

Quinnipiac

U N I V E R S I T Y

Biennial Review of
Alcohol and Other Drug Programs
Fall 2018 to Spring 2020

Prepared by the Office of the Dean of Students

July 2020

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I. Introduction

Biennial Review of Quinnipiac University Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Programs – 2018 to 2020

The Department of Education requires institutions to conduct an internal biennial review every two academic years. The purpose of the biennial review is: 1) to determine the effectiveness of, and to implement any needed changes to the AOD prevention program; and 2) to ensure that campuses enforce the disciplinary sanctions for violating standards of conduct. safesupportivelearning.ed.gov/sites/default/files/hec/product/dfscr.pdf

The biennial review also must include a determination as to:

- The number of drug- and alcohol-related violations and fatalities occurring on the campus or as part of any activities that are reported to campus officials; and
- The number and types of sanctions the institute of higher education imposes on students or employees as a result of such violations or fatalities.

In addition to the biennial review, institutions are required to send formal communications to the community in compliance with the Drug-Free Schools and Campuses Regulations (34 CFR Part 86) of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act (DFSCA). The purpose of the communication is to certify that it has implemented programs to prevent the abuse of alcohol and use or distribution of illicit drugs by students and employees, both on its premises and as a part of any of its activities. At a minimum, each institution of higher education must annually distribute the following in writing to all students and employees:

- Standards of conduct that clearly prohibit the unlawful possession, use or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students and employees;
- A description of the legal sanctions under local, state or federal law for the unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol;
- A description of any drug or alcohol counseling, treatment or rehabilitation or re-entry programs that are available to employees or students; and
- A clear statement that the institution will impose sanctions on students and employees and a description of those sanctions, up to and including expulsion or termination of employment and referral for prosecution, for violations of the standards of conduct.

In acknowledgment of its legal obligation to conduct a biennial review in compliance with the DFSCA, Quinnipiac University authorized an administrative review to be conducted to determine if the institution fulfills the requirements of the previously mentioned federal regulations.

The vice president for student affairs and dean of students or a designee is responsible for completing the biennial review. Policies and procedures for students and employees regarding standards of conduct involving alcohol and drugs are available in both the Student Handbook and Employee Handbook.

II. AOD Policy Inventory

Population	Location of policy
Students	Student Handbook, presentations during first-year and transfer orientation, residential floor meetings
Residential Students	Student Handbook, presentations during first-year and transfer student orientation, residential floor meetings
Student Organizations	Student Handbook, “Nuts and Bolts” Training
Fraternities and Sororities	Student Handbook, Foundations (new member education program), Officer Training Academy, Social Event Manager Training, individual chapter programs
Faculty and Staff	MyQ intranet portal, Human Resources Policy Manual
Students, Faculty and Staff	Student Handbook

III. AOD Program Inventory Fall 2018 to Spring 2020

*all programs are free to students, faculty and staff

Department/ Student Group	Program	Description	Goals	Participants
Alpha Chi Omega Sorority	Risk Management Workshop	This program aims to educate students about alcohol-related behavior and increase interest in critically examining their drinking patterns and eventually implementing the skills they learn.	Help students learn to recognize high-risk situations and to minimize the potential negative consequences through preventive action, reduced consumption and/or abstinence.	114 members of the group
Counseling Services	Counseling appointments	Available to all students Monday–Friday.	Students are seen for specific AOD issues.	As needed for any student
Counseling Services	Fresh Check Day	Event with different booths to engage students in dialogue surrounding mental wellness and related resources.	Increase knowledge of mental health resources on campus, reduce stigma for seeking help, including overcoming addiction to alcohol and other drugs.	800 students annually

