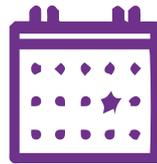


**LIQUOR LICENCES
& MANAGEMENT OF
ALCOHOL
AT EVENTS**



UMSU
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
STUDENT UNION



UMSU LIQUOR LICENCES & MANAGEMENT OF ALCOHOL AT EVENTS

In January 2018, the liquor licences previously held by MUSUL were successfully transferred to UMSU by the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR). The UMSU President and General Secretary are named as the licensees on behalf of UMSU, and the Chief Executive Officer is named as the approved nominee for both licences. The role of the nominee is to act as an individual who has personal liability for the management of the liquor licence. In the event of a liquor licence breach it is the nominee who will have personal liability for any penalties imposed. Penalties for breaches are significant. Repeated breaches of the terms of a liquor licences may lead to greater fines and to UMSU being precluded from holding a liquor licence.

Now that UMSU is the licensee, we need to implement some changes in relation to how alcohol is promoted, managed and used at UMSU events. These changes will help mitigate risk to our liquor licences, to UMSU as an organisation and, most importantly, to students attending UMSU events where alcohol is served. They will also help consolidate UMSU's commitment to the responsible use and service of alcohol, harm reduction strategies in relation to alcohol and our support of the recommendations of the Human Rights Commission's National Report on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment in Australian Universities (2017). It is important that we are all aware of our compliance obligations in relation to alcohol and that we work together to implement more consistent management of alcohol across relevant UMSU events.

These changes are effective immediately.

Management and service of alcohol at UMSU events

1) Alcohol for sale at UMSU events:

Alcohol sold, either directly or indirectly, as part of any UMSU-run event will now be managed by the UMSU bar, in close consultation with student representative departments. Indirect sale of alcohol refers to events where the cost of alcohol is included in the ticket price for an event, or a members'

only event where membership fees have been used to purchase alcohol for service.

Alcohol for these events will be ordered and purchased by the bar, bar staff will operate and run the bar at the event and all alcohol sales at the event will be managed through the bar. It is anticipated that the bar will be able to run pop up or satellite bars at a range of UMSU event locations. Departments should work in collaboration and consultation with the bar manager prior to their event to determine specific requirements, including budget, event size, event location, product required, etc.

2) Complimentary alcohol at free UMSU events:

Free UMSU events where service of alcohol is not a main focus of the event and where alcohol is served as a complimentary service to participants of the event will continue to be managed by the relevant student representative/staff department. Examples of such events may include art gallery closing night functions, Tuesday Bands and BBQs and other events where a small, limited amount of alcohol per person is provided as an accompaniment to the main activity of the event. This also includes internal and private UMSU staff and Office Bearer events where alcohol is served.

Alcohol for all free internal and external UMSU events must be purchased via the bar but departments and/or UMSU staff will manage and oversee the complimentary service of alcohol at the event. RSA conditions and alcohol management plans will continue to be mandatory for any event where complimentary alcohol is available.

3) Alcohol served and sold in Union House Theatre and The Guild Theatre (or in association with events or performances in these venues):

Student theatre groups and external hirers of the UMSU theatres will no longer be able to serve or sell alcohol themselves under the auspices of the UMSU liquor licence. Instead, alcohol served and sold during theatre events and performances will be managed by the UMSU bar in the same way that alcohol sold at UMSU department events is managed. Student theatre groups will be able to consult with the bar regarding their individual requirements and budget.

Alcohol use and promotion at UMSU events

UMSU is committed to promoting safe and responsible use of alcohol and reducing opportunities that encourage or contribute to risky drinking practices and associated behaviours. This position, in conjunction with our legal obligations as licensee to serve and promote alcohol responsibly, means that some aspects of alcohol promotion and use at UMSU events that were historically tolerated by the previous licensee need to be modified:

- 1) Events which, by their nature, encourage and promote rapid, excessive or irresponsible drinking are not compliant with VCGLR legislation or UMSU's commitment to responsible use and service of alcohol. This includes events that offer extremely low-priced alcohol as a promotional strategy. All UMSU events need to be planned, promoted and delivered in a way that maintains our compliance and risk management obligations while still providing student-focused benefits and contributing to UMSU's overarching vision and values.
- 2) UMSU recognises that setting minimum floor prices can help reduce risky drinking practices and so we will be implementing minimum alcohol pricing across UMSU events.
- 3) Promotional material for UMSU events with alcohol, including all printed and online/social media promotion, must be compliant with VCGLR guidelines and should support UMSU's commitment to responsible use and service of alcohol. Advertising for UMSU events that promotes low-priced alcohol, "unlimited" or

"free" alcohol, or variations of these, is not allowed. UMSU Communications and event support staff can assist departments with questions about compliant promotional material:

https://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/uploadGuidelines_for_responsible_liquor_advertising_and_promotions.pdf

Use of the UMSU bar as an event space

Previously, the 1st floor bar space was available to be booked online as an event space. With the bar in operation, department events and private functions are still able to be booked and held in the bar, but this will now be organised directly with the bar manager. There will be a variety of options in place to ensure event budgets and requirements can be met.

The bar manager can be contacted by email at: ida-bar@union.unimelb.edu.au.

IMPORTANT: *Under the conditions of the UMSU liquor licence and the current operational conditions of the bar, people under 18 years old are not permitted to enter the licenced bar premises during the bar's operating hours.*

Packaged alcohol sales

UMSU is currently in the process of applying to the VCGLR for a new Renewable Limited Liquor Licence to enable us to sell packaged alcohol via the UMSU bar. We anticipate that this licence will be granted by late March or early April 2018. In the interim period, the bar will be able to supply alcohol to UMSU departments as they are covered by the current UMSU liquor licences. We will also implement an interim process that enables UMSU-affiliated Clubs & Societies and student theatre groups to purchase alcohol for their events while ensuring relevant risk management processes are maintained.

The following information applies to packaged alcohol sales, contingent on the new licence being granted:

Under the conditions of the UMSU liquor licence, packaged alcohol sales to UMSU departments (for complimentary service at free UMSU events only) and UMSU-affiliated Clubs & Societies and student theatre groups will continue to occur. These sales will now be managed and distributed by the UMSU bar.

Although the processes for ordering and purchasing packaged alcohol are still being worked out, it is important to note the following:

- 1) Packaged alcohol sales will not be available to individuals, only to UMSU departments (for complimentary service at free events) and affiliated clubs and student theatre groups. All requests for packaged alcohol should include relevant RSA risk management plans and are subject to approval by UMSU.
- 2) Packaged alcohol for use and service at all club events, including club camps, should be purchased via the UMSU bar but may only be served as part of a free club event (RSA conditions will still apply).
- 3) UMSU-affiliated clubs and student theatre groups will no longer be able to sell alcohol under the auspices of the UMSU liquor licence, or sell alcohol as part of any event held in Union House. Clubs and student theatre groups who want to sell alcohol at their events must apply to the VCGLR and be granted a temporary liquor licence.
- 4) Clubs and student theatre groups will also need to ensure that they are not engaging in the indirect sale of alcohol.
- 5) Clubs that plan to serve alcohol on a camp must also apply to the VCGLR and be granted a temporary liquor licence.