Student Rule:

Appendix VIII, Texas A&M University Alcohol Rules and Laws that Apply to Student Organizations, Resident Hall Students, and Others, Section III

EXISTING RULE:

Appendix VIII, Texas A&M University Alcohol Rules and Laws that Apply to Student Organizations, Resident Hall Students, and Others, Section III

III. Residence Hall Alcohol Rules

Students 21 years of age or older who choose to consume alcoholic beverages are expected to do so in moderation to ensure residents’ rights to privacy, sleep and study within their rooms. Reasons for appropriate disciplinary or remedial action by the university include, but are not limited to: loud or disruptive behavior, interference with residence hall cleanliness, or drinking habits that are injurious to the health or education of an individual or those around him/her.

A. Residence hall organizations, occupants and their guests are required to comply with state and local statutes concerning possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

B. Alcoholic beverages may be possessed or consumed, but not sold, in the privacy of student rooms by those residents and their invited guests who are of legal drinking age. No alcohol is permitted in residence hall rooms where either resident is under the legal drinking age.

C. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in the hallways, balconies, lounges, stairwells, courtyards, community bathrooms, parking lots or any public areas on campus. All alcohol that is transported through public areas must be unopened and concealed.

D. All private gatherings involving alcohol that are held in student rooms must be confined to the specific room, and the door must be closed.

E. Students may not possess excessive amounts of alcohol. The definition of "excessive" is at the discretion of the residence hall staff. Kegs, trash cans or other large vessels that contain alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the residence halls.

F. Advertisement of private gatherings in residents’ rooms is prohibited.
G. Residents are responsible for the guests' actions at all times. Alcohol use/misuse does not excuse disruptive, excessively noisy, indecent or any inappropriate behavior.

H. Progressive drinking parties are not permitted.

I. Violations of the alcohol rules will be referred to the university disciplinary system for disposition in the same manner as all university and residence hall rules violations.

RULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGES:

Appendix VIII: Texas A&M University Alcohol Rules and the Laws That Apply to Student Organizations, Residence Hall Students On Campus Residents, and Others (Revised: 2006)

III. Residence Hall Alcohol Rules

Students 21 years of age or older who choose to consume alcoholic beverages are expected to do so in moderation to ensure residents’ rights to privacy, sleep and study within their rooms. Reasons for appropriate disciplinary or remedial action by the university include, but are not limited to: loud or disruptive behavior, interference with residence hall cleanliness, or drinking habits that are injurious to the health or education of an individual or those around him/her.

Residents and their guests are required to comply with state and local statutes as well as university and residence hall rules concerning possession, sale, and distribution of alcoholic beverages. Specifically,

A. Residence hall organizations, occupants and their guests are required to comply with state and local statutes concerning possession, sale, and consumption of alcoholic beverages.

A. In order for alcohol to be allowed in the room, all of the residents (as defined by the Residence Hall Handbook) of that room must be of legal age (21 or older).

B. Alcoholic beverages may be possessed or consumed, but not sold or manufactured in the privacy of student eligible rooms by those residents and their invited guests who are of legal drinking age. No alcohol is permitted in residence hall rooms where either resident is under the legal drinking age.
C. **All alcohol that is transported through public areas must be unopened and concealed.** Possession of open containers and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in the hallways, balconies, lounges, stairwells, courtyards, community bathrooms, parking lots or any public areas on campus.

D. **All private gatherings involving alcohol that are held in student rooms must be confined to the specific room, and the door must be closed.**

D. **Bulk or common source alcohol containers (for example, kegs or party balls) are not allowed in the residence halls. Staff will dispose of ALL alcohol in bulk or common source containers. Kegs are not permitted in the residence halls, even when empty.**

E. **Open access to alcohol may be considered to have occurred, when bulk or common source alcohol containers are available or when more open containers exist than legal age persons present.**

E. **Students may not possess excessive amounts of alcohol. The definition of “excessive” is at the discretion of the residence hall staff. Kegs, trash cans or other large vessels that contain alcoholic beverages are prohibited in the residence halls.**

F. **If any minor is found consuming and/or possessing alcohol in the room of legal age residents, ALL alcohol in that room will be confiscated. Any alcohol belonging to the individuals of legal age may be claimed from the HD/GHD/AHD after student conduct proceedings have been completed, unless it is determined that the alcohol was being distributed by the legal age resident(s) to minors. In the latter case, disposal of the alcohol will occur.**

