What happens if I’m caught on campus with alcohol?

It depends... 1) on your age, and 2) who caught you.

This is a timely reminder for new students who want to avoid trouble or possible hall eviction. Here’s what you need to know. If you’re under 21 and found with alcohol in your residence hall, you will likely be sanctioned by a community director to complete an alcohol education class for violating Residence Hall Community Standards. Sanctioning includes a parental notification letter and you will be placed on Deferred Eviction. If you accrue additional violations, you can be evicted from your hall (yet you still have to pay the rent contract for the remainder of the semester). If you fail to complete your sanctions by your deadline, a hold will be placed on your student account preventing you from registering or changing classes until your sanctions are completed.

If you are under 21 and cited by a UAPD officer, you will be referred to the Dean’s Office. The Dean’s Office provides a diversion program for first time student misdemeanor cases in the county court system, meaning you don’t have to go to court as the Dean’s Office will assign your sanctions. This can include a fine, community service hours, and an alcohol education class. Also, if you are under 21, the Dean’s Office will inform your parents of your violation through the Parental Notification Law of 1999.

If you have already completed a UA Diversion program (this is a one-time deal), you will be sanctioned for a violation of the Student Code of Conduct AND will also have to go to court. Double sanctions and costs. If you fail to complete your diversion sanctions by your deadline, the Dean's Office also places a hold on your student account.

If you’re really intoxicated and it’s determined that you need medical assistance (possible alcohol poisoning, for instance), paramedics are called to evaluate you and you could be transported to University Medical Center (where you incur additional ambulance and hospital costs).

You can view the Student Code of Conduct and other FAQ’s at the Dean of Student’s website at www.deanofstudents.arizona.edu. The Residence Life Community Living Guide, which include all Community Standards, can be found at www.life.arizona.edu (search for “policies and procedures”).

95% of UA students did not get in trouble with school authorities last school year. (2016 Health & Wellness Survey, n=3,113)

Got a question about alcohol? Email it to redcup@email.arizona.edu

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