



# Mannix College Alcohol & Functions Policy

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## 1. About

Mannix College is a living and learning community where individual wellbeing and shared responsibility are equally important.

The College recognises the right of Residents aged 18 years and over to consume alcohol in a lawful and responsible manner, whether within the College or at Mannix-sanctioned events. This right is exercised on the understanding that alcohol consumption must not cause harm to individuals, others, College property, or the broader community.

Residents and staff share responsibility for complying with and upholding this Policy in order to minimise alcohol-related harm. Where excessive alcohol use is identified, the College will respond in a supportive, sensitive, and educational manner.

As part of this Policy, Mannix has adopted the following areas of focus to avoid:

- harm to persons that drink;
- harm to those around persons drinking;
- damage to the property of individuals and of Mannix College; and
- damage to the good standing of Mannix College in the University and the community.

All activities at Mannix College are covered by relevant Commonwealth and State laws, and the College's policies and procedures.

## 2. Jurisdiction

This Policy applies to all Mannix College staff and Residents, and to their visitors and invitees:

- 2.1. on Mannix College property; and
- 2.2. when attending events or Functions sanctioned or organised by Mannix College or the Mannix College Student Society (MCSS) on or off Mannix premises.

Every person covered by this Policy is responsible for familiarising themselves with and adhering to this Policy and is accountable for making safe and responsible decisions regarding alcohol consumption.

## 3. Definitions

**Binge drinking** means drinking a large amount of alcohol in a short period, or drinking continuously over several days, with the intention of becoming intoxicated. To reduce the risk of harm from alcohol-related disease or injury, healthy people should drink no more than 10 standard drinks a week and no more than 4 standard drinks on any day (Australian Health and Medical Research Council - Alcohol Guidelines)

**Dean** means the Dean of Students.

**Function** means a College-approved event open to residents, held on or off Mannix premises. A Function does not include:

- formal College-hosted dinners
- informal or spontaneous gatherings in a resident's room
- approved group gatherings or parties held under the Conditions of Residency

**Function Marshall** means a student responsible for supporting safety and enforcing this Policy at a Function.

**Principal** means the Principal of Mannix College, or their nominee.

**Resident** means a student with a current Residency Agreement.

**Resident Advisor (RA)** means a student appointed by the College to support residents and uphold community standards.

**Residential Community Standards** means the shared rules that apply to all residents, including:

- the Conditions of Residency
- the College Handbook
- Mannix policies, procedures, and rules
- the Residency Agreement

**Mannix** means Mannix College.

**MCSS** means the Mannix College Student Society.

**MCSS Committee** means the elected committee of the Mannix College Student Society.

## 4. Personal Conduct

Successful living at Mannix College depends on all Residents and guests showing respect for others.

- 4.1. Alcohol consumption must comply with this Policy and the Residential Community Standards.
- 4.2. Residents and their guests who are 18+ years old and who have chosen to consume alcohol are encouraged to drink responsibly and consume lower quantities of alcohol, to avoid binge drinking or becoming intoxicated. This means up to two standard drinks per day to decrease the lifetime risk of harm and up to four standard drinks on one occasion to decrease the acute risk of harm on any drinking occasion.
- 4.3. Residents and/or their guests must not engage in binge drinking and must refrain from promoting, encouraging and/or participating in drinking games or any activity that accelerates the consumption of alcohol.
- 4.4. The following items are not permitted at any time within Mannix College: kegs; alcoholic punch; any form or variation of drinking games; and any type of alcohol drinking apparatus that enables a person to consume large quantities of alcohol quickly.
- 4.5. Residents must adhere to Residential Community Standards and observe relevant alcohol consumption laws.
- 4.6. Residents have the right to make choices free from peer pressure and with a clear understanding of the facts and potential outcomes of that choice. This is informed consent and must be considered when consuming alcohol.
- 4.7. Residents and/or their guests must not be subjected to any pressure to drink or drink more than they judge to be reasonable. Nor should they feel compelled to drink alcohol because no reasonable and attractive alternative is offered.
- 4.8. Residents must understand the following about alcohol and consent:

- a) Intoxicated people cannot give informed consent.
  - b) Informed consent requires people to be free from the influence or coercion of others.
  - c) Informed consent requires the person to be aware of the relevant facts, including having a good understanding of the alcohol content of different drinks.
  - d) Residents are also required to refer to and adhere to alcohol and sexual consent guidelines that are stipulated in the Gender-Based Violence, Sexual Harm, Discrimination, Harassment, Hazing and Bullying Policy.
- 4.9. Drunkenness or other intoxication is not a defence for unacceptable behaviour. Those who choose to consume alcohol must take full responsibility for their behaviour, and those who provide alcohol to Residents must recognise they have some responsibility for the behaviour of those they serve.
- 4.10. College staff and Resident Advisors are authorised to direct Residents who appear intoxicated to leave any public area. Failure to comply may result in disciplinary action by the College.
- 4.11. Should any bottles, cans, carafes or similar items containing alcohol be left unattended in common areas of the College, they will be disposed of.
- 4.12. As per the Conditions of Residency, the use and movement of glass containers at Mannix College is restricted due to the risk of injury in shared spaces. If glass containers (e.g., beer or spirit bottles) are moved within the College, they must be unopened and fully contained in a bag.
- 4.13. Residents who display behaviour indicative of alcohol dependence and/or alcohol abuse may be required to participate in educational programs and discussions regarding the effects of alcohol use and abuse, in order to continue living in residence.

