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UMS_Community Guidance_Students - Together for Maine - Student Conduct Code for Hosting or Attending On or Off-Campus Events Prohibited by State or University Group-Size Limitations

University of Maine System

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Do I need to wear a face covering? (01/18/2021)

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Student Conduct Code Sanctions for Hosting or Attending On or Off-Campus Events Prohibited by State or University Group-Size Limitations (1/26/2021)

The University of Maine System Student Conduct Code applies regardless of location in cases of conduct when the alleged incident or conduct seriously threatens any educational process, the legitimate function of the University, and/or the health or safety of any individual ([University Student Conduct Code Section I, Jurisdiction](#)).

Maine has been in a state of civil emergency in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Group gathering size is restricted by an Executive Order of the Governor. Elements of the group-size limitations per the executive order include:

- Indoor Events: Must adhere to 6-foot physical distancing requirements and no more than 50 people;
- Outdoor Events: Must adhere to 6-foot physical distancing and be limited to no more than 5 people per 1,000 square feet of space or not more than 100 people, whichever is less;
- Face coverings are required to be worn in public if physical distancing is not possible.

The general group gathering for University activities limit is 50 persons.

Attending or hosting and promoting a social gathering or function prohibited by any or all of the components of Maine's group-size limitations may be deemed a health and safety violation of the UMS Student Conduct Code for endangering the health and safety of any individual.

Events subject to this UMS Student Conduct Code include but are not limited to on-campus functions, fraternity or sorority events, gatherings in public or open spaces, and parties and events hosted in private residences or venues. Violations are subject to disciplinary action up to and including dismissal.

Sanctions for Attending Events Prohibited by State Guidance: Disciplinary action for attending an event on or off campus that exceeds elements of Maine's group-size limitations may include but not be limited to the following ([USCC IV, Sanctions](#)):

- Community Service;
- Assigned Educational Projects;
- Disciplinary Probation; and / or
- Disciplinary Suspension.

Sanctions for Hosting or Promoting Events Prohibited by State Guidance: Disciplinary action for *hosting or promoting* an event on or off campus that exceeds elements of Maine's group-size limitations may include but not be limited to Disciplinary Suspension or Dismissal.

Rights to Peaceful Demonstration: University community members retain the right to participate in peaceful demonstrations. Organizers and participants are expected to adhere to public health mandates regarding face coverings and physical distance guidelines.

Rules to Remember: The University strongly favors education and engagement over enforcement actions. Students can help keep our communities safe and avoid disciplinary action by adhering to the following:

- Always Cover:** Wear an approved face covering in public or around others;
- Never Host Prohibited Events:** Do not invite groups of people to gather in any location that cannot accommodate group-size limitations; and,
- Leave Right Away:** If students or others gather in numbers or behave in a manner that violates group-size limitations or public health guidance, take action by removing yourself from the situation immediately.

Students and student organizations should contact Student Affairs to discuss event planning and to secure prior approval for functions.

Monitoring and Reporting: University officials are working closely with community partners, state agencies, local law enforcement, student leaders and organizations, and concerned stakeholders to protect student, employee, and community health. The University will accept and consider reports of irresponsible behavior or Conduct Code violations in the context of the pandemic from any interested party and will be monitoring social media for potential incidents of violation.

Maine civil authority group gathering and additional information: <https://www.maine.gov/decd/covid-19-prevention-checklists>

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[UMS COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)