



Alcohol and Driving

OCCURRENCE

- Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes kill someone every 31 minutes and non-fatally injure someone every two minutes (NHTSA 2004a).
- In 2002, about 1.5 million drivers were arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol or narcotics (NHTSA 2004a).
- Other drugs used in combination with alcohol (e.g., marijuana and cocaine) are involved in about 18% of motor vehicle driver deaths. (NHTSA 2003).

CONSEQUENCES

If you are caught drinking alcohol when you are under 21:

- You can be convicted of a misdemeanor
- You can lose your driver's license for one year (regardless of whether you were driving a car). Under California law, when a minor is convicted of an alcohol-related crime (such as the purchase, possession or consumption of alcohol, furnishing alcohol to a minor, or possessing an open container of alcohol in public), the minor's driver's license may be suspended for one year.
- If you are driving a car, you can be charged with DUI if there's any trace of alcohol in your body (even just .01 percent blood alcohol content).

If you are over the 21 driving a car after drinking can lead to:

- Losing your driver's license for at least 6 months
- Paying fines and court costs up to \$10,000
- Including enormous increases in your auto insurance premiums
- A criminal misdemeanor record for DUI
- Probation for 3-5 years

It is almost always best to hire an attorney due to the severity of the potential consequences. The AS Legal Center is available to all registered students www.asisfsu.org/lrc/ or (415) 338-1595 and for DUI 24-Hour Helpline call the National Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Addictions (415) 296-9900.

STUDENT CONDUCT CONSEQUENCES

SF State students who receive alcohol and other drug related citations may also be subject to additional sanctions for violating the Code of Student Conduct.

THE IMPACT OF A MISDEMEANOR CONVICTION

A misdemeanor conviction will appear – and remain – on your criminal record. Consider that many graduate school applications ask whether you have been convicted of a crime, and that a criminal record can impact your ability to become a doctor, lawyer, credentialed teacher, accountant, or licensed real estate professional.

Counseling and Psychological Services'
Prevention Education Programs/CEASE
(415) 338-2208 www.sfsu.edu/~cease

