# ALCOHOL BASICS TRAINING OVERVIEW 

This training is intended to help make students aware of Virginia law, common myths about alcohol and how to make healthy and responsible decisions.

## ${ }^{2}$ LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the risks and harms commonly associated with alcohol
- To understand how to make safe and healthy decisions around alcohol
- To recognize alcohol poisoning and know how to respond
- To build confidence to identify risky situations and intervene when needed


## 昆 HEAD UP RESOURCES:

- Alcohol Education Basics Guide: This guide provides the relevant background information needed to present the Alcohol Basics Training.
- Alcohol Basics Training PowerPoint
- Alcohol Basics Training Script: The script provides the suggested content for each slide, however adapting the presentation of the content to meet your audience's needs is highly recommended.
- College Publication: We suggest handing these out before or after the training as a reinforcement of the information presented.
- 21 and Older Publication: We suggest handing these out before or after the training as a reinforcement of the information presented.
- HEADS UP Trivia Cards: If you have a larger group of students, integrating the trivia cards can help keep your training interactive.
- HEADS UP Videos: Playing one or all of our videos during the training can help emphasize the content for students who may be visual learners.
- HEADS UP Promotional Materials: Use our promotional materials as prizes if students answer a question correctly or hand out to all students at the end of the training.


# ALCOHOL BASICS TRAINING OVERVIEW 

## TIPS:

- If you're using the HEADS UP Trivia Cards, make it into a game and split your group of students into teams!
- Be creative! Make the dialogue for each slide interactive to keep your audience engaged throughout the presentation.
- We recommend adapting the training to your audience for the time that you have available. Feel free to remove or switch the order of slides, if necessary.
- Use the space at the bottom of each PowerPoint slide to add your college or university logo.
- Do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or comments.


## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

## Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (www.samhsa.gov)

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) promotes and implements prevention strategies to reduce the impact of mental and substance use disorders in America's communities.

## Step UP! (www.stepupprogram.org)

Step UP! is a prosocial behavior and bystander intervention program that educates students to be proactive in helping others.

## National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (www.niaaa.nih.gov)

NIAAA supports and conducts research on the impact of alcohol use on human health and well-being. It is the largest funder of alcohol research in the world.


# ALCOHOL BASICS TRAINING SCRIPT 



## VIRGINIA LAW



The Commonwealth of Virginia's Zero Tolerance Law makes driving while intoxicated by any amount of alcohol a serious criminal offense for drivers younger than 21. Virginia defines the legal limit for driving while intoxicated at a BAC of $0.08 \%$ for those 21 years of age and older.

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## VIRGINIA LAW

- It is illegal for anyone under 21 to possess any alcoholic beverage.
- It is illegal to create, loan, sell or use a fake ID.
- A conviction for possessing or using a fake ID could appear on your permanent criminal record.

- It is illegal to use another's identification as one's own.
- It is illegal to possess or sell an ID for the purpose of establishing a false identification.
- Persons who possess, use or distribute fake IDs are charged with a Class 1 misdemeanor.
The Commonwealth of Virginia's Zero Tolerance Law makes driving while intoxicated by any amount of alcohol a serious criminal offense for drivers younger than 21. Virginia defines the legal limit for driving while intoxicated at a blood alcohol concentration (BAC) of $0.08 \%$ for those 21 years of age and older.


Conviction of a Class 1 misdemeanor can result in:

Loss of driver's license for up to one year

- and/or fines up to \$2,500
- and/or 50 hours of community service
- and/or up to one year in jail


It is illegal for anyone under the age of 21 to purchase, possess or drink alcohol. Additionally, purchasing or providing alcohol to anyone under the age of 21 is illegal and also known as social providing.

Underage possession is a Class 1 misdemeanor and could result in losing your driver's license for up to a year.

Alcohol is created naturally when sugars in grains, vegetables and fruits are fermented. Distilled spirits or liquors go through an additional process of evaporation and condensation.