## **5. People under the age of 18**

Mannix College is committed to a safe environment for children and young people.

- 5.1. No person under the age of 18 is permitted to consume alcohol on College grounds or at College events or Functions. This includes the private rooms of Residents.
- 5.2. No Resident, staff member or guest is permitted to supply alcohol to persons under 18 years of age.

## **6. Dry Zones (Alcohol is not permitted to be consumed or carried openly in these areas)**

- 6.1. Dry zones exist to protect spaces that are primarily used for learning, wellbeing, reflection, daily living, and safe movement through the College. These areas are intended to remain accessible, inclusive, and safe for all Residents, staff, and visitors, regardless of whether they choose to consume alcohol.
  - 6.1.1. Maintaining alcohol-free areas helps:
    - 6.1.2. support academic focus and quiet study
    - 6.1.3. protect spaces dedicated to health, fitness, and personal care
    - 6.1.4. preserve areas of reflection, worship, and community use
    - 6.1.5. reduce the risk of harm, spills, damage, and unsafe behaviour
    - 6.1.6. ensure clear and predictable expectations across shared spaces
- 6.2. The following areas are dry zones unless explicitly approved:
  - 6.2.1. Hallways, stairwells and landings (you should not walk through the College carrying open alcohol)
  - 6.2.2. Dining Hall
  - 6.2.3. Bathrooms
  - 6.2.4. Library
  - 6.2.5. Study rooms
  - 6.2.6. Gym
  - 6.2.7. Chapel
  - 6.2.8. Laundry
  - 6.2.9. Music Rooms
  - 6.2.10. Library Lane
  - 6.2.11. Student Kitchen
- 6.3. Additional dry zones may be declared by the Principal or Dean at any time where required to support safety, wellbeing, or community needs.

## **7. Functions & the Serving of Alcohol**

- 7.1. Alcohol may be served at Mannix-sanctioned Functions where appropriate, but it must remain secondary to the purpose of the event.

- 7.2. Any Function that includes alcohol must be approved in advance by the Dean, in accordance with the Event Planning and Delivery Procedure. An approved Event Request Form constitutes a Mannix-sanctioned Function and is subject to the requirements below.

### **7.3. *Events Not Approved***

- 7.3.1. The College will not approve Functions where alcohol is promoted as the primary attraction. This includes, but is not limited to:
- 7.3.1.1. Promotional language or offers that incentivise excessive drinking, including “unlimited”, “all-you-can-drink”, or similar inducements.
  - 7.3.1.2. Events centred on alcohol consumption rather than a broader social, cultural, or entertainment purpose, such as pub crawls, booze cruises, or cocktail nights without substantive non-alcohol programming.
  - 7.3.1.3. Drinking games, initiation-style activities, competitive or timed drinking, or customs that place pressure on attendees to drink.
  - 7.3.1.4. Any practice that normalises binge or excessive drinking or frames intoxication as the measure of a successful event.

### **7.4. *Function Times***

- 7.4.1. All Functions, whether on-site or off-site, must have clearly defined start and end times.
- 7.4.2. On-site Functions: 8:00pm to 11:00pm only.
- 7.4.3. Off-site Functions: Times are negotiable but must be reasonable and approved by the Dean.
- 7.4.4. Approved times must be clearly communicated to attendees in advance and strictly observed.
- 7.4.5. Functions must conclude at the approved end time, with safe and orderly dispersal.

### **7.5. *Alcohol Service***

- 7.5.1. Alcohol must be served by external RSA-certified bar staff who are not Mannix residents.
- 7.5.2. Event organisers are responsible for associated staffing costs unless otherwise approved by the College.
- 7.5.3. Attendees may not bring their own alcohol to a licensed Function.
- 7.5.4. Mannix College sets the price of alcoholic beverages at all Functions.

## **7.6. Food and Water**

- 7.6.1. Event organisers must provide sufficient food, non-alcoholic drinks, and free water, proportionate to the number of attendees.
- 7.6.2. Water must be freely accessible for the duration of the Function.

