

COLLEGE OF MICRONESIA-FSM

BOARD POLICY NO. 4905

Alcohol Policy

Date Adopted:	1981
Date Revised:	1998; 21 May 2009
Date Reviewed:	15 December 2015
Reference:	College of Micronesia-FSM, General Catalog

A. Policy Statement

The College of Micronesia-FSM (COM-FSM) is committed to providing a safe, healthy, and productive environment. Students are **strictly prohibited** from possessing, consuming, distributing, selling, or being under the influence of **alcohol** on COM-FSM campuses, at COM-FSM-approved or sponsored events, or in buildings, vehicles, or vessels used by COM-FSM for educational, residential, or recreational purposes.

B. Definitions

The following definitions clarify key terms used in this policy to ensure consistent understanding and enforcement.

1. **Alcoholic Beverages.** Any beverage containing ethanol (ethyl alcohol), including but not limited to beer, wine, distilled spirits, and other fermented or distilled products intended for consumption.
2. **Under the Influence.** A condition in which an individual's physical, mental, or behavioral faculties are impaired as a result of consuming any beverage containing ethanol (ethyl alcohol), including but not limited to beer, wine, distilled spirits, and other fermented or distilled products intended for consumption.
3. **Disciplinary Committee.** The body responsible for reviewing violations and imposing sanctions.
4. **Suspension.** Temporary removal of a student from all COM-FSM activities and campuses for a specified period.
5. **Probation.** A formal period of monitoring where a student must comply with restrictions set by the Disciplinary Committee.

C. Disciplinary Committee Composition

Each campus maintains its own Disciplinary Committee to handle violations occurring on that campus.

The committee is responsible for reviewing alleged violations of the Alcohol Policy, determining appropriate sanctions, and ensuring fair and consistent application of disciplinary actions within the context of each campus.

To carry out these responsibilities effectively, each campus has a Disciplinary Committee with the following composition:

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Role	National Campus	CTEC	State Campuses
Chair	Director of Student Life	Coordinator of Student Life	Student Services Coordinator
Faculty Representative	One faculty member appointed by the Dean of Academic Program	One faculty member appointed by CTEC Dean or Instructional Coordinator	One faculty member appointed by Campus Dean or Instructional Coordinator
Student Representative	One student independently appointed by the VPEMSS, not under the chair	One student independently appointed by the CTEC Dean, not under the chair	One student independently appointed by the Campus Dean, not under the chair

D. Violations and Penalties

1. **First Offense.** For a first violation, the student will face disciplinary measures designed to correct behavior while promoting education on the risks associated with alcohol use.
 - a. Written reprimand.
 - b. Work detail of 2-6 hours, completed within 1 month.
 - c. Completion of 2–10 hours of alcohol education or counseling within three months.
 - d. Additional restrictions as deemed necessary by the Disciplinary Committee.

2. **Second Offense.** A second violation results in formal probation and additional educational requirements, emphasizing the seriousness of repeated offenses.
 - a. Probation of up to 1 year, including:
 - Ineligibility to hold student office; resignation required if currently holding office.
 - Residential students must remain on campus from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am unless exempted.
 - Notice of probation placed in permanent record; parents notified in compliance with FERPA.
 - Warning that further violations may result in suspension.
 - b. Completion of 10–20 hours of alcohol education or counseling within three months.
 - c. Additional restrictions as necessary.

3. **Third Offense (within the same school year).** A third violation may result in suspension, along with more extensive education and counseling requirements.
 - a. Disciplinary suspension of up to 1 year at the discretion of the Disciplinary Committee. The power to impose suspension rests with the President of COM-FSM, based on recommendations from the campus Disciplinary Committee.
 - b. Completion of 20–30 hours of alcohol education or counseling within three months.
 - c. Other measures short of suspension may be applied if sufficient to enforce policy goals.

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4. **More than Three Offenses.** Any student committing more than three violations in a school year will face immediate suspension, subject to the President's approval based on the Disciplinary Committee's recommendation.

E. Failure to Comply

Failure to complete assigned disciplinary actions will result in additional academic and administrative consequences.

1. Non-compliance will result in withholding of grades and/or transcripts until proof of compliance is provided.
2. Denial of registration for subsequent classes.
3. Possible impact on financial aid eligibility.

F. Special Circumstances

Certain situations require additional considerations when enforcing this policy.

1. **Violence.** Violations involving violence will be disciplined under the Prohibition of Violence Policy.
2. **Involvement of Minors.** Violations involving a minor will incur enhanced sanctions and may be referred to law enforcement authorities.

G. Enforcement

Each campus' Disciplinary Committee is responsible for enforcing the Alcohol Policy and imposing disciplinary actions, except for suspensions which require Presidential approval.

1. Compliance with this policy is mandatory; violations will result in strict disciplinary actions.
2. Disciplinary actions such as written reprimands, probation, work detail, and counseling/education are determined and enforced by the campus Disciplinary Committee.
3. **Suspensions** are recommended by the campus Disciplinary Committee but **require approval by the President of COM-FSM** before they are imposed.
4. The Disciplinary Committee monitors compliance with assigned sanctions and reports completion to the Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services or the Campus Dean/Director.

See AP No. 4905