## CALCOHOL撸ROOF?

- Alcohol proof defines how much alcohol content a beverage contains.
- A beverage's alcohol by volume (ABV) percentage can often be located on the bottle, can or menu.

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## STANDARD DRINK SIZES



Standard drinks contain approximately the same amount of alcohol and are helpful in estimating blood alcohol concentration (BAC).

Alcohol proof defines the alcohol content of a beverage. Alcohol proof for distilled spirits is equal to twice the percentage of alcohol content by volume. For example, a standard 1.5 ounce serving of liquor that is 80 proof contains 40\% alcohol by volume, also known as ABV.

The proof of bottled distilled spirits and the ABV percentage of bottled or canned beer, wine and other types of alcoholic beverages can be located on the bottle or can. ABV's of beer and wine at restaurants and other establishments can often be located on the menu.

Trivia Question: Which drinks are equivalent to a standard size drink?

Standard size drinks contain approximately the same amount of alcohol and are helpful in estimating blood alcohol concentration (BAC).

Answer: 5 ounces of wine, 12 ounces of beer and 1.5 ounces of an 80 proof shot of liquor.

Standard drinks contain approximately the same amount of alcohol and are helpful in estimating blood alcohol concentration (BAC). This means that 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine and 1.5 ounces of 80 -proof liquor all contain approximately the same amount of alcohol.

## STANDARD DRINK SIZES

- The liver typically processes one standard size drink per hour.
- Alcohol is not always served in the same size constraints of a standard drink.



## CALCULATING STANDARD DRINKS

(OUNCES) X (ABV\%) X 2

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\# OF STANDARD DRINKS
Example: You order a 16 ounce beer that has a 9\% ABV. How many standard drinks are you consuming?

Why is it important to understand what a standard size drink is and what a beverage's ABV means? The liver typically processes one standard size drink per hour. Additionally, alcohol is not always served in the same size constraints of a standard drink. The ABV in craft beers, wines, liquors and mixed drinks are not always equivalent to the $A B V$ of a standard drink.

For example, let's look at the ABVs of standard size drinks. A standard 12 ounce beer has a 5\% ABV, while 5 ounces of wine contains a $12 \%$ ABV and 1.5 ounces of 80-proof liquor contains a $40 \%$ ABV.

Since alcohol is not always created equal, knowing how to calculate how many standard drinks a beverage contains can be helpful. To calculate the amount of standard drinks being consumed, multiply the number of ounces in the drink by the ABV percentage decimal. Then, multiply that number by two to find the approximate number of standard drink sizes the beverage contains.

For example, you order a 16 ounce beer that has a 9\% ABV. How many standard drinks are you consuming?

Give your students a few minutes to calculate the answer. Then walk through the answer step by step with them on the next slide.

## CALCULATING STANDARD DRINKS

Example: You order a 16 ounce beer that has a 9\% ABV. How many standard drinks are you consuming?

16 (OUNCES) X 0.09 (ABV\%) X 2 =
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For example, you order a 16 ounce beer that has a 9\% ABV. How many standard drinks are you consuming? 16 ounces multiplied by the 0.09 ABV\% multiplied by 2 equals approximately 2.88 standard drinks.

Reflect with your students about how drinking one beer can have the same impact as drinking almost three standard beers. Discuss how long it might take for the liver to process one 16 ounce beer, keeping in mind that the liver processes one standard size drink per hour.

What impacts the way a person responds to alcohol?

The way a person reacts to alcohol depends on:

- Strength of drink: Drinks can have different effects based on their composition. Mixing a drink with a carbonated soda, for example, will quicken the effects of the alcohol due to the carbonation bubbles.
- Rate of Consumption: Taking shots or chugging drinks will increase the amount of alcohol absorbed into the system. The liver metabolizes alcohol at an average rate of one drink ( 12 oz . beer, 5 oz . wine, 1.5 oz. of 80 proof distilled spirits) per hour. If a person drinks faster than this, the remainder of the alcohol will


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circulate in the bloodstream until the liver is able to metabolize all of the alcohol.

