Approvals.** The department or office’s signatory officer with budgetary authority must approve the event and the service of alcohol.
5. **Notices.** The department or office must provide notice to the Provost and to the Chancellor of its intent to host or sponsor an event that includes the service of alcohol, along with the time, place, and purpose of the event, at least one week in advance of the event. When scheduling a University facility for an event with alcohol service, the department or office must also notify the office or department that manages or schedules the use of the University building or facility that alcohol will be served as a part of the event.
6. **County prohibition against beer and light wine.** Beer and light wine (alcoholic beverages available for sale at grocery and convenience stores) may not be served or

## The University of Mississippi

consumed at events hosted by the University that occur at any location within Lafayette County but outside the city limits of the City of Oxford.

7. **Game day.** University departments and offices may not host or sponsor events on University property with alcohol service on the days of home football games.