

STUDENT LIFE AND SUPPORT POLICIES

Health and wellbeing: responsible alcohol consumption policy

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Summary of permitted alcohol consumption at Constructor University

Location	Rules	Reference
College bookable common areas	Only drinks not exceeding 15% (beer, wine, sparkling wine) are permitted.	Article 4.5
Events	Only drinks not exceeding 15% (beer, wine, sparkling wine) are permitted.	Article 4.2
Apartments	Excessive alcohol consumption in the apartments is prohibited.	Article 4.6

1. Purpose of the policy

1.1 Constructor University has a duty, as set out in our Community Standard, to provide a safe environment for the whole University community. We take our responsibility for the health and wellbeing of all our students extremely seriously.

1.2 We recognize that alcohol is a cultural practice in Germany and is associated with festivals and celebrations. It is also recognized that during the transition period between teenage years and adulthood, experimentation with alcohol and other substances happens. However, excessive and uncontrolled alcohol consumption in a diverse community at Constructor University can be dangerous, destructive and runs contrary to the university's Community Standard.

1.3 The purpose of this policy is to promote responsible alcohol consumption. It seeks to provide appropriate guidance, opportunities for students to take responsibility for their own behavior and disciplinary measures for breaches of the policy.

1.4 Alcohol is primarily ethanol and serves as the intoxicating constituent in wine, beer, spirits, and other drinks. The percentage of pure alcohol, expressed as alcohol by volume (ABV), varies across different types of alcoholic beverages. In this policy, alcohol is referred to all drinks containing up to 15% ABV, which include beer, craft beer, unfortified wine, sparkling wine and champagne. The consumption of alcoholic drinks containing more than 15% ABV, which include spirits and liquor such as gin, vodka, whiskey, rum, tequila are prohibited in all areas of campus.

2. Policy

2.1 Constructor University's policy on responsible alcohol consumption is to reduce the harmful effects of alcohol use via safety measures, support, education, and effective procedures.

2.2 We undertake all University activities in compliance with German law and do not condone any illegal activity. We also have a responsibility to cooperate with police in operations designed to safeguard our student population.

2.3 This policy does not mean exclusion from the law or other University standards and policies. We prioritize our safety and supportive measures. However, there may be occasions where alcohol-related misconduct needs to be addressed through our student disciplinary procedures, especially where the wellbeing of others is placed at unacceptable risk.

3. Who does the policy apply to?

This policy applies to everyone with student status at Constructor University.

4. Alcohol consumption

4.1 Students of Constructor University have the responsibility to act in accordance with the Community Standard and they should avoid drinking alcohol in excess.

This is particularly important when:

- i. it risks anyone's safety and/or wellbeing
- ii. it affects fellow students
- iii. engaged in any University activity or on University premises (including accommodation)
- iv. it negatively affects the University's legitimate activities, interests and reputation.

4.2 Consumption on Campus grounds

Students of Constructor University are permitted to drink alcohol when:

- The event where alcohol is being served is registered at campus security and part of a planned schedule of department or team activities, which have received prior approval.
- The purchase of alcohol has been agreed and approved via the necessary protocols and procedures.
- The alcohol being served does not include distilled alcohol or exceeds a maximum of 15% alcohol by volume (ABV)
- The event where alcohol is being served complies with the university house rules and is outside of the quiet hours.
- The amount of alcohol served is limited to help prevent intoxication of attendees to the event.

4.3 Promoting safe gatherings on Campus

Student Life and Support in partnership with the student governments will support students' initiatives geared towards the responsible drinking of alcohol. The Music Lab and The Other Side bar would be used for this purpose and alcohol consumption would be limited to beer and wine and in small quantities. These parties would be funded by the student government budget and organized and led by the students themselves. Student life will ensure supervision through the provision of security and student staff support. Alcohol will be purchased in line with university procurement and purchasing policies.