- Gender: Women tend to reach a higher BAC faster because they have a higher fat to muscle ratio than men. Fat repels alcohol, whereas muscle absorbs it. Therefore, it takes lesser amounts of alcohol for a woman to show signs of its effects since women are usually smaller, and have less muscle to absorb the alcohol.
- Body Weight: People who weigh less will generally be affected more quickly by alcohol than people who carry more weight. This is because people with a greater body weight have more blood and water in their bodies, which assists in the dilution of alcohol.
- Food: A full stomach slows the absorption of alcohol into the bloodstream. Drinking on an empty stomach, however, will cause the BAC to rise more rapidly since there is no food to assist in absorption.
- Drug Use: The use of other legal or illegal drugs can increase the effects of alcohol and may cause a dangerous, unpredictable outcome.

Blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is the amount of alcohol that is present in the bloodstream. For example, having a BAC of 0.10 percent means there is about one drop of alcohol for every 1,000 drops of blood present in the body. At certain BAC levels, alcohol has been shown to alter a person's visual functions and perceptions, affecting his or her ability to react, concentrate or pay attention, process information and operate a vehicle.

## HOW CAN I ESTIMATE MY BAC LEVEL?

- BAC can be estimated based on the number of standard size drinks, weight and gender.
- If a man weighing 140 pounds has three standard-size drinks, his BAC will equal approximately .08 percent.
- If a woman weighing 140 pounds has three standard-size drinks, her BAC will equal approximately .10 percent.

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APPROXIMATE BAC FOR MEN

| Your Weigh in Pounds | 100 | 120 | 140 | 160 | 180 | 200 | 22 | 240 | 260 | 280 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 drink | . 04 | . 03 | . 03 | . 02 | . 02 | . 02 | . 02 | . 2 | . 01 | . 01 |
| 2 drinks | . 08 | . 06 | . 05 | . 05 | . 04 | . 04 | . 03 | . 03 | . 02 | . 02 |
| 3 drinks | .II | . 09 | . 08 | . 07 | . 06 | . 06 | . 05 | . 05 | 04 | 04 |
| 4 drinks | 15 | 12 | .11 | . 09 | . 08 | . 08 | . 07 | . 06 | . 06 | . 05 |
| 5 drinks | 19 | 16 | 13 | 12 | .11 | . 09 | . 09 | . 08 | . 08 | . 07 |
| 6 drinks | . 23 | 19 | 16 | 14 | 13 | .11 | 10 | 09 | . 09 | . 09 |
| 7 drinks | 26 | . 22 | 19 | 16 | 15 | 13 | 12 | . 11 | .11 | 10 |
| 8 drinks | 30 | . 25 | 21 | 19 | 17 | . 15 | 14 | 13 | 13 | 12 |
| 9 drinks | 34 | . 28 | 24 | . 21 | 19 | 17 | 15 | 14 | . 15 | . 14 |
| 10 drinks | 38 | 31 | 27 | 23 | 21 | 19 | 17 | 16 | 16 | . 15 |

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You can estimate what your BAC would be after a certain number of standard size drinks by weight and gender.

Use the BAC Chart in Alcohol Education Basics Guide or the following two slides for your reference. Ask students to follow along and use the BAC Chart on pages 8-9 of the College Publication or the 21 and Older Publication.

A male and a female both, who weigh 140 pounds consume three standard-size drinks. The male's BAC will equal approximately 0.08 percent and the female's BAC will equal approximately 0.10 percent.

Discuss: How do the different factors that impact a person's response to alcohol come into play in this scenario?

