

Off-Campus Travel Involving Students

The possession, use, or distribution of alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs by students or employees is strictly prohibited on the property of the college, even if an activity does not involve students or employees. No college funds will be expended for the purchase of alcoholic beverages or illicit drugs at any group activity taking place off college property or in another country (e.g. a reception or dinner in a culture with different laws and regulations on alcohol use and distribution). The guidelines (see below) for the application of the college policy on alcohol and drugs to study-abroad programs and activities in other countries are available at college services. Students and sponsors are expected to follow these policy guidelines. (Southwestern College Policy Manual 2.12.8)

Alcohol and Drug Policy Guidelines for Sponsors of Travel-Abroad Programs

The Southwestern policy prohibits the procession and use of alcohol and illegal drugs on the residential campus. The following are intended to be practical guidelines for sponsors who take students abroad into lands where the laws and customs differ from those in the United States, the State of Kansas and from the policies of Southwestern College. The guidelines are not intended to violate or undermine the Southwestern College policy. They serve as a practical means of reinforcing the core values inherent to that policy in settings that are not controlled by the college, and to assist you in addressing your responsibilities as a sponsor.

1. Students make choices. Neither the college nor the sponsor is responsible for the choices or the consequences of the choices students make as individuals on their own time concerning alcohol and drug usage when traveling in a foreign land or, for that matter, on the residential campus. The difference is that the college is not able to enforce its policies or consequences in a foreign land.
2. In study-abroad settings, the college and the sponsor will never sponsor or encourage the use of alcoholic beverages. College funds may not be used to purchase alcohol. Sponsors shall not request or accept an offer from hosts that alcohol be made available to students. Sponsors shall not, under any circumstances, offer to buy a student an alcoholic drink or provide an illegal drug for use by them.
3. Sponsors shall inform students in writing in advance (prior to paying a nonrefundable deposit) concerning the laws related to drinking and drugs in their host country and communicate the clear expectation that students shall obey the law. This information will also inform students if they are

entering a culture where alcohol consumption is integral to the culture so students can choose in advance not to participate in the course of study.

4. Sponsors shall make it clear to students that choosing not to drink is a socially acceptable choice, even in cultures wherein use is common and acceptable. In cases wherein the sponsor has the means to appropriately do so, provision will be made for food and non-alcoholic drinks in settings where alcohol is served by hosts.
5. Sponsors who use alcohol should set good examples of responsible alcohol use and use it sparingly at all times during a trip.
6. Sponsors who are transporting students by car, van, or any other motor vehicle will refrain from drinking alcohol before and during travel (day of travel). The transportation of alcohol by motor vehicle is prohibited.
7. Sponsors have the right to lower the course grade of a student, or send a student home at the student's expense, without refund of monies, and/or fail the student in the course if they use drugs or alcohol illegally or engage in excessive drinking, drunken or disorderly behavior, or in any way violate this policy.
8. Sponsors should to the extent possible anticipate common violations of the student policy and decide ahead of time what the appropriate response should be. Sponsors are encouraged to consult with the Dean of Students for suggestions.