



DELTA UPSILON

INTERNATIONAL FRATERNITY

SUBSTANCE-FREE HOUSING FAQ

1. Why was a substance-free facilities policy necessary?

- a. Need for Safe Environments. Delta Upsilon's mission is *Building Better Men* for a global society through service, leadership development and lifelong personal growth. For the last decade, we have focused on the development of educational programming to achieve that mission. Now, to further enhance that curriculum, we must create better environments for that learning to take place. Chapter facilities must be safe, productive places to live and learn at all times.
- b. Our Mission and Principles. Delta Upsilon exists to provide experiences that prepare members for their future using our Four Founding Principles. However, on many campuses, fraternity houses have become the center of the social scene, despite 85-90% of men living in a chapter facility being under the age of 21. This must change. Removing alcohol from our facilities sends a clear message about Delta Upsilon's purpose, values and our commitment to make campuses safe for all students.
- c. The Future. Delta Upsilon joins a handful of other fraternities also transitioning to substance-free facilities or with policies limiting the presence and consumption of alcohol. In 2017, the North American Interfraternity Conference adopted new Health & Safety Initiatives that are now being piloted on many campuses, including some with DU chapters. These policies are the future of all fraternities. Unless we proactively change, our host institutions—and possibly state and federal law—will enact sweeping changes out of our control.

2. Why did the Board of Directors adopt a waiver system for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 academic years?

- a. The Board of Directors is still committed to the Substance-free Housing Policy but listened to feedback from membership regarding concerns that two years (from fall 2018-fall 2020) to prepare for the policy implementation and adjust chapter practices and operations was not long enough. The waiver system for the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 academic years will provide chapters with more time to adjust; recruit more men dedicated to creating safe environments; and in some cases, repurpose event space in chapter facilities.

3. How can a chapter obtain a substance-free housing waiver?

- a. Chapters that meet the "Expectation" level in the Men of Merit Chapter Standards Program areas of Chapter Excellence Plan, Program Attendance, Associate Member Education, Loss Prevention and Learning Assessment will be eligible for a waiver from the Substance-free Housing Policy.
- b. If meeting the qualifications listed in 3(a), a chapter must submit a substance-free housing waiver request form annually by May 1.
- c. If a chapter meets the standards to receive a waiver, they will have the ability to have the following:
 - i. The chapter can host up to six events with alcoholic beverages (under 15% ABV) in common areas of the chapter facility per year (no more than four events per semester/term).

- ii. Brothers over the legal age can possess and consume alcoholic beverages (under 15% ABV) in bedrooms when events are not being held. (No alcohol is to be consumed in bedrooms regardless of a person's age during events). No alcohol will be allowed in common spaces of a chapter facility unless during an event.
- iii. Alcohol over 15% ABV can only be provided and served by a licensed, third-party vendor at an off-site location. This means not on chapter property or chapter-related facilities.
- iv. Up to six alumni events per year will be allowed at chapter facility.
- v. By accepting the waiver, the chapter will not receive the SFH Loss Prevention credit for the 2020-2021 academic year
- d. Waivers must be jointly signed by undergraduate and alumni leadership.

4. What if my campus or local house corporation has policy that is stricter than DU's Substance-free Housing Policy or other Loss Prevention Policies?

- a. In some cases, IFC, campus, city or local house corporation policies may be stricter than Fraternity policy. The Fraternity will always defer to the strictest policy for enforcement and implementation purposes.

5. Does Delta Upsilon allow the use of tobacco?

- a. The Fraternity will allow the use of tobacco and nicotine-based products. This may include, but is not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, e-cigarettes/Juuls, etc. However, all smoking should be limited to outside locations. It is up to the local house corporation to enact stricter policies or eliminate all or some forms of tobacco/nicotine-based products.