Dean of Students	Alcohol EDU	National online course to provide education and prevention measures for alcohol, drugs and sexual assault.	Encourage thought and educate about alcohol and drug use, encourage bystander behavior and assess alcohol and drug use prior to enrollment.	All first-year students
Dean of Students	Student Health 101 Emails	Weekly emails sent to all students containing various health and wellness advice, including, but not limited to topics of alcohol and other drugs.	Create another method for students to easily engage with prevention topics.	All undergraduate students on a weekly basis
Fraternity and Sorority Life	Social Event Manager Training (SEMT)	75-minute workshops that train students to host and manage events on and off campus where alcohol will be served.	Create a shared partnership for addressing high-risk drinking, emergency procedures, and bystander intervention.	Around 675 FSL members trained annually in 20 training sessions.
Fraternity and Sorority Life	Officer Training Academy	Fraternity and sorority social chairs are trained on the process for registering events with alcohol per QU policies.	Training reviews policies for events with alcohol, step-by-step instructions for registration of these events, and frequent mistakes to avoid.	Annual training for new officers
Kappa Delta Sorority	Risk Management Workshop	Risk management workshop for the members of Kappa Delta focusing on events with alcohol.	Review risk policy and help members better understand how to act at events with alcohol.	All 115 members
Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority	Alcohol Skills Training Program	Training program for all officers and potential officers in sorority.	Train on the procedures and rules for events with alcohol.	Officers and potential officers

Residential Life	Alcohol and Drug Educational/ Prevention Safety Bulletin Boards	Passive programming on bulletin boards in residence halls made by RAs.	Encourage safe practices while drinking, learn the dangers of drinking alcohol and over-consumption, and give an understanding of the policies and consequences surrounding alcohol and other drugs.	7 bulletin boards in different residential areas
Residential Life	Alcohol and Drug Educational/ Prevention Safety Events	Active programs hosted by RAs for students in their residential communities.	Encourage safe practices while drinking, learn the dangers of drinking alcohol and over-consumption, and provide an understanding of the policies and consequences surrounding alcohol and other drugs.	730+ resident students across 24 events
Students for Sensible Drug Policy	Educational Workshop	Workshop centered around harm reduction, as well as federal and QU drug policy. Various topics surrounding drug policy discussed, such as rehab, the War on Drugs, and drug reform.	Attendees are able to learn and participate in this educational workshop through discussion and presentation.	Open to the entire campus community
Students for Sensible Drug Policy	Qs with Kevin Parker	Students participate in a Q and A session with Prevention and Wellness Educator.	Discussion of health and wellness topics at QU.	Open to the campus community; sessions held in the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semester
Students for Sensible Drug Policy	Trivia Night	Trivia about drug and health and wellness policies at QU and nationwide.	Participants answer questions, learn about these policies and have an open discussion.	Open to the campus community

Student Health Services	Can assess intoxicated students during business hours	Provide acute care to intoxicated students.		As needed for any undergraduate or graduate student
Student Health Services	Health Fair	Program with booths for campus groups and outside organizations/companies.	Engage students in information that will promote their health and well-being in a fun and interactive way.	Approximately 350 students
Public Safety	Education	Provide instruction and materials that educate all students about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse, and secondary harmful effects associated with their abuse.		As needed
Student Conduct and Health and Wellness	Stakeholders meeting	Meeting with CT Alcohol Commission to provide information about QU student alcohol use and bars/clubs that regularly appear in underage student intoxication reports.	Provide feedback and seek support reducing high-risk drinking at QU.	Student Affairs staff and Connecticut state officials

IV. Institutional Community Resources

CARE

Quinnipiac is dedicated to supporting our students through highly responsive practices from CARE (Community, Assessment, Response and Evaluation). The CARE team employs a caring, preventive, early intervention approach with students who exhibit concerning or disruptive behaviors.

Guided by university values of a student-oriented environment and a strong sense of community, the chairperson of CARE manages this multidisciplinary team. The CARE team meets weekly to review and discuss new referrals, ongoing cases and the best course of action to support students of concern. CARE utilizes best practices from national organizations such as Higher Education Case Managers Association (HECMA) and the Association for Student Conduct Administration (ASCA). CARE team members receive training from the National Behavioral Intervention Team Association (NaBITA) in both behavioral intervention and threat assessment. Objective risk rubrics are utilized for consistent and objective assessments of potential risks and emerging threats toward self or others.

By partnering with members of the Quinnipiac community, the CARE team works to promote student well-being and success in the context of community safety. CARE referrals are submitted by faculty, staff, students, and community members. Referrals range from topics including: helping a student during difficult times such

as the passing of a loved one, when a student needs support for their physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, financial health, and/or when experiencing social challenges with roommates, friends and/or peers.

Counseling Services

This office provides access to care for students who may be seeking help for emotional distress. The goal is to assist students through brief therapy while addressing concerns that may be negatively impacting academic performance or the student's quality of life within the university community. Counselors and a part-time psychiatrist are a resource for students struggling with stress, anxiety, depression, relationship problems, eating disorders and alcohol or drug abuse. Other common problems include difficulty making decisions, low self-esteem, procrastination or the stress of leaving home while adjusting to college life.

