

## Other good things to know about drinking & college

- + Making an informed decision about drinking is your personal responsibility.
- + Watch how much your friends have had to drink and help them if they get into trouble.
- + Decide what your expectations and limitations are before you head out.
- + Always have a sober driver.
- + Know it is okay to choose not to drink.



# DRINKING & COLLEGE

9 Questions  
You Want Answered



To find resources on your campus, visit  
[pip.missouri.edu/resources](http://pip.missouri.edu/resources)

 Partners in  
Prevention

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Revised September 2016

This publication is brought to you by Partners in Prevention,  
a coalition of universities in Missouri.

Partners in Prevention is funded by the Missouri Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

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### What is the drinking age?

The legal drinking age in the state of Missouri is 21. It is against state law to consume, purchase, or possess alcohol if you are younger than 21.

### What will happen to me if I am caught drinking as a minor?

Illegal consumption, possession, or distribution of alcohol by a minor is a misdemeanor. If convicted, you may be fined up to \$1000 and/or imprisoned for up to one year. In addition to fines, you will need to pay court costs and attorney fees.

### What could drinking mean for my education?

Irresponsible drinking can cause major disruptions in your most important job right now: school. It's not uncommon for drinking to lead to sliding grades, academic problems, even suspension or expulsion.

### How could what I do in college effect my chances of getting a career?

Most employers now perform a background check on potential employees. This means that they will be able to see alcohol or drug-related convictions on your record including impaired drinking, using a fake ID, and many others. It is also important to keep your online presence in mind. Pages, photos, and texts are stored for years to come. How would you explain some of those 'crazy nights' to an employer or grad school?

### Is it always unsafe to drive after drinking?

Yes. Make sure you always arrange for a designated driver who will consume no alcohol if you plan to drink. If everyone in your party has been drinking, call a taxi or a sober friend to pick you up. Never ride home with "least drunk" person in the group.

### What are the laws about fake IDs?

In Missouri, it is illegal to obtain, transfer, or use any means of identification for the purpose of manufacturing and proving or selling a false identification card to a minor for the purpose of obtaining alcohol. Penalties for this misdemeanor offense include fines and/ or possible prison sentence.

### What about attending/hosting off-campus parties?

If you host an off-campus party with alcohol and charge admission, the person accepting the money could be charged with selling alcohol without a license. Sentences for this violation involve fines and jail time. Police respond to off-campus parties when there are noise complaints or parking problems. ID's are checked if police have reason to suspect that minors have been drinking. You risk being arrested if you are a minor.

### Can my driver's license be suspended or revoked due to drinking?

What is known as the 'Abuse and Lose' law and the 'Zero Tolerance' law can affect your license. Abuse and Lose results in suspension or revocation of a driver's license when a person under 21 years of age is guilty of any alcohol related traffic offense (possession, consumption, or use of alcohol while operating a motor vehicle), possession or use of any controlled substance, or the modification or misrepresentation of driver's license. Zero tolerance means that if you are found to have more than a .02 BAC then you are guilty of a misdemeanor and shall have your driver's license suspended or revoked.

### How do I know my limit on drinks?

Having a "drink" is pretty vague in terms of knowing how much alcohol you have consumed. Mixed drinks vary in their potency. Make sure you know exactly how much alcohol is in your drink, and request that it be mixed with non-carbonated beverages. Things like soda move the alcohol through the bloodstream quickly. Eating a meal high in protein before drinking will allow alcohol to pass through your body at a safer pace.



Estimated BAC (Blood Alcohol Content) after three hours of drinking

		Women					
		100 lbs	120 lbs	140 lbs	160 lbs	180 lbs	200 lbs
Number of drinks over three hours	1	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	2	.04	.03	.02	.01	.00	.00
	3	.09	.06	.05	.04	.03	.02
	4	.13	.10	.08	.06	.05	.04
	5	.18	.14	.11	.09	.08	.06
	6	.22	.18	.14	.12	.10	.09
	7	.27	.21	.18	.15	.13	.11
	8	.31	.25	.21	.18	.15	.13
	9	.36	.29	.24	.20	.18	.15
	10	.40	.33	.27	.23	.20	.18
	11	.52	.43	.36	.31	.27	.24
	12	.57	.47	.40	.35	.30	.27

  

		Men						
		120 lbs	140 lbs	160 lbs	180 lbs	200 lbs	220 lbs	240 lbs
Number of drinks over three hours	1	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	2	.01	.01	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	3	.05	.03	.02	.01	.01	.00	.00
	4	.08	.06	.05	.04	.03	.02	.01
	5	.11	.09	.07	.06	.05	.04	.03
	6	.14	.11	.09	.08	.06	.05	.05
	7	.17	.14	.12	.10	.08	.07	.06
	8	.20	.17	.14	.12	.10	.09	.08
	9	.23	.19	.16	.14	.12	.11	.09
	10	.26	.22	.19	.16	.14	.12	.11
	11	.36	.30	.26	.23	.20	.18	.14
	12	.39	.33	.29	.25	.22	.20	.16