6. How many DU chapters have implemented the Substance-free Housing Policy?

**As of Aug. 15, 2020*

49 of DU's 69 chapters/colonies have a chapter facility, four of which are university-owned. 10 DU chapters will receive the substance-free housing waiver for the 2020-2021 academic year. 39 housed DU chapters will be substance-free at the start of the 2020-2021 academic year. All 59 of NIC member fraternities have adopted a hard alcohol ban

**All chapters of NIC-member fraternities must be hard alcohol-free by fall 2019.*

Our data shows DU chapters that already have alcohol-free facilities are some of the Fraternity's strongest chapters. Last year, four of our seven Sweepstakes Finalists (the award for DU's top chapter), and our Sweepstakes winner, had substance-free facilities.

7. How is the International Fraternity going to help chapters implement this policy?

- a. Delta Upsilon will host educational sessions at its programs (including the Leadership Institute, Presidents Academy, Regional Leadership Academy and Advisors Academy) that address policy implementation. Sessions will be geared toward undergraduates, as well as advisors and alumni volunteers. Additional resources will be found at www.deltatau.org/substance-free.
- b. Delta Upsilon staff will work one-on-one with chapters to discuss policy implementation and how it can alter its events and activities accordingly. Each chapter is different, so tailored support will be vital.
- c. Additional Loss Prevention credits will be added to encourage early adoption of the Substance-free Housing Policy. These credits will no longer exist after the 2019-2020 academic year.
- d. For competitive parity, the Fraternity will advocate for other Greek-letter organizations, particularly those in the North American Interfraternity Conference, to adopt similar substance-free housing policies.

- e. The International Fraternity will have continued discussions with our campus partners to discuss implementation and the Fraternity's expectations. DU recognizes that we do not operate in a vacuum. We need the support and assistance from university administration to truly create safer campuses. DU will encourage our campus partners to adopt similar policies and expectations to further change the culture of campus environments.

8. How can a chapter receive the Loss Prevention credit for having substance-free housing?

- a. For a chapter to be eligible for this credit, it must complete the [Substance-Free Housing Early Adopter Registration](#) form confirming the chapter has voted to adopt the SFH Policy for the 2019-2020 academic year and is verified by both the Chapter President and Chapter Advisor or Corporation Board President by Aug. 1, 2019.
 - i. Dominic Greene, Director of Health & Safety Initiatives, will follow up on each verification form to answer any questions on the SFH Policy.
- b. A chapter and its house corporation are expected to fully enforce the Substance-Free Housing Policy in its entirety for the upcoming year.
- c. Any reported violation of the Substance-free Housing Policy that is not satisfactorily resolved by the undergraduate chapter or the house corporation may incur a penalty equal to the credit received for adopting the SFH Policy.
- d. Acknowledge receipt of housing inspection and comply with all housing inspection recommendations.
- e. This credit will no longer exist after the 2019-2020 academic year.

9. What education will the International Headquarters staff provide?

- a. The staff will provide hands-on training at each of our leadership programs (Presidents Academy, Regional Leadership Academy, DU Emerging Leaders Experience, Leadership Institute, and Building Better Men Retreats). Alumni volunteers and advisors will receive training at events such as the Leadership Institute and Advisors Academy.
- b. The Headquarters staff will support all house corporations as they transition to the Substance-free Housing Policy by providing resources and education to Fraternity alumni.
- c. Delta Upsilon hired a Director of Health & Safety Initiatives to oversee the substance-free implementation process. Job responsibilities of this role include, but are not limited to: developing resources, answering questions, presenting to undergraduate and alumni chapters, overseeing the event registration process, and assisting house corporations with the redesign of existing "party" spaces.
- d. In partnership with substance abuse expert, Jason Kilmer, *Washington '91*, the Fraternity will provide resources and support pertaining to substance abuse education and programming to all Delta Upsilon chapters and undergraduates as they transition to a substance-free facilities model.

10. What resources will be provided?

- a. Including this FAQ, a two-page overview document can be found online at www.deltatau.org/substance-free. This page and the resources on it will be updated continuously.
- b. IHQ staff will continue to produce online resources based on feedback and the needs of undergraduates and volunteers. If you have feedback on existing resources or suggestions for new resources, please email ihq@deltatau.org.