Use this BAC Chart and the BAC Chart on the next slide to facilitate additional dialogue.


| H hours to zero bac for men |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Your Weight in Pounds | 100 | 120 | 140 | 160 | 180 | 200 | 220 | 240 |
| Idrink | 25 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 drink | 5 | 4 | 3.5 | 3 | 3 | 2.5 | 2 | 2 |
| 3 dinins | 7 | 6 | 5 | 4.4 | 4 | 3.5 | 3.5 | 3 |
| 4 dinins | 9.5 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5.5 | 5 | 4.5 | 4 |
| 5 drinks | 12 | 10 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 6.5 | 6 | 55 | 5 |
| 6 dinks | 14 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6.5 | 6 |
| 7 drinks | 17 | 14 | 12 | 10.5 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 7 |
| 8 drink | 19 | 16 | 13.5 | 12 | 10 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| 9 dinins | 21.5 | 18 | 15 | 13.5 | 11.5 | 10.5 | 10 | 9 |
| 10 drink | 23 | 19 | 16 | 14 | 125 | 11 | 11 | 9.5 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Use this BAC Chart to facilitate additional dialogue.

## Hours to Zero BAC for Men

Use this Hours to Zero BAC Chart and the Hours to Zero BAC Chart on the next slide to facilitate additional dialogue.

It takes the liver approximately one hour to process one standard drink. Sobering up quickly with a cold shower, exercise, eating a large meal or drinking coffee is a myth as time is the only way to eliminate alcohol from your system. You can estimate approximately how long it will take to eliminate alcohol from the body based on the number of standard size drinks you've consumed in addition to your gender and weight.

| HOURS TO ZERO BAC FOR WOMEN |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Your Weight in Pounds | 100 | 120 | 140 | 160 | 180 | 200 | 220 | 240 |
| 1 drink | 3 | 2.5 | 2 | 2 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 1 |
| 2 drinks | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3.5 | 3 | 3 | 2.5 | 1.5 |
| 3 drinks | 9 | 7 | 6.5 | 5.5 | 5 | 4.5 | 5 | 3.5 |
| 4 drinks | 12 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7 | 7 | 5.5 | 5 | 4.5 |
| 5 drinks | 14.2 | 12 | 10.5 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 6.5 | 6 |
| 6 drinks | 17.5 | 14 | 12.5 | 11 | 9.5 | 8.5 | 7.5 | 7 |
| 7 drinks | 20 | 17 | 14.5 | 12.5 | 11.5 | 10 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 drinks | 23 | 19 | 16.5 | 14.5 | 13 | 11.5 | 10.5 | 9.5 |
| 9 drinks | 26 | 21.5 | 18.5 | 16 | 14.5 | 13 | 11.5 | 10.5 |
| 10 drinks | 28 | 26 | 20 | 17.5 | 16 | 14 | 12.5 | II |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## WHAT IS BINGE DRINKING?

Binge drinking is the heavy consumption of alcohol that brings BAC levels to at least $0.08 \%$ in about two hours.


## Hours to Zero BAC For Women

Use this Hours to Zero BAC Chart to facilitate additional dialogue.

It takes the liver approximately one hour to process one standard drink. Sobering up quickly with a cold shower, exercise, eating a large meal or drinking coffee is a myth as time is the only way to eliminate alcohol from your system. You can estimate approximately how long it will take to eliminate alcohol from the body based on the number of standard size drinks you've consumed in addition to your gender and weight.

Binge drinking is the heavy consumption of alcohol that brings BAC levels to at least $0.08 \%$ in about two hours. It is also defined as when a woman consumes four or more drinks or when a man consumes five or more drinks in a short period of time. When a large amount of alcohol is consumed in a short period of time, it can result in a dangerously high BAC, leading to alcohol poisoning and other negative outcomes.

Participating in drinking games can easily result in binge drinking without someone realizing it. The rapid consumption of alcohol during drinking games or while chugging drinks and taking shots can rapidly increase a person's BAC. It can become difficult to keep track of how many standard drinks are being consumed, putting them at a higher risk of alcohol poisoning and other healthrelated risks.


WHAT ARE THE HEALTH RISKS OF BINGE DRINKING?

- Alcohol Poisoning
- Experiencing a Blackout
- Brain Damage
- Physical Injury
- Increased Risk of Sexual Assault


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TIP: The purpose of the "Survey Says" slides are to highlight positive behaviors and attitudes amongst college students nationwide. Perceptions about peers attitudes and behaviors are often incorrect. Highlighting accurate healthy behaviors and attitudes can help to reduce those misperceptions.