F. **Advertisement of private gatherings in residents’ rooms is prohibited.**

G. **Alcohol found in a room where alcohol consumption is prohibited will be disposed of, and ALL persons present in the room will be subject to disciplinary charges. If alcohol bottles or containers appear empty but contain small amounts or alcohol residue they will be treated as a violation of the alcohol policy.**

G. **Residents are responsible for the guests’ actions at all times. Alcohol use/misuse does not excuse disruptive, excessively noisy, indecent or any inappropriate behavior.**
H. **Progressive drinking parties are not permitted.**

I. **H.** Violations of the alcohol rules will be referred to the university disciplinary system for disposition in the same manner as all university and residence hall rules violations.

IV. **University Apartments Alcohol Rules**

Residents and their guests are required to comply with state and local statutes as well as university and University Apartments rules concerning possession, sale, and distribution of alcoholic beverages. Specifically,

A. Alcoholic beverages may be possessed or consumed, but not sold or manufactured in the privacy of the resident’s apartment by those residents and their invited guests who are of legal age (21 or older).

B. All alcohol transported through public areas must be unopened. Possession of alcoholic beverages is not permitted in stairways, courtyards, parking lots, or any public areas on campus.

C. Bulk or common source alcohol containers (for example, kegs or party balls) are not allowed in the University Apartments. Staff will dispose of ALL alcohol in bulk or common source containers. Kegs are not permitted in the University Apartments, even when empty.

D. If any minor is found consuming and/or possessing alcohol in an apartment, the University Police will be contacted by staff to handle the situation.

E. Violations of the alcohol rules will be referred to the university disciplinary system for disposition in the same manner as all university and University Apartment rules violations.

**JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:**

To broaden rule to include alcohol rules for the university apartments. To specify alcohol rules for residence halls as different from alcohol rules for university apartments. To publish the correct alcohol rules for residence halls and university apartments because the rules were changed in 2005.

Submitted by: Michael Krenz, Associate Director

Department of Residence Life

Approved by the Rules and Regulations Committee on April 28, 2006.
Student Rule: 41 - Student Organizations, Section 41.2.2.1

EXISTING RULE:

41.2.2.1 at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office.

RULE WITH PROPOSED CHANGES:

41.2.2.1 at least half time (six or more credit hours), if an undergraduate student (unless fewer credits are required to graduate in the spring and fall semesters) during the term of office. Students enrolled in the Blinn TEAM program are also eligible to hold an office, as long as the student is meeting all applicable Blinn TEAM requirements and is in good standing with the program.

JUSTIFICATION FOR PROPOSED CHANGE:

The Student Senate passed a bill on April 5th approving this change in the Student Rules. The context of the bill is as follows:

"Whereas: Current students participating in Blinn TEAM are actively participating members in many of the student organizations on campus, and are considered Aggies just the same; and

Whereas: The Divisions of Student Affairs at Texas A&M University and Blinn College have partnered to provide Blinn TEAM participants the full array of programs and services available on each campus through the most convenient means possible; and

Whereas: Blinn TEAM students pay the same student fees per credit hour that full- and part-time A&M students do, such as the Student Service Fee, Rec Center Fee, and the Computer Access Fee, as well as paying the same per credit hour rate for tuition for all classes taken at A&M; and

Whereas: Blinn TEAM students currently cannot join sororities, participate in intramural sports or sports clubs, or hold an officer position in any recognized student organization; and,

Whereas: An individual organization retains the right to raise the standards for its officers (i.e. GPR, number of hours, previous experience, etc.) and that no change in the Student Activities Student Organizational Rules may remove that right.

Therefore:
Let it be Enacted: The Student Government Association supports a change to the Student Activities Student Organizational Rules in order to allow Blinn TEAM students to hold officer positions in recognized organizations at Texas A&M."

This proposal and the rule referenced is something I need to clarify. We do NOT want to change the required number of hours (as seen in the original versions of 41.2.2.1 and 41.2.2.2). We DO want there to be an explicit exception made for Blinn TEAM students only. We feel that the intent of the original rule is justified and sound, and a new wording approximate to my proposed wording--while still accomplishing its purpose--is acceptable.

We've received resounding support and feedback from current and former Blinn TEAM members, and all feel that this change is long over due.

Submitted by:
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Approved by the Rules and Regulations Committee on April 28, 2006.