11. How do these new policies affect chapters that already reside in substance-free housing?

- a. All existing chapters and colonies that are receiving the current Alcohol-Free Housing Loss Prevention credit or reside in substance-free housing as of March 1, 2018 (whether under campus, alumni or International Fraternity direction) shall remain so and without the transitional policies that take effect Aug. 1, 2018.

12. How do these new policies affect chapters placed on reorganization status?

- a. All new colonies or re-established chapters that are started after Jan. 1, 2018, shall reside in substance-free housing and without the transitional considerations that take effect Aug. 1, 2018.
- b. Any chapter that is placed on reorganization status will become substance-free as soon as placed on that status. They will remain substance-free, without transitional considerations, even if reorganization status is lifted prior to Aug. 1, 2022.

13. What steps will the International Fraternity take to advocate that other fraternities adopt substance-free policies?

- a. Delta Upsilon has formed a coalition with other leading peer fraternities to determine what fraternities must do to remain relevant. Many of these groups have or will soon adopt substance-free policies. Several more fraternities have expressed interest in taking similar steps in the near future. These conversations will continue, and DU and others in this coalition will advocate the need for reform.
- b. In fall 2017, the North American Interfraternity Conference announced a new Health & Safety Initiative that is now being piloted on campuses across the country, including some with DU chapters. This NIC-wide initiative will evolve over time and result in policy shifts across all fraternities and campus communities. DU will work in partnership with the NIC in these efforts.
 - i. In fall 2018, the NIC adopted a standard that will ban hard alcohol from all NIC fraternity houses by fall 2019.

14. How does the Fraternity define "hard alcohol"?

- a. "Hard Alcohol" is defined as any distilled beverage containing more than 0.15 alcohol by volume (ABV).

15. How does the Fraternity define "substance-free"?

- a. "Substance-free" is defined as the elimination of the possession, use, distribution or consumption of all illegal and illicit substances, alcohol, marijuana (regardless of state or federal law) or controlled substances without an appropriate prescription issued to the user by a licensed professional.

16. How does the Fraternity define what a "common area" of a chapter house is?

- a. "Common Areas" are defined as communal or dining spaces within a chapter facility that are open for common or public use, and all outdoor space or parking lots associated with or adjacent to chapter housing.

17. How does the Fraternity define a "chapter house"?

- a. A "chapter house" is defined as any facility and/or affiliated property owned, operated or leased by the undergraduate chapter directly, by its alumni chapter or local house corporation, or by its host institution for the purposes of housing chapter members or conducting chapter activities. This includes any facility rented by individual members that operates as the identified chapter house, residence hall floor, townhome, apartment, lodge or meeting space of the chapter. The Substance-Free Housing Policy also applies to the outdoor area, including the front and backyard, parking lot, and sidewalks associated with the facility. If the facility/property is considered Delta Upsilon "space," the facility/property is to comply with the Substance-Free Housing Policy.

18. How does the Fraternity define a "chapter social event"?

- a. A "chapter social event" is defined as any activity where alcohol is present and that is coordinated on behalf of the members as a benefit of membership. All social events must comply with all Loss Prevention Policies of Delta Upsilon.

19. How does the Fraternity define an “Illegal drug”?

- a. An “illegal drug” is defined as a controlled substance prohibited by law from possession and use. This does not include a substance that is legally possessed or used under the supervision of a licensed healthcare professional or that is legally possessed or used under any other authority under such law or under any other federal provision.

20. How does the Fraternity define “Controlled substances”?

- a. “Controlled substances” are defined as drugs that are regulated by state and federal laws that aim to control the danger of addiction, abuse, physical and mental harm, the trafficking by illegal means, and the dangers from actions of those who have used the substances. Such drugs may be declared illegal for sale or use but may be dispensed under a physician’s prescription.

21. What funding will be provided for chapters to make changes to their facility to comply with the Substance-free Housing Policy?

- a. Many chapters have an existing Chapter Educational Account (CEA) or Chapter Housing Account (CHA) through the Delta Upsilon Educational Foundation, which can be used to finance housing updates for educational purposes. Alumni chapters must request a distribution from these funds. For questions, you may contact Executive Director Justin Kirk at kirk@deltatau.org.

