

## Medical Assistance Policy

98% of Bentley students said they want a friend to call for help if their health or safety was in danger. Looking out for Bentley student's health and safety is everyone's business. As our core values state, we are responsible for helping keep our community safe. In instances of a drug or alcohol related emergency, all members of our community are expected to seek help.

**Under the University's Medical Assistance Policy, any student who requests help from a university official for themselves or another student, will not be charged through our conduct system for alcohol policy violations.** It is at the discretion of University officials whether other policy violations will be addressed (e.g., hazing, disrespect to University officials, fire safety violations, etc). University officials will not conduct unnecessary searches or be looking for these violations, but if they are present and visible, they may be addressed to ensure the safety and security of the community as a whole.

A student who needs medical assistance for alcohol or other substance use will be required to complete a medical follow up with the Health Center and harm reduction education with the Office of Wellness & Health Promotion, or other educational follow up as determined by the Office of Student Conduct staff.

In certain instances, the Office of Student Conduct may also recommend that students who call for help for a friend complete risk reduction and preventative education. This is to ensure that all students have the necessary information to preventive future occurrences.

*These educational requirements will not become part of a conduct record unless students fail to comply.*

Always call University Police 781.891.3131 if you are concerned for a student's health and safety AND if they exhibit any of the signs listed below.

- C:** Cold clammy skin, bluish lips
- U:** Unconscious — cannot be woken up or Unsettled and disoriented
- S:** Slowed — irregular breathing patterns or Stopped breathing
- P:** Puking excessively and while passed out
- S:** Seizing actively

This policy does not apply to students who are found intoxicated/incapacitated by alcohol/drug consumption by University Officials, such as Resident Assistants and University Police. It only applies to those students or organizations who seek assistance for an alcohol or other substance related medical emergency.

When seeking medical assistance, the reporting party or organization needs to remain with the student (Provided it is safe to do so) until medical assistance arrives. This ensures you can relay relevant observations and medical information to first responders, and so that the person can qualify for medical assistance.

The University holds the right to waive the Medical Assistance Policy should there be significant and/or repeated concerns regarding a student's health and wellbeing. Student Employees who have significant responsibility for the health and wellbeing of other students may have their employment status impacted as resulted from intoxication/incapacitation.

## **Recognized Student Organization/Team Medical Assistance Policy**

Bentley University seeks to be a caring community that is committed to the health and safety of all of its members. University-recognized student organizations and teams are not only obligated to uphold the Bentley Core Values and other Bentley policies but are also entrusted with the welfare of their respective members. Therefore, student organizations and teams are expected to contact University Police (if on campus, 781-891-3131) or 911 (if off campus), when an intoxicated/incapacitated member or guest needs medical assistance.

*Recognized student organizations or teams that fail to seek such assistance are undermining this special trust and their status as a recognized organization or team may be subject to review.*

A recognized student organization or team that seeks immediate assistance from appropriate sources will not be subject to formal University disciplinary sanctions relating to the actions of the student needing assistance. The leadership and/or members of the student organization or team may be referred for educational follow-up as determined by University officials. If other violations of University policy related to the incident are discovered (e.g., Hazing, damage), the student organization or team may be referred to the Student Conduct System and/or other administrative action. However, the student organization or team's willingness to seek medical assistance for a member or guest will be viewed as a mitigating factor in any conduct processes. In cases of repeated or egregious incidents, the University reserves the right to pursue formal conduct or administrative action on a case-by-case basis.

## **Frequently Asked Questions: Medical Assistance Policy**

**What happens to my friend after they are transported?** Your friend will be brought off-campus to be monitored by trained professionals. If a student is taken to a hospital, they will be monitored and treated by medical professionals. If they need a ride back one will be provided by University Police. If a student is taken to Waltham Police Department, they will be monitored but will not be arrested, unless additional factors warrant it. In keeping with our usual practice, a student's emergency contact will be notified of the health and safety concern.

Upon their return, your friend may be contacted by a member of the Residential Center to check-in via an email, virtual meeting, or in-person meeting. Within two business days, your friend will receive information regarding follow-up from the Office of Student Conduct.

**What will be asked of me if I stay with my friend?** When University Police and/or other University Officials arrive to the scene they will ask you general information regarding your friend and the current incident. You may be asked to identify yourself and your friend (if they are unable to), as well as answer questions regarding your friend's alcohol/drug consumption that day. Additional information may be asked to better understand the aid needed, such as do you know if they have any medical diagnosis, or if you are aware that they take any medication(s), and other questions pertaining to their health and wellness.

**When will someone know that they have been approved under the Medical Assistance Policy?** A student will be informed by the Office Student Conduct that they have received Medical Assistance. They should be informed within two business days; however, this may be shared with the individual earlier if that information is available. Please note: members of the Residential Center or University

Police will likely not be able to confirm that an individual has been approved under this policy, so if they are not sure, please do not be discouraged as an official notice will be provided to the involved student(s) and directly from the Office of Student Conduct.

**What educational follow up will occur after a student receives Medical Assistance?** It is Bentley policy that all students who receive treatment at an area hospital meet with a campus medical provider for an informational meeting to discuss discharge paperwork and concerns. Students will also be referred to B.A.S.I.C.S. (Brief Alcohol Screening Intervention for College Students) with the Office of Wellness & Health Promotion. The B.A.S.I.C.S. program involves two meetings over a set duration and follows a harm-reduction philosophy so students can learn steps to protect themselves from negative outcomes in the future. *These educational requirements will not become part of a conduct record unless students fail to comply.*

**Will event hosts be in trouble for serving minors?** The primary concern will always be focused on the person in need. As the Medical Assistance policy states, other violations of University policy may be referred to the Student Conduct System, but again, making the call to get help for those who need it will be considered a mitigating factor should Student Conduct follow up occur.

Students/Organizations/Teams hosting parties or events should keep in mind the risks and responsibilities associated with being a safe and responsible host. For more information about responsible hosting, contact one of these resources: Student Programs and Engagement (number), the Office of Student Conduct (781-891-2161), the Center for Wellness and Health Promotion (781-891-2274).

**Does the Medical Assistance policy apply to non-Bentley guests? Will their Bentley host be in trouble?** Regardless of the individual, you are expected to get help for someone in need of medical assistance. Non-Bentley individuals are not subject to the Conduct process, however, are still held to the on-campus standards as well as state and local laws. Please review the policy language regarding other factors that would influence the Conduct System. Your follow-up will be determined by the Office of Student Conduct but your willingness to seek help will be viewed as a mitigating factor in any conduct processes.