

Know the Laws

Ohio Colleges support all federal, state and local laws regarding alcohol

- **It is illegal** for people under age 21 to drink or possess any alcoholic beverage.
- **It is illegal** for any person to possess an open container of alcohol in a public place or in a motor vehicle.
- **It is illegal** for any person to possess, create, sell or distribute a fake ID. This is a 4th degree felony.
- **It is illegal** to buy, share the cost or provide alcohol to persons under age 21.
- **It is illegal** for people under 21 with a blood alcohol content of .02 or higher to operate a motor vehicle.
- **It is illegal** to knowingly allow a person under 21, other than your own child, to remain in your home or on your property while consuming or possessing alcohol.
- **It is illegal** as a parent, to give alcohol to your teen's friends under the age of 21 under any circumstance, even in your own home, even with their parent's permission.

Additional Resources

Drug-Free Action Alliance

www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org

The Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention

www.edc.org/hec/



Ohio College Initiative to Reduce High Risk Drinking

Founded and facilitated by Drug-Free Action Alliance, the Ohio Initiative began in 1996 and currently includes 45 college partners.

Funder: Ohio Department of Alcohol & Drug Addiction Services

Ashland University
Baldwin-Wallace College
Bluffton College
Bowling Green State University
Capital University
Central State University
Cleveland State University
Columbus College of Art & Design
Defiance College
Denison University
Heidelberg College
Hiram College
John Carroll University
Kent State University
Kenyon College
Lake Erie College
Marietta College
Miami University
Mount Union College
Muskingum College
Oberlin College
Ohio Dominican University
Ohio Northern University
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Otterbein College
Shawnee State University
The College of Wooster
The Ohio State University
Tiffin University
University of Akron
University of Cincinnati
University of Dayton
University of Findlay
University of Rio Grande
University of Toledo
Urbana University
Ursuline College
Walsh University
Wilberforce University
Wilmington College
Wittenberg University
Wright State University
Xavier University
Youngstown State University

Drug-Free Action Alliance

6185 Huntley Road, Suite P,
Columbus, OH 43229
614-540-9985
614-540-9990 fax

A Message To Parents About High-Risk Drinking at College

**DRUG-FREE ACTION
ALLIANCE**

A Message To Parents About High-Risk Drinking at College

A Guide for Parents: Learn, understand and use your influence

- Today 40% males and 30% females drink to become intoxicated. Twenty years ago 20% males and 15% females drank to get drunk.
- The first 6 weeks of college for first-year students are critical to their success; about 1/3 fail to enroll for their second year.
- 1,700 college students die each year from alcohol-related injuries including motor vehicle crashes.
- About 25 % of college students report negative academic consequences because of their drinking including missing class,

falling behind, doing poorly on exams or papers and receiving lower grades overall.

- 31 % of college students meet criteria for alcohol abuse diagnosis and 6 % for alcohol dependence diagnosis.
- Alcohol is the most abused drug.

Consequences of High-Risk Drinking

- **Alcohol Poisoning** – can possibly lead to death
- **Alcohol Depresses Nerves** – that control involuntary action like breathing and the gag reflex which prevents choking
- **Alcohol Interferes with Brain Development** - causing potential learning impediments
- **Violent Crimes** - 95% of those on college campuses are alcohol-related
- **Sexual Assault:** 90% of college rapes involve alcohol use by either the victim or the assailant
- **Academic Consequences** – alcohol is associated with poor grades, absenteeism and higher rates of school dropout
- **Criminal Records** - violating alcohol related laws can result in a permanent criminal record interfering with future employment and post graduate work
- **Students are Less Sensitive to Alcohol Effects** – they can drink longer before feeling drowsy increasing the potential for injuries

What a Parent Can Do . . .

- Studies clearly show that parents remain a key influence on college students
- You know your student best - be alert to identifying crisis early
- Watch for drop in grades and deterioration of family relationships
- If students know or perceive parents' disapproval of behaviors, they are less likely to engage in them
- Stay involved and stay in touch – inquire about classes, friends and extracurricular activities
- Encourage community service and other healthy activities to spend time and money
- Talk with your student – get and share facts
- Listen - lecturing doesn't work
- Communicate risks and consequences associated with underage drinking
- Refrain from glamorizing alcohol use
- Make your expectations extremely clear – provide clear No-Use messages regarding underage drinking
- Model good behaviors concerning alcohol, tobacco and prescription medicines
- Parents can still play a major role in preventing alcohol problems