Counseling staff members also are available to assist any student who has been affected through physical or sexual violence or who may be grieving the loss of a loved one.

Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards

The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards helps students and student organizations to make positive decisions, define their values, and demonstrate responsible behavior on and off campus.

Using the Student Code of Conduct as a foundation for community standards, the office provides resources and education to students and their families, and staff and faculty. The director of the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, along with other conduct officers, helps students think critically about their behavior and the effect it is likely to have on the community, identify the impact of their personal decisions, and define their personal values.

The Office of Student Conduct:

- Advises and assists parties involved in conduct proceedings
- Trains and advises student conduct officers and student leaders
- Reviews decisions of the Code of Conduct Process
- Maintains all student disciplinary records
- Collects and disseminates research and analysis concerning student conduct

The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards has traditionally consisted of a director and an associate director. In late Fall 2019, QU's associate director left to pursue a new professional opportunity. Due to budget constraints, that position was not filled and will remain unfilled entering the Fall 2020 semester.

Human Resources

This office offers support to faculty and staff through its Employee Assistance Program. Previously, the program was named E4 Health. In 2019–20, QU contracted with a new vendor, Health Advocate. The program provides confidential and voluntary counseling referral services free of charge to all faculty and staff at the institution and members of their family household.

Employee Assistance Program	2018–19	2019–20
Alcohol/Drug Related Referrals	1	1

Department of Public Safety

The Quinnipiac University Department of Public Safety is committed to protecting and preserving the quality of life for all by providing enforcement, prevention, intervention and education through the delivery of professional campus safety services. Public Safety officers carry out their duties with P.R.I.D.E: professionalism, responsibility, integrity, dedication and excellence.

The Department of Public Safety is composed of approximately 60 officers, the majority of whom have substantial prior law enforcement experience with federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. The officers are trained in emergency first aid and respond to all medical emergencies with medical and fire department personnel. In this role, Public Safety officers are often the first responders to calls involving intoxicated students. Public Safety documents incidents involving intoxicated students and routinely refers such incidents to the Office of Student Affairs and to Student Health Services. DPS officers are key partners with Student Health Services, Residential Life and Student Affairs, in ensuring incidents involving students engaging in the unsafe use or abuse of alcohol and/or drugs, are cared for, counseled and educated to the consequences of substance abuse.

DPS officers engage in consistent and vigilant patrols of shuttle stops, parking lots and ride share lots on evenings and weekends. Shuttle stops, parking lots and the Hogan Lot, where ride share vehicles pick up and drop off students traveling off-campus, are subject to enhanced patrols for students who are dangerously intoxicated and may require medical assistance and/or behavioral intervention. Self-reported alcohol abuse disclosed by students in surveys routinely highlights the ease with which underage student drinkers can obtain alcohol in off-campus entertainment venues. Accordingly, Public Safety maintains liaison with local law enforcement agencies to identify establishments serving alcohol to underage Quinnipiac University students with an aim of pursuing law enforcement and code enforcement action in the respective jurisdictions.

In compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act, commonly known as the “Clery Act,” the Department of Public Safety maintains daily crime logs. The crime logs, which are available online to the Quinnipiac University community and to the public, include reports of liquor and drug law violations reported to the Department of Public Safety and to Student Affairs. The crime logs offer the community a timely and transparent view into the quantity and nature of drug and alcohol offenses reported on Quinnipiac University campuses during the most recent sixty (60) day time frame.

The Department of Public Safety also generates the Annual Security and Fire Safety Reports (ASF SRs) for the Mount Carmel, York Hill and North Haven campuses on an annual basis. The ASF SRs are also publicly available online. The ASF SRs provide a comprehensive summary of crime statistics, security policies and safety programs as required by the Clery Act. In relevant part, the ASF SRs provide a calendar year comparison of drug and alcohol arrests and disciplinary referrals to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards. The 2020 ASF SRs, which will report upon drug and alcohol disciplinary referrals and arrests for the 2019 calendar year, will be available online by Oct. 1, 2020. The 2019 ASF SRs, which report upon 2018 drug and alcohol statistics for the Quinnipiac University campuses, include historical statistics for 2016 and 2017. The 2019 ASF SRs can be accessed here: qu.edu/content/dam/qu/documents/policies/annual-security-report_mount-carmel-york-hill-campuses_2019.pdf and qu.edu/content/dam/qu/documents/policies/annual-security-report_north-haven-campus_2019.pdf

V. University Wellness Working Group

In Fall 2016, the Office of Student Affairs established the Prevention Task Force, with multiple subcommittees including one on alcohol and drugs.