Survey Says: According to the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment (NCHA) Results, Spring 2016.

- $45.5 \%$ of students in a national survey responded that they avoid drinking games sometimes, most of the time or all the time.
- 73.1\% of students in a national survey reported drinking four or fewer drinks the last time they consumed alcohol.

Binge drinking can lead to the following health consequences:

- Experiencing a Blackout
- Alcohol Poisoning
- Brain Damage
- Physical Injury
- Increased Risk of Sexual Assault



## Symptoms of alcohol poisoning include:

- Confusion
- Slow or no reflexes or response
- Difficulty or inability to remain conscious
- Vomiting
- Trouble breathing
- Clammy, pale, or bluish lips
- Seizures

What should you do if someone has alcohol poisoning? Never assume that the person is sleeping it off and try to keep them awake.

- Roll them on their side
- Call 911
- Do not leave them alone
- Do not give them food or fluids
- Begin CPR if heart rate stops


## ALCOHOL-INDUCED BLACKOUTS



A blackout is a period of time in which an intoxicated person who has consumed a large amount of alcohol cannot recall key details of an event or the event in its entirety.

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## Fact or Myth?

The more I drink, the better I'll feel.

Myth. A drinker experiences the stimulant effects at a BAC of .06 percent or below. Once BAC surpasses .06 percent, the depressant effects of alcohol such as sluggishness, fatigue, sloppiness, lack of balance, coordination and slurred speech occur. Keeping BAC below 06 percent can reduce negative consequences associated with drinking alcohol.

## THE BIPHASIC EFFECT OF ALCOHOL

Although alcohol is a depressant, it can have euphoric effects when consumed in moderation. The stimulant effects of alcohol begin before or during the first drink, but diminish as BAC continues to increase.


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## ALCOHOL TOLERANCE



Types of Alcohol Tolerance:

- Genetic
- Environmental
- Metabolic
- Functional

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Although alcohol is a depressant, it can have euphoric effects when consumed in moderation. The stimulant effects of alcohol begin before or during the first drink, but diminish as BAC continues to increase.

During the first drink, alcohol begins to work as a stimulant, causing the brain to release dopamine which is a "feel good" excitatory neurotransmitter. Alcohol depresses the inhibitory processes in the brain resulting in a feeling of euphoria. This occurs when BAC is lower than 0.06 percent.

As drinking continues and the BAC rises, the depressant effects of alcohol kick in as the brain begins to release the gamma-aminobutyric acid (GABA) neurotransmitter that inhibits brain activity. At this stage, responsiveness, coordination and judgement are severely impaired and the individual is at a higher risk for experiencing negative outcomes. This typically occurs when BAC is higher than 0.06 percent.

Alcohol tolerance is defined as the reduction in the stimulant effects of alcohol after a period of prolonged or heavy use. An individual drinker with a high alcohol tolerance will need to consume progressively more alcohol to experience the same effects.

## Types of Alcohol Tolerance:

- Genetic Tolerance: Genetics can affect a person's response to alcohol, placing them at a higher risk of alcoholism.
- Environmental Tolerance: Tolerance to alcohol can increase if alcohol is consumed in the same setting or with the same cues. This can be dangerous if the same amount of alcohol consumed in the usual environmental setting is consumed in a new setting, producing different effects.


## ALCOHOL TOLERANCE



Types of Alcohol Tolerance:

- Genetic
- Environmental
- Metabolic
- Functional

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## HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE <br> BYSTANDER

An active bystander is a person who witnesses a conflict or incident and takes action to stop the situation or help the person in trouble.


1. Notice the event.
2. Determine whether the event is a problem or an emergency and how you can safely respond.
3. Assume responsibility.
4. Come up with a plan.
5. Take action to protect yourself and others.

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- Metabolic Tolerance: After a prolonged period of heavy use, the liver will begin to increase the number of enzymes it activates to metabolize alcohol. This reduces the time that alcohol is active in the body and the duration of its effects.
- Functional Tolerance: Tolerance can develop when the brain attempts to adapt to compensate for the disruption caused by alcohol in both behavior and bodily functions.

