

**Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs**  
**Social Policy**

The social component of Greek Life is highly valued by Rutgers University. All policies shall be implemented in a way that promotes the responsible use of alcohol. Further, each chapter is expected to adhere to the laws of the State of New Jersey as they pertain to building and fire safety as well as the consumption of alcohol and other substances.

All chapters are expected to abide by the policies of OFSA or their individual inter/national risk management policy, whichever is stricter. These social policies apply to all fraternity entities. The use of the word “fraternity” refers to men’s and women’s groups.

**Section One – Registration Procedures**

1. Completed **Party Registration Forms** are due to OFSA no later than **Monday at 12:00 PM (Noon)**. Forms are to be submitted electronically – paper forms will not be accepted.
2. Guest lists must be generated and submitted to OFSA **no later Monday at 12:00 PM (noon)**. The Guest List is to be submitted electronically. Chapter members may invite up to two (2) guests. A guest list must include the member’s name and his/her guest’s first and last name. Chapters must NEVER exceed building capacity.
3. Chapters must be current with all required OFSA alcohol/risk education programming. Failure to complete the required programs will prevent chapters from registering parties/formals.

**Section Two - General Policy Statements**

1. The possession, sale, use or consumption of ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, while on or off chapter premises, during a fraternity event/function, in any situation sponsored or endorsed by the chapter, or in any event/function an observer would associate with the fraternity, must be in compliance with any and all applicable laws of the state, county, city and institution of higher education, and must comply with either BYOB or Third Party Vendor Guidelines.
2. No alcoholic beverage may be purchased through chapter funds nor may the purchase of same for members or guests be undertaken or coordinated by any member in the name of, or on behalf of, the chapter or on behalf of the members for a chapter event. The purchase or use of a bulk quantity or common sources of alcoholic beverages (kegs or cases) is prohibited.
3. OPEN PARTIES, meaning those with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity, without specific invitation, where alcohol is present, shall be prohibited.
4. OPEN BARS are Prohibited.
5. No members, collectively or individually, shall purchase for, provide, serve to, or sell alcoholic beverages to any minor (i.e., those under the legal “drinking age”).
6. The possession, sale or use of any ILLEGAL DRUGS or CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES while on chapter premises or during a fraternity event/function or at any event/function that an observer would associate with the fraternity is strictly forbidden.

7. No chapter may co-sponsor an event/function with an alcohol distributor, charitable organization or tavern where alcohol is given away, sold or provided to those present.
8. No chapter may co-sponsor or co-finance a function where alcohol is purchased by any of the host chapters, groups or organizations.
9. All recruitment/rush/intake activities associated with the chapter will be non-alcoholic. No recruitment/rush/intake activities associated with any chapter may be held at or in conjunction with a tavern or alcohol distributor as defined in this policy.
10. No member shall permit, tolerate, encourage, or participate in "drinking games."
11. No alcohol shall be present at any pledge/new member/associate member/novice program, activity or ritual of the chapter. This includes but is not limited to activities associated with "bid night", "big brother/big sister night" and initiation.

### **Section Three – Party/Social Event Requirements**

1. All parties and formals (w/ alcohol or non-alcoholic) are required to be registered with OFSA. "Spontaneous gatherings" are not permitted.
2. Chapters are permitted to host one party per weekend (that includes the use of alcohol) as designated on the Greek calendar.
3. Events that are co-sponsored must be registered by both participating chapters.
4. Guest lists must be generated and submitted electronically to OFSA **no later than Monday at 12:00 PM (noon)**. Chapter members may invite up to two (2) guests.
5. Chapters may not exceed the official capacity of the designated public areas. Private rooms may not be used during parties/social events.
6. Chapters may hold parties/formals on Thursday, Friday or Saturday evenings. Alternative days of the week or time of day must be approved by OFSA two weeks in advance.
  - a. Thursday events may take place between 7:00 PM – 12:00 AM
  - b. Friday/Saturday events may take place between 7:00 PM – 2:00 AM
  - c. ***No party/formal may exceed four (4) hours in length.***
7. Parties/formals may only take place in the following locations: On-campus, registered chapter houses OR third party vendor locations.
8. For parties/formals held outside the New Brunswick city limits, chapters are required to follow the transportation policy requirements of their national organization.
9. Chapters may NOT sponsor or co-sponsor parties/formals with unrecognized student groups.