In 2019, the Student Affairs Office hired a prevention coordinator. Kevin Parker served in that role until Summer 2020. A product of the coordinator's work was developing a Wellness Working Group, the purpose of which was to increase alcohol awareness and decrease negative behavior while establishing positive relationships with the surrounding community.

Members of Wellness Working Group in the 2019–20 academic year were:

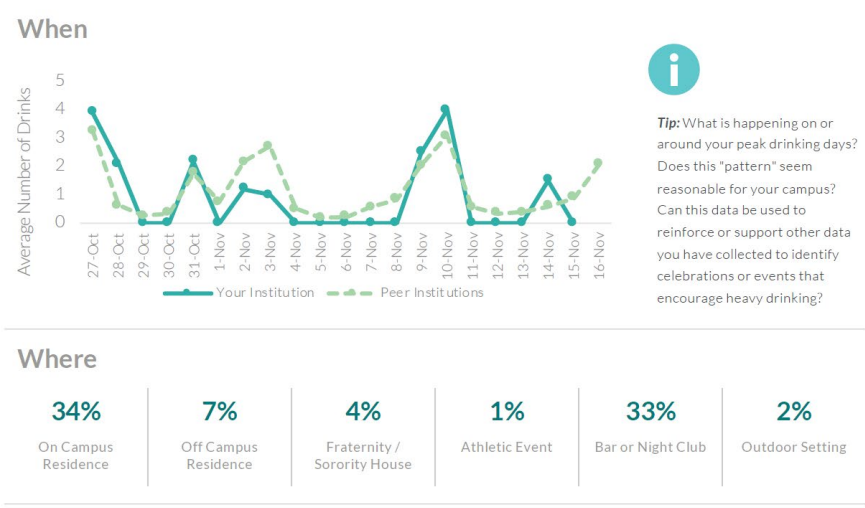
- **Kevin Parker, Prevention Coordinator (Wellness Working Group Chair)**
- Stephen Sweet, Director of Student Conduct
- Rachel Russell, Associate Director of Student Conduct
- Ariela Reider, Director of Counseling Services
- Stefano Fasulo, Associate Director of Campus Life, Office of Campus Life
- Katherine Pezzella, Director of Campus Life for Fraternity & Sorority Life
- Andrew Lavoie, Residence Hall Director, Office of Residential Life
- Tamarack Reilly, Director of Fitness and Wellbeing
- Hannah Cranston, Assistant Director of Campus Life for Campus Life for Student Centers and Student Involvement
- Shanna Kornachuk, Senior Associate Director of Compliance and Student Development
- Nancy Hunter, Associate Director, Student Health Center
- Debora Lavigne, Instructor of Fitness, Leisure, and Wellness
- Daymyen Layne, Director for Multicultural Education and Training

