

The Scope of the Problem

The UW-Superior has experienced problems with underage and binge drinking. Alcohol is the most commonly abused drug on the UW Campus. The vast majority of disturbance calls verbal and physical assaults and property crimes are found to be alcohol related. Alcohol abuse is considered the number one health concern for students.

Quality of Life affected

- * 41% of all academic problems stem from alcohol abuse.
- * 28% of students who drop out of school may do so because of alcohol abuse.
- * 70% of violent behavior (fights, rapes) on campuses results from alcohol abuse.
- * 59% of fatal falls are related to alcohol use.
- * 50% of traffic fatalities are alcohol related.
- * 70% of attempted suicides are alcohol related.
Alcohol induced depression: This is a vicious circle that can be difficult to break. The toxic effects of alcohol can manipulate your brain's neurotransmitters, which are responsible for mood and judgment. This can plunge you into deeper depression and bring about thoughts of suicide. It can also create a continuous cycle of drinking and depression; therefore the more you drink, the more depressed you become, hence you continue to drink and the circle continues.
- * Relationships with family members, roommates, and significant others are compromised by alcohol abuse and alcohol induced depression.

About Alcohol

Alcohol is a central nervous system depressant that slows down the body and mind. It acts like an anesthetic, dulling areas of the brain that enable people to make sensible decisions. It causes many physical, emotional and health problems. Physically, alcohol can affect coordination, reflexes and interfere with growth. Emotionally, alcohol can interfere with school performance, add stress to your life, and lower your self-esteem. In severe cases, alcohol leads to health problems which can result in death.

Other Area and Campus Resources.

Emergency 9-1-1

Alcohol and Other Drug Awareness

Hawkes Hall 216 (715)394-8236

Campus Health Services

Hawkes Hall 216 (715)394-8236

Campus Counseling Services

Hawkes Hall 216 (715)394-8236

ALCOHOL INFORMATION & REFERRAL

1500 N 34th St. (715)392-2822

Alcoholics Anonymous Clubhouse

1609 John Ave. (715)394-9824



PROVIDING SERVICE AND STRIVING FOR SAFETY

Public Safety Department
P.O. Box 2000
Superior, WI 54880

Phone: (715)394-8114
Fax: (715)394-8071

E-mail: campus_safety@uwsuper.edu



PROVIDING SERVICE AND STRIVING FOR SAFETY

*University of Wisconsin-Superior
Campus Safety Office*

Alcohol and You

A Guide to Tough Choices



Emergency Dial 9-1-1

No-Emergency (715)394-8114

**[http://www.uwsuper.edu/safety/
index.cfm](http://www.uwsuper.edu/safety/index.cfm)**

UNIVERSITY of WISCONSIN
Superior

Alcohol and You

Definition of a drink:

A drink contains a half-ounce of alcohol – the amount you'd find in a 12-ounce can of beer, a 4-ounce glass of wine, or a 1-ounce shot of 100- proof distilled spirits such as whiskey or vodka. On average, it takes a person about one hour to metabolize this amount of alcohol.

Where the Alcohol ends up:

When you consume alcohol, 20 % is absorbed into the bloodstream through the stomach, but 80 percent is absorbed through the small intestine where it enters the bloodstream. Once in the blood, the alcohol travels to the heart, brain, liver and other vital organs within minutes. The liver removes alcohol from the bloodstream at about a half-ounce per hour. When you consume alcohol at a faster rate than your body can eliminate it, intoxication occurs.

Measuring Blood Alcohol Content (BAC)

The Blood Alcohol Content test is the standard way of measuring how much alcohol is in the bloodstream. For example, a BAC of .10 means that one-tenth of 1% of your total blood contents is alcohol. While a BAC of .05 and below may give you a slight buzz, a BAC of .50 and higher could cause death.

Body parts affected

When the alcohol level in your blood increases at a rapid rate over a short period of time, there are dangerous consequences including: dizziness, vomiting, impaired mental capabilities, hangover, chemical dependency, alcohol poisoning, respiratory failure, and eventually coma and death.

Factors effecting BAC

Blood Alcohol Content depends on body size, the rate at which the alcohol is consumed and the amount consumed at one time.

A Guide to

Make the tough choices

Think for yourself.

Be strong and **don't give in** to "peer pressure".

Get involved in activities that don't include alcohol.

Understand that you can have fun without alcohol.

Learn from your mistakes and **forgive yourself**.

Learn from other people's mistakes and **forgive them**.

Be an example for others.

Be your own best friend.

Abstinence is the best choice.

University Efforts to Address Alcohol Issues

As you may be well aware, drug and alcohol abuse on college campuses across the country is a growing problem. In response to this problem of drug and alcohol abuse, Congress passed and the President signed into law the "Drug Free School and Community Act." The University of Wisconsin-Superior faculty, staff and student body believe very strongly that a drug free community is essential to each student's academic success and a healthy, productive working environment. Using the government guidelines and stipulations described in the "Drug Free Schools and Community Act" signed by the President, we have committed ourselves to providing necessary and important information and education to UWS students and employees regarding drug and alcohol abuse.

Liquor Law Enforcement

During the past 3 years the UW- Superior Campus Safety Officers have issued more than 100 liquor law violation citations. These citations were for underage drinking or possession of alcohol, underage procuring or attempting to procure alcohol beverages, false ID violations and furnishing alcoholic beverages to underage persons. In addition, persons found to be incapacitated by alcohol (unable to care for themselves due to excessive consumption) are taken to the St. Louis County Detoxification Center by the UW-Superior Campus Safety Officers or Superior Police. There they are placed in protective custody until the effects of alcohol have diminished.

Tough Choices

Explanations of Laws and Penalties

Underage Consumption or Possession:

It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to possess or consume any alcoholic beverage (liquor, fermented malt beverage, etc.).

Penalties:

Judges can assess fines that start at \$30 for under 17 years of age and \$263.50 and/or driver's license suspension or assignment to a work program for 17-20 years of age, dependent on the number of prior offenses and the age of the violator.

Procuring or Attempting to Procure Alcohol:

It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to procure or attempt to procure any alcohol beverage. This can include ordering a drink at a bar or attempting to purchase beer at a liquor or convenience store or any other location that sells alcoholic beverages.

Penalties:

Judges can assess fines that start at \$250 and/or driver's license suspension or assignment to a work program.

Possession of False Identification

Possession of false identification or identification which falsely represents the bearer to be of legal drinking age is illegal. Use of the ID is also illegal, and mere possession is a violation.

Penalties:

Judges can assess fines between \$100 for under 17 years of age and \$515.50 and/or driver's license suspension or assignment to a work program for 17-20 years of age.

Procuring for Underage person

Supplying alcoholic beverages to an underage person.

Penalties:

Judges can assess fines between \$100 and \$10,000 and/or up to 9 months in jail. For UWS Chapter 18.09(1)(b) Prohibited Procurement or Dispensing \$200.50.