Drinking in moderation can minimize your risk for experiencing these effects.

Survey Says: According to the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment (NCHA) Results, Spring 2016.

- $63.2 \%$ of students in a national survey reported keeping track of how much they drank the last time they consumed alcohol.
- $71.6 \%$ of students in a national survey reported eating before and/or during drinking the last time they consumed alcohol.

A bystander is a person who witnesses a conflict or incident but does nothing to stop the situation or help the person in trouble. An active and empowered bystander takes action when they witness a person in need. Rather than stepping aside and doing nothing, an active bystander intervenes with the goal of helping the other person.

Before a risky situation occurs, there are clues that something may be getting out of hand. Intervening before imminent harm can reduce the likelihood of violence. Warning signs can include excessive drinking, verbal arguments and body language signaling that someone is uncomfortable.

## HOW TO BE AN ACTIVE BYSTANDER

An active bystander is a person who witnesses a conflict or incident and takes action to stop the situation or help the person in trouble.


1. Notice the event.
2. Determine whether the event is a problem or an emergency and how you can safely respond.
3. Assume responsibility.
4. Come up with a plan.
5. Take action to protect yourself and others.

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Five Steps to Being an Active Bystander:

- Notice the event.
- Determine whether the event is a problem or an emergency and how you can safely respond.
- Assume responsibility.
- Come up with a plan.
- Take action to protect yourself and others.

Directly intervene in the moment to prevent a problem from occurring.

- Asking someone who looks uncomfortable in a situation, "Are you doing okay?"
- Asking a peer who is alone and highly intoxicated if they have a plan for getting home.
- Noticing a friend has had three shots of liquor in the past hour and asking them if they think it might be a good idea to slow down so they won't feel sick later in the evening.

Delegate: Seek assistance from someone else, whether a peer or police officer.

- If you feel uncomfortable acting alone, don't hesitate to ask a friend or a peer to help you out.
- If you think the situation may be too risky for you to intervene, try seeking out a campus faculty or staff member. If you are out at a bar, ask a bartender, bouncer or police officer.

Distract: Interrupt the situation without directly confronting the harmful behavior.

If it appears that someone is taking advantage of a person who has clearly had too much to drink at a party, distract the offender by interrupting the situation. Even if you don't know the person, interject by saying "Hey, I was looking for you!" Be creative!


## TIPS FOR RESPONSIBE DRINKING

- Know the law and only drink if you're of legal age.
- Know what a standard drink size is so you can accurately track how much you are drinking.
- Pace yourself and don't consume more than one standard drink every hour.
- Alternate between a non-alcoholic beverage, water and food.
- Don't drink on an empty stomach. Eat foods high in protein before, during and after you drink.

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## TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE DRINKING

- Stick to the plan you made in advance and get home safely.
- Remember that only time will lower your BAC.
- Understand that alcohol affects men and women differently.
- Never give your friends a hard time if they choose not to drink.
- Never drink and drive.



## HEADS Higher Education Alcohol \& Drus



Survey Says: According to the American College Health Association's National College Health Assessment (NCHA) Results, Spring 2016.
44.6\% of students in a national survey reported having a friend to let them know when they've had enough.

How can you make responsible decisions?

- Know the law and only drink if you're of legal age.
- Know what a standard drink size is so you can accurately track how much you are drinking.
- Pace yourself and don't consume more than one standard drink every hour.
- Alternate between a non-alcoholic beverage, water and food.
- Don't drink on an empty stomach. Eat foods high in protein before, during and after you drink.

How can you make responsible decisions? Since judgment is the first brain function to be affected by alcohol, it is important to consider making a plan before you go out to party, including how you will get there and back, who you will go with, and some strategies for turning down a drink.

- Stick to the plan you made in advance and get home safely.
- Remember that only time will lower BAC.
- Understand that alcohol affects men and women differently.
- Never give your friends a hard time if they choose not to drink.
- Never drink and drive.