VI. Institutional Research and Culture

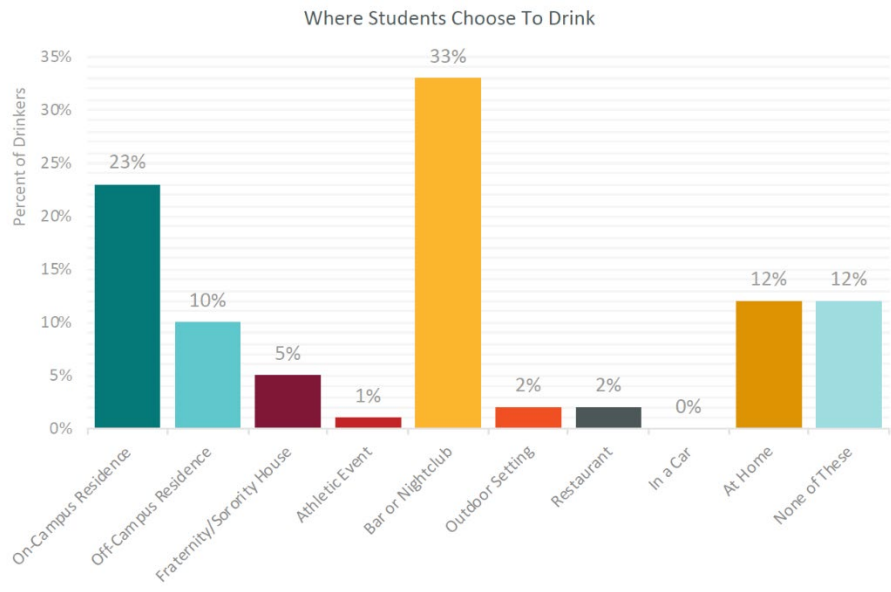
All first-year students complete Alcohol EDU, an evidence-based online alcohol education program. The institution has utilized this platform and data since 2007. In 2019, QU transitioned from AlcoholEdu to eCheckup for sanctions and will utilize eCheckup for incoming student education in Fall 2020.

The information retained from this survey has supported anecdotal information about the institution's alcohol culture. The data have been frequently referenced when establishing new policies and linking retention efforts surrounding alcohol. Additionally, these data have been shared with various institutional partners. In Fall 2018, 1,805 incoming first-year students took the survey, and in Fall 2019, 1,508 incoming first-year students took the survey. Consistent with national trends, increasing numbers of Quinnipiac University students choose to abstain from using alcohol. In Fall 2018, 28% of QU students identified as non-drinkers when surveyed. In Fall 2019, this number had grown to 32% of new students identifying as non-drinkers. Compared to peer institutions, QU students report the same or lower rates of alcohol use. Below are comparison data of drinking habits from both Fall 2018 and Fall 2019 first-year students. Worth noting is the high level of alcohol use taking place at bars and nightclubs, which indicates that many underage students are drinking alcohol illegally, and bars and nightclubs are complicit in the behavior:

2018–19:



2019–20:



VII. Prevention Training for Professional and Paraprofessional Staff

Annually, members of our university community are trained on issues surrounding alcohol by staff within the Office of Student Conduct and/or Dean of Students. These topics include policy enforcement, identifying intoxicated students, treating intoxicated students, and Quinnipiac University student trends with alcohol use. Groups that are trained, as a whole or in part, may include but are not limited to:

- A. Office of Campus Life – Orientation Leaders
- B. Office of Health and Wellness – Nurses, EMTs, administrative staff, mental health counselors
- C. Department of Public Safety – Public Safety Officers
- D. Office of Residential Life – Residence Hall Directors, Resident Assistants
- E. Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life – Social Event Managers, Chapter Executive Board Members, Chapter Social Chairs
- F. Faculty Senate – Student Affairs Committee

VIII. Enforcement

The Department of Public Safety and Office of Residential Life are the two departments primarily responsible for documenting policy violations on campus. The university also receives referrals from the local police; most frequently from Yale University Police, New Haven Police, and Hamden Police. Law enforcement referrals are sent through the Quinnipiac Department of Public Safety.

The Office of Student Conduct oversees distribution and management of student conduct cases. The university purchased the management software Maxient in January 2019. Maxient is a software specifically designed for case management in higher education. Maxient allows for the efficient submission and review of incident reports, assignment of cases by specific type (student of concern, student conduct, Title IX, etc.), case management, data analysis, and assessment. The previous software was Pave, and since January 2019, QU has been using Maxient for student of concern and code of conduct case management.

There are several members of Student Affairs who hear conduct meetings, most often from the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards and the Department of Residential Life. The following data represent the number of AOD-related policy violations that occurred in each academic year:

Policy Description	2018–19	2019–20
Underage Possession	124	227
Alcohol Distribution	0	9
Intoxicated Behaviors	4	7
DUI	0	0
Excessive Quantities/Common Sources	0	9
Large Gatherings	0	19
Drinking Games/Paraphernalia	40	89

The data below represent the total number of corresponding AOD-related sanctions as a result of the above policy violations. Note that not all respondents are found responsible, and students may violate multiple policies within the same documented incident.