10. Chapters are required to abide by all city/state regulations with respect to parties/formals, specifically regulations related to location, noise, occupancy and trash.
11. Chapters wishing to allow alcohol at a registered party/formal must employ a third party vendor or require guests to BYOB. **Open Bars are prohibited.**
12. Alcohol may NOT be served in a container greater than 12 fluid ounces at any event (i.e. a Solo Cup, or comparable cup with measured lines).
13. The serving of communal alcohol is not permissible at any party/event (punch bowls, kegs, gelatin shots, trashcans, water coolers, etc.)
14. Open containers of alcoholic beverages, as defined by federal, state and city law, shall not be permitted to leave the party/event.
15. Parties/events that include the use of ethnic, racial, alcoholic and/or sexist themes are prohibited.
16. Chapters are responsible for providing an adequate quantity (adequate = enough for all participants) of food AND non-alcoholic beverages for the duration of any party/formal involving the use of alcohol. Water is to be made available at all times, to all guests.
17. Admission to parties/formals is limited to chapter members and invited guests only. A current chapter roster(s) and a copy of the guest list must be at the entrance to the social function at all times. No temporary guest lists are permitted. "Greek Privilege" is not permitted. "Fraternity Passes" are not permitted.
18. The non-drinking door monitors shall deny access to any person (member or guest) that outwardly appears to be intoxicated.
19. Identification: Each host chapter shall require ALL persons entering the social event/function to provide a driver's license or other picture identification card issued by a state or federal agency establishing proof of age before entering. Persons without proper identification are never admitted.
20. Wristbands/Bracelets: The host chapter(s) must provide wristbands to guests of legal drinking age. Markers, stamps or other easily duplicated means to identify guests are prohibited.
21. Each sponsoring chapter(s) shall have at least two initiated members at the entrance to the party/formal checking ID and monitoring the guest list. Parties/formals shall be serviced by a single entrance.
22. Chapters may not advertise a party/formal at which alcohol will be present (i.e. no flyers, posters, Targum advertisements, radio spots, etc.).
23. Chapter and/or Senior Bar Crawls: No member or new member may participate in any activity that involves traveling to multiple drinking locations.

24. Panhellenic chapters that receive a waiver from their national headquarters will be permitted to co-host parties with alcohol at registered fraternity houses. The waiver must be on file at OFSA. All party registration steps must be completed by all participating chapters.

## **Glossary**

Alcoholic Beverages - Beer is the only alcoholic beverage permitted to be present and/or consumed during a BYOB social function. Beer, wine and mixed drinks are the only Alcoholic Beverages permitted to be present and/or consumed during a social function catered by a Third Party Vendor.

Alumni Function - type of event that allows only members of the collegiate chapter and alumni members of the organization to attend. Alumni must appear on the guest list.

Bar Crawl - any activity that involves traveling to multiple drinking locations.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Function - type of event that allows only members of the collegiate chapter to attend.

Bulk Quantity - shall be defined as any form of alcohol that is more than one single serving (examples include, but are not limited to kegs, party balls, cases of beer, punch, etc.)

BYOB - (Bring Your Own Beer) - Members 21 and over are permitted to bring one six pack of 12 oz. cans for their own consumption.

Chapter Funds - Moneys found in any chapter bank account (savings, checking, etc.) OR money collected from the members, alumni, guests, etc. for the purchase of alcohol. The use of slush or sinking funds is in violation of policy.

Chapter Premises - any property owned, leased, rented or any property an observer would otherwise associate with the fraternity and/or its members.

Common Area - any room of the chapter house not considered personal living space that is easily accessible to all.

Common Source of Alcohol - is defined as any form of alcohol that is dispensed from one single source (examples include, but are not limited to, cases, kegs, shots of any nature.)

Date - one specifically invited person per chapter member present

Date Function - event that allows chapter members to invite one guest (date) to the function.

Drinking Games – the consumption of shots of alcohol, liquor or alcoholic beverages, the practice of consuming shots equating to one’s age, “beer pong”, “century club”, “dares”, or any other activity involving the consumption of alcohol which involves duress or encouragement related to the consumption of alcohol.

Guest - any individual not affiliated with the participating chapter(s) (i.e. brothers/sisters, friends from out of town, visiting chapters, girlfriends/boyfriends, alumni (ae), non-Greek friends, etc.)

Guest List – a guest is prepared and submitted the day before the event and contains the names of all guests. The purpose of a guest list is to limit attendance to those persons who were invited by a member of the chapter. Invitations must be limited to no more than two per member.

Mixer (2 to 4 chapters) - type of event that allows only members of the sponsoring chapters to attend. No non-members are permitted.

Non-Alcoholic Event/Function - those events/functions that do not include the use of alcohol. Chapters are encouraged to host at least eight (8) non-alcoholic events/functions each semester.

Open Party - those events/functions with unrestricted access by non-members of the fraternity/sorority, without specific invitation. Open parties are prohibited.

Party/Formal – a planned, sponsored, hosted, co-hosted hosted or promoted event/function by a chapter in conjunction with another chapter or invited guests

Private Event - an event that is limited to collegiate members and their specific invited guests.

Social Function (Event/function) - a planned, sponsored, hosted, co-hosted or promoted event/function by a chapter in conjunction with another chapter or invited guests. Social functions (event/functions) include, but are not limited to mixers, formals, date functions, brotherhood/sisterhood event/functions, parent functions and alumni functions.

Sober/Non-Drinking Monitor - a legally sober chapter member who refrains absolutely from drinking alcohol prior to and during performance of their monitoring duties.

Spontaneous Gatherings – unregistered gatherings held at a chapter facility, chapter annex, off-campus house/apartment that are comprised of members, guests and alcohol use.

Tavern - an establishment generating more than half of its annual gross sales from alcohol.

Third Party Vendor - a licensed and insured cash bar operator who is not affiliated with any chapter sponsoring the event/function.