4.4 Alcohol consumption in the residential colleges

Colleges will seek to educate students in order to create a better collegiate atmosphere and to promote responsible drinking behavior. Colleges will do so by focusing on educating students on a regular basis (at least once per semester) starting with an event as part of the orientation period. Residential Life Teams, with support from the Counseling Center and the Peer Mentors, will be responsible for ensuring that information about responsible drinking is available and disseminated to their college residents. Opportunities will be available for students to discuss these issues in practice in the colleges. The information will be aimed at

- Helping students to understand the importance of knowing their limits.
- Understanding consequences of heavy drinking and ways to seek help.
- Recognizing and acting in emergency cases where alcohol intoxication or alcohol poisoning may have occurred.
- Helping students understand their responsibility towards their peers, including minors.
- Advising students about sources of help and support (including how to support a friend/friends they may be worried about).
- Communicating the legal context of drinking in Germany as well as the contents of this policy.

Residential Teams will seek to disseminate this information via:

- Digital, print and social media, college and floor events, O-week events, awareness campaigns, etc.
- Inclusion in the College Info Session during the orientation period.

4.5 Alcohol consumption in college common areas

The consumption of alcoholic drinks above 15% alcohol is strictly not permitted in any areas of the college common areas. This is to ensure that common spaces remain accessible to all members of the community, including minors, who may not drink distilled alcohol or spirits, according to German Law (§ 9 Jugendschutzgesetz).

Common areas in colleges may be booked for private gatherings using the Event Agreement Policy and can only take place with the permission of the Residential Staff. Those responsible for booking must declare that no alcoholic beverages above 15% are to be served. The guest list for planned parties in the common areas needs to be submitted to the Residential Staff when the bookings are made. Private gatherings need to conform with the house rules.

4.6 Alcohol consumption in apartments

Excessive alcohol consumption in the apartments is prohibited. If gatherings are to be organised involving alcohol, facilities on campus should be booked for this purpose where gatherings involving alcohol can be supervised.

5. Medical Amnesty/Good Samaritan Principle

5.1 All students are expected to seek immediate medical attention and treatment for themselves or others in circumstances when they experience potentially dangerous effects associated with alcohol. In a situation where a student seeks attention for an alcohol-related medical emergency, Constructor University will treat the situation as a health and safety matter, not as a disciplinary incident. This practice of reducing barriers to getting help will be extended not only to the student receiving medical attention, but also to the student(s) who calls for help. Students that are affected by a crime while under the influence of alcohol will not face disciplinary repercussions for the alcohol use related to the incident.

5.2 Reports of severe intoxication or alcohol poisoning to university security, college staff, or public emergency services invoke a Medical Amnesty/Good Samaritan Principle. The Medical Amnesty/Good Samaritan Principle ensures that neither the students reporting the incident nor the students suffering the intoxication will face disciplinary procedures for violation of this Policy. While no disciplinary measures will be taken, the reported individual will be required to have a follow up discussion with Residential Staff. Failure to attend a follow up discussion could result in disciplinary proceedings.

5.3 If a student or staff member becomes aware of an emergency due to alcohol intoxication or poisoning or suspected ill health and does not act by contacting either the university emergency number or emergency services, it will be considered a grave breach of the Community Standard. This is also in breach of the German Law (German Criminal Code §13 StGB) and will be directly referred to the Disciplinary Board or Human Resources in the case of staff.

5.4 The Medical Amnesty/Good Samaritan Principle does not preclude disciplinary sanctions due to any other violations of the community standards or house rules (that are not related to the Alcohol Policy). This amnesty applies only to the alcohol consumption itself and not to the actions committed as a result, such as violence, disorderly behavior, and reckless endangerment.

6. Underage Students

6.1 According to German Law (§ 9 Jugendschutzgesetz), minors (below 18 years of age), must not be served or permitted to consume any distilled alcohol or spirits, or mixed drinks that contain distilled alcohol or spirits. It is the responsibility of all adults to prevent underage drinking. Adult students providing distilled alcohol or spirits to minors may face disciplinary consequences.

6.2 RLMs will take steps under the section 'Education and Prevention' of the policy to inform students younger than 18 of these legal issues and requirements.

7. Guests of Students

7.1 Student guests are not subject to the University's disciplinary procedures. If such persons become intoxicated and endanger themselves or others, they will be asked to leave the campus or college premises and, as appropriate/necessary, the Security Office, the police, or the ambulance services will be called.

7.2 RLMs and Security Officers have the domiciliary right ('Hausrecht') to remove persons from the colleges. The Security Officers have the authority to escort persons off campus.