Sanction	2018–19	2019–20
Student Conduct Warning (first-year students only)	73	296

Counseling Referrals	2	3
Educational Sanctions	295	524
Fines/Restitution	126	244
Probationary Status	65	162
Housing Suspension (includes weekend and semester)	42	11
Separation from Institution	0	6

Until 2019, The university offered a 24/7 Student Health Center. Students and staff could bring intoxicated students to the health center to be evaluated by nurses and/or EMTs. There, it would be determined whether it was medically necessary to send the student to the local emergency room. Students who remained at the health center did not have a conduct meeting. Instead, they had an educational meeting with a residence hall director and were required to complete an online personalized alcohol assessment.

Students who were too intoxicated to remain on campus were sent to the emergency room. Students requiring medical transport to the hospital attended a series of meetings with university officials. During the transport, a nurse or public safety officer would notify parents immediately. Once a student was released from the hospital, a university staff member within the Office of the Dean of Students would schedule an educational meeting with the student. Students were required to see a university counselor and then attend a student conduct meeting for the intoxicated behavior, but that procedure was modified in Fall 2016, removing mandatory counseling meetings in favor of an education-focused approach and integration of the Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students (BASICS) program into conduct meetings.

In 2019, the Health Center shifted to a traditional business schedule and a new protocol was established once Jill Bassett, the assistant dean of student affairs, was hired. Practices were established for AOD CARE cases where Bassett met with each student who had a first-time offense AOD transport/assessment, the next business day following the incident. These meetings typically took 30 minutes and provided a space that allowed the student to share information about themselves for a holistic conversation regarding behavior, QU experiences and academic goals. During this conversation, the student’s emergency/parental contact was called. Typically, the student was mandated to see prevention coordinator, Kevin Parker for AOD education. For AOD cases in which it was the student’s second offense or other violations were present, the students were mandated to meet with Student Conduct and Community Standards.

	2018–19	2019–20
AOD Transport	15	47
AOD Non-Transport/Medical Assessment	4	10

The Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards in coordination with the Office of Campus Life holds student organizations accountable for any violations regarding alcohol. These organizations may include but are not limited to fraternities and sororities.

	2018–19	2019–20
Student Organization Policy Violations	12	18

IX. Summary of Future Recommendations

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, changing how higher education and Quinnipiac University served its students. The campus was closed, and classes resumed online. For this reason, all AOD meetings (CARE, Student Conduct and Community Standards, and educational) occurred via phone or Zoom. Additionally, in early summer 2020, the prevention coordinator resigned and, due to budget challenges, the university decided to not fill that position.

For Fall 2020, all incoming students will be completing the Sexual Assault Prevention course through EverFi, and eCheckup for alcohol safety.

As a result of this biennial review the following recommendations are suggested:

- Hire a full-time prevention and wellness educator to join the Office of Student Affairs. This position would ideally engage in proactive education to reduce the use and secondary harms of alcohol and other drugs, and could facilitate post-incident educational conduct meetings.
- Create and implement a university-wide bystander intervention model that would incorporate efforts to reduce dangerous alcohol/drug use, sexual misconduct, bias, discrimination and harassment. Many campuses like Quinnipiac develop a campus-wide curriculum aimed at harm reduction through similar programs.
- Develop a training program for students who wish to live off campus to reduce the risk associated with off-campus gatherings involving alcohol and/or other drugs.
- Establish a medical amnesty policy that promotes a culture of care and prosocial bystander behavior.

X. Resources

A. Student Code of Conduct:

catalog.qu.edu/handbooks/undergraduate/student-code-conduct-process/student-code-conduct/

B. Student Handbook includes the following:

Policy on Alcohol
Residential Life Policy
Student Organization Policies
Fraternity and Sorority Risk Management
Policy on Risk Management
Policy Statement on Hazing
Policy Statement on Posting
Policy Statements Regarding Student Organization Use of Alcohol
Policy Statement on the Prevention of Alcohol Abuse and Other Drug

C. Policy on Faculty/Staff-Sponsored Events with Alcohol: Event Management Rules and Regulations

myq.quinnipiac.edu/Campus%20Offices/Public%20Affairs/Special%20Events%20Office/Pages/EventManagementRulesandRegulations.aspx#Special-Rules-Regarding-Alcohol

D. Policy on a Drug-Free Workplace

myq.quinnipiac.edu/Welcome/HR/Documents/Policy%20Manuals%20and%20Procedures/Quinnipiac%20University%20Policy%20Manual%202019-20.pdf