## **7.7. Music and Noise at Functions**

- 7.7.1. Music at Mannix-sanctioned Functions must be managed so it does not interfere with the tranquillity, study, or rest of the broader College community.
- 7.7.2. For all Functions:
  - 7.7.2.1. Music volume must remain at a level that does not disturb nearby residents, staff, or surrounding areas.
  - 7.7.2.2. Event organisers and Function Marshalls are responsible for monitoring noise levels throughout the Function and responding promptly to any concerns raised by College staff or the RSO.
- 7.7.3. For on-site Functions:
  - 7.7.3.1. Music is permitted only within the approved Function hours of 8:00pm to 11:00pm.
  - 7.7.3.2. Low-frequency or heavy bass must be turned off from 10:30pm, with overall volume reduced for the remainder of the Function.
  - 7.7.3.3. All amplified music must cease at 11:00pm, in line with the approved end time.
  - 7.7.3.4. Failure to comply with music and noise requirements may result in volume being reduced, music being turned off, or the Function being ended early, and may lead to disciplinary action under the Conditions of Residency.

## **7.8. Leaving the venue**

- 7.8.1. To support safety and comply with College policy and liquor licensing requirements, re-entry to onsite Functions is not guaranteed.
- 7.8.2. Attendees who leave the designated event area may be refused re-entry at the discretion of door staff.
- 7.8.3. Entry or re-entry may be refused where a person presents as intoxicated, disruptive, or otherwise unsuitable for entry to a licensed area.
- 7.8.4. Decisions are made to uphold safety, wellbeing, and legal obligations.

- 7.8.5. Lockout periods may be implemented for certain functions or events, during which re-entry will not be permitted under any circumstances.

## **7.9. Bathrooms**

- 7.9.1. Function venues and designated event areas must be appropriate to the size of the event and provide reasonable, clearly identified access to bathrooms.
- 7.9.2. Designated bathrooms must be checked periodically by Function Marshalls during the event to ensure they remain safe, tidy, and fit for use.

## **7.10. Event Safety Roles and Authority**

- 7.10.1. Mannix-sanctioned Functions must comply at all times with health, safety, and liquor licensing obligations. The following roles apply where alcohol is served:
  - 7.10.2. RSA-Certified Bar Staff
    - 7.10.2.1. Responsible for lawful alcohol service in accordance with RSA requirements.
    - 7.10.2.2. Authorised to refuse service and provide post-event reporting where required.
  - 7.10.3. Residential Support Officer (RSO)
    - 7.10.3.1. An external, security-qualified officer engaged by or on behalf of the College.
    - 7.10.3.2. Present at all on-site Functions, in addition to the rostered campus RSO.
    - 7.10.3.3. Holds authority over venue access, patron conduct, alcohol service compliance, and enforcement of College community standards.
    - 7.10.3.4. Leads incident response, reporting, and escalation.
  - 7.10.4. Function Marshalls
    - 7.10.4.1. A minimum of two (2) Function Marshalls is required at all Functions.
    - 7.10.4.2. For Functions with more than 150 attendees, one additional Marshall is required for every 50 additional attendees (or part thereof).
    - 7.10.4.3. Function Marshalls must be present for the full duration of the event, remain sober, and be clearly identifiable.
    - 7.10.4.4. They monitor behaviour, dress standards, and alcohol consumption, and escalate concerns promptly to the RSO.

7.10.4.5. For MCSS-organised Functions, Function Marshalls must be MCSS Committee Members.

7.10.5. College Staff and RA Support

7.10.5.1. Designated College staff, supported by the Duty Resident Advisor and Resident Advisors, provide additional oversight and assist with escalation where required.

7.10.5.2. All organisers, staff, Function Marshalls, and attendees must comply with any lawful and reasonable direction given by College staff or the RSO.

## 8. Formal Dinners

Mannix College will host scheduled Formal Dinners that all Residents must attend (as per the Conditions of Residency).

- 8.1. The service of alcohol at Formal Dinners must comply with Liquor Licence laws and other College policies.
- 8.2. In addition to water and juice, the College authorises a maximum of two bottles of wine to be placed on a table of 8-10 persons at Formal Dinners. Residents may not swap or share the wine served at other tables.
- 8.3. Residents may not bring alcohol into or take it out of the Dining Hall.
- 8.4. Residents who appear intoxicated will be asked to leave and may face disciplinary action.

## 9. General

- 9.1. Pursuant to the Conditions of Residency, the possession, use, selling and/or distribution of illegal drugs or other illegal substances (including synthetic drugs) is also strictly prohibited.
- 9.2. Mannix College reserves the right to change this Policy at any time by publishing such changes or revised documents on the Mannix website. All changes take effect immediately, or such later date specified by Mannix College.

*Mannix is committed to being a vibrant living and learning community with core values of excellence, respect, community, resilience and integrity. Please go to <https://mannix.monash.edu/handbook-policies/> to view all of our policies.*

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