22. Why is there a hard alcohol ban and limits where alcohol can be served in a chapter house before going to substance-free housing?

- a. The International Fraternity wants to provide a transition period for chapters before the Substance-free Housing Policy takes effect in August 2020. This will give chapters time to ease into a culture shift and adjust current practices. The transition period will allow ample time for Fraternity staff to work with chapters and volunteers to address the concerns and needs of each specific chapter. Any chapter with a waiver must remain hard alcohol-free.
- b. In addition, the North American Interfraternity Conference adopted a standard that will ban all hard alcohol from NIC fraternity houses by fall 2019.

23. What action will the International Fraternity take regarding any chapter that refuses to implement the policies by the stated deadlines?

- a. It is the duty of the Fraternity’s Board of Directors to hold chapters accountable and review the status of chapters that refuse to implement any Fraternity policy. As such, the Board of Directors is prepared to make charter and/or membership decisions for chapters that refuse to implement these new policies. Before such action takes place, the International Fraternity will provide specialized support and training to any chapter wanting help implementing these policies.

24. Will substance-free housing hurt our recruitment or membership?

- a. Experience tells us that Delta Upsilon chapters with substance-free housing policies recruit and retain members better than those without such policies. (See statistics in #6 of this FAQ.)
- b. Current and incoming college students are a part of Generation Z. Statistics on this generation show those in Gen Z are more likely to come to college having never had alcohol before than any other generation. Those students who have had alcohol before coming to campus, drink less often than similar students of previous generations. Today’s college students are coming to campus from environments that place less emphasis on alcohol.
- c. The Substance-free Housing Policy is meant to help recruit potential brothers who are attracted to our values and the Fraternity for the right reasons. When this happens, retention and lifelong commitment to the Fraternity are higher.

25. Can alumni chapters host events with alcohol under the Substance-free Housing Policy?

- a. Yes. Up to six alumni chapter-hosted events with alcohol can be held per calendar year at a chapter facility. These events must occur within common areas of chapter housing and be primarily aimed toward socialization with alumni, parents or faculty. Alumni chapters or corporations must contract with a licensed third-party vendor to sell and distribute alcohol to members and guests of legal drinking age or follow the Fraternity's BYOB guidelines. All events must follow university and Fraternity Loss Prevention Policies.
- b. All alumni events at a chapter facility must be approved at least 14 days in advance of the event per an established event approval process. Additionally, all alumni events must follow Delta Upsilon's Loss Prevention Policies, as well as be in accordance with all national, state, and local ordinances; host institution policies; and third-party guidelines.

26. Won't these policies push alcohol to annex properties, which would in turn increase risk for things like drunk driving, pre-gaming and other unsafe binge drinking practices?

- a. Making chapter housing substance-free will not eliminate all risk. DU's strategy is rooted in prevention and creating long-term culture change. Substance-free chapter environments will attract a quality of man who is not focused on alcohol. We believe having chapters full of men who joined a substance-free chapter will lead to better decision-making in all areas of Loss Prevention. Regardless of the Substance-free Housing Policy, DU's expectation has always been that of safe, responsible and respectful choices.
- b. DU's Substance-free Housing Policy defines a "chapter house" as any facility and/or affiliated property owned, operated or leased by the undergraduate chapter directly, by its alumni chapter or local house corporation, or by its host institution for the purpose of housing chapter members or conducting chapter activities. This includes any facility rented by individual members that operates as the identified chapter house, residence hall floor, townhome, apartment, lodge or meeting space of the chapter. The Substance-free Housing Policy also applies to the outdoor area, including the front and backyard, parking lot, and sidewalks associated with the facility. If the facility/property is considered Delta Upsilon "space," the facility/property is to comply with the Substance-free Housing Policy.

27. How does this policy change Delta Upsilon's Loss Prevention Policies?

- a. All of Delta Upsilon's existing Loss Prevention Policies will remain in effect. By August 2020, the Substance-free Housing Policy will be implemented, and all substances must be removed from chapter facilities unless a waiver is obtained. Social events with alcohol will move from chapter property to an event space off property. As always, all other Loss Prevention Policies will be enforced at off-property events.