

**WE ARE NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL**

Drug and Alcohol Policy

New York Law School is committed to a learning environment free from the deleterious influences of drugs and alcohol. While recognizing that students aged 21 and older are legally permitted to consume alcoholic beverages, the School requires students to do so responsibly and in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws, as well as the NYLS Alcohol Policy outlined below. NYLS has zero tolerance for the use of illegal drugs, or the abuse of alcohol or drugs that may be legal, on campus or in connection with School-related events. Equally important, NYLS is committed to assisting, to the extent possible, students, faculty, and staff who may be living with substance abuse issues.

Drug and alcohol abuse can lead to severe and even life-threatening health problems. Such abuse can also impair academic performance and may be a factor in domestic violence and others forms of abusive behavior. NYLS encourages all students experiencing problems with drug or alcohol abuse to seek confidential help. Any student having such problems should contact the Office of Student Life at 212.431.2851 or the confidential student counseling service at 866.486.4334 for information about treatment programs and/or self-help groups. The services listed below can provide valuable assistance:

Alcoholics Anonymous: 212.647.1680 and 212.870.3400

Narcotics Anonymous: 212.929.6262

AI-Anon Family Group Meeting Information Line: 800.356.9996 and 800.344.2666

New York City Lawyers Assistance Program: 212.302.5787.

Section I: Illegal Drugs

In accordance with federal law and state laws, no student may possess, use, or distribute any illegal drug on School premises or at official NYLS functions. (Please see Title 21 of the United States code and articles 220 and 221 of the New York Penal Code.) Any instances of illegal drug distribution, possession, or possession for distribution, will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities. If convicted of a drug-related offense, a permanent notation will be placed in the student's file and will be forwarded to the appropriate Bar Certification Committee. Students convicted of possession, use or distribution of illegal drugs also may be the subject to disciplinary action by the Academic Responsibility Committee. These actions include expulsion, suspension, reprimand, and permanent notation on the record of the violator.

Section II: Alcohol

The consumption of alcohol may be permitted upon request to the Office of Student Life on School premises or at official NYLS functions. The Office of Student Life has broad discretion to approve or disapprove such requests and any approval of a request shall be in accordance with the following guidelines:

1. No person under 21 years of age may be served, or serve to others, an alcoholic beverage.
2. No visibly intoxicated person may be served an alcoholic beverage. Staff serving alcohol is encouraged to err on the side of caution.

3. The Office of Student Life must be informed when alcohol will be served at a student-sponsored event.
4. At each student-sponsored event at which alcohol is served, the sponsoring students or student organization must designate one or more students as responsible for the enforcement of this Policy and inform the Office of Student Life at least three (3) business days prior to the event of the identity of such students, as well as the number of guests expected and the amount of alcohol to be purchased. A member of the Office of Student Life staff will meet with those students before each event where alcohol is served to insure that responsible student(s) understand this Policy. The Office of Student Life reserves the right to limit the amount of alcohol purchased for an event. For planning purposes, alcohol is generally limited to two drinks per person.
5. Food and non-alcoholic beverages must be served at any event at which alcoholic beverages will be served.
6. Alcoholic beverages may only be consumed on School premises when an event is hosted by NYLS and approved to serve alcoholic beverages.
7. Alcoholic beverages may not be stored in Journal offices, Center offices, Clinic offices, Moot Court offices, or student organization offices.
8. Advertisements should not encourage the use of alcohol and if necessary such materials will be removed from School property where they appear.

Students found to be in violation of this Policy will be referred to the Academic Responsibility Committee for disciplinary action in accordance with that committee's procedures. These actions include but are not limited to one or more of the following: expulsion, suspension, reprimand, and permanent notation on the record of the violator. Student organizations found to have been involved in violation of this Policy are also subject to appropriate sanctions, such as rescission of permission to operate on campus, loss of funding, and loss of office space.

Section III: Forced Alcohol or Drug Consumption

Forced alcohol or drug consumption for initiation into or affiliation with any organization is strictly prohibited.

Students found to be in violation of this section will be referred to the Academic Responsibility Committee for disciplinary action in accordance with the Committee's procedures. Possible sanctions include but are not limited to one or more of the following: expulsion, suspension, reprimand, and permanent notation on the record of the violator. Possible sanctions for student organizations include rescission of permission to operate on campus, loss of funding, and loss of office space.

Section IV: Amnesty for Alcohol and/or Drug Use

The health and safety of every student at NYLS is of utmost importance. The School recognizes that students who have been drinking and/or using drugs (whether such use is voluntary or involuntary) at the time that violence—including but not limited to domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault occurs—may be hesitant to report such incidents due to fear of potential consequences for their own conduct. NYLS strongly encourages students to report domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to NYLS officials and local law enforcement. A bystander acting in good faith who discloses any incident of domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault to NYLS officials or law enforcement will not be subject to NYLS's code of conduct action for violations of alcohol and/or drug use policies occurring at or near the time of the commission of the domestic violence, dating violence, stalking, or sexual assault.

Section V: Suggested Actions for Handling Impairment at an NYLS Event

1. If a student observes that another individual is impaired by the use of drugs or alcohol at an NYLS event, that student should bring this fact to the attention of the student(s) responsible for the event at which alcohol is served or to a School staff member.
2. No impaired individual should be allowed to leave School premises (or wherever location a School-sponsored event may be taking place) by themselves. If no funds for a taxi or car service are available, the responsible student(s) should contact an officer at the security desk (ext. 2123). Under no circumstances should an impaired individual be allowed to drive.
3. If an individual is impaired to the point where medical attention may be required, the responsible student(s) should contact an officer at the security desk (ext. 2123) to request they call for an ambulance, or call 911.

Section VI: Alcohol Guidelines for All NYLS Events

In general, events sponsored by faculty, centers, or non-student run organizations should endeavor to follow the same guidelines.