



Policy Title

Alcohol Consumption during
Study Abroad Programs

Effective Date:

March 2018

Questions?

Office of International Services

PURPOSE: *Reason or rationale for the policy.*

The University of Indianapolis is committed to the health, safety and security of all members of the university community. As a global institution, our students and faculty undertake international travel. This policy establishes standards and expectations associated with alcohol consumption during Study Abroad programs.

DEFINITIONS:

Program Leader: Faculty or staff member approved to lead a study abroad program with students.

Program Participants: All individuals who travel on University-sanctioned international educational experience.

Independent Study Abroad: Any study abroad program that involves students traveling on a University-sanctioned international course of study during which they are unaccompanied by UIndy faculty or staff.

Faculty-Led Study Abroad: Any study abroad program that is organized and accompanied by UIndy faculty or staff.

Host Institution: Any school, university, or other entity which hosts one or more students during either Independent or Faculty-Led Study Abroad programs. For the purposes of this policy, this will also be deemed to include any host families.

SCOPE: *Who is affected by this policy or needs to read it?*

All Program Leaders and Program Participants

REFERENCE/DOCUMENTS/FORMS

RELATED INFORMATION: *List any other policies or information that should be cross-referenced.*

<http://international.uindy.edu/studyabroad/index.php>
Student Handbook

POLICY HISTORY: *Include any information about previous versions or whether this replaces an existing policy.*

- *Policy Established in March 2011*

POLICY STATEMENT AND PROCEDURES: *State the policy here. The policy statement should include the principles of the policy: what is permitted or prohibited, what is required, or how issues will be handled. If viewers read only this section, they will know what the policy is and how it extends to the University. How-to procedures can be elaborated on in the Procedures section.*

University of Indianapolis Study Abroad Program Participants are subject to the laws of the destination country when they leave the United States. Many nations have set legal drinking age limits below the age of 21. Others have no established minimum age for alcohol consumption and some prohibit drinking alcohol altogether. Program Participants should be aware that penalties in many parts of the world are far more severe than they are in the United States. In some countries, penalties can include life imprisonment under very harsh conditions, solitary confinement, or even the death penalty. Not knowing the laws is not an excuse. Program Participants are responsible for knowing the laws of the host country.

Program Participants are subject to all rules and regulations of the University of Indianapolis Student, Faculty, and Staff Handbooks, and are expected to demonstrate behavior that is consistent with the expectations found therein. Program Participants are also responsible for knowing and abiding by the rules and regulations of the Host Institution and, where those rules differ from that of the University of Indianapolis, Program Participants should err on the side of the more restrictive provisions.

During Faculty-Led programs, Program Leaders must establish policies regarding alcohol consumption that are, at a minimum, compliant with local laws and customs. If legal alcohol consumption is permitted, Program Leaders must establish and follow clear policies, in writing, which convey expectations for “responsible” consumption. Failure to follow the policies of the Program Leader may result in consequences up to and including removal from the program at the Program Participant’s expense.

Alcohol Misuse:

Alcohol misuse will not be tolerated and may lead to consequences up to and including removal from the program at the Program Participant’s expense. Examples of alcohol misuse include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors when such behaviors are attributable to alcohol use:

- Missing classes or course-required scheduled events;
- Engaging in inappropriate behavior toward other individuals;
- Engaging in destructive behavior toward property;
- Not abiding by the laws of the country in which you are staying;
- Engaging in behavior that causes disruption; and
- Engaging in behavior that jeopardizes the safety of the Program Participant or others.

When there is misuse of alcohol, the Program Leaders, if any, are required to complete an Incident Report and submit it to the Office of Study Abroad. Should the Office of Study Abroad be notified that a Program Participant on an Independent Study Abroad program has engaged in the misuse of alcohol, the Office of Study Abroad will complete the Incident Report. Such a report will initiate formal disciplinary procedures for the Dean of Students of the University of Indianapolis.

Please note that disciplinary procedures do not automatically bring disciplinary sanctions. The Incident Report will open an investigation by the Dean of Students (or designee), which will follow the normal disciplinary proceeding of the University. In the case that sanctions are applied, they may range from forfeiture of the ability to participate in future study abroad programs, a letter of warning, a referral for counseling, social conduct probation, monetary fines, and/or dismissal from the University.

NOTE: If a Program Participant experiences an alcohol-related health emergency due to alcohol misuse and is in need of medical attention, Program Participants are encouraged to seek emergency medical treatment immediately. The University will not bring formal disciplinary procedures against either the Program Participant needing treatment or the Program Participant notifying emergency personnel for public intoxication, minor in possession of alcohol, minor in consumption of alcohol, or similar alcohol-related offenses.