I. Purpose

The sale, serving or consumption of alcoholic beverages at approved events is to be an amenity to well-planned and structured programs; it is not to be the indispensable and essential program element. This policy sets out the conditions and considerations under which alcohol may or may not be sold, served or consumed.

II. Applicability

Consumption of alcohol on the Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU or University) campus is limited to approved events and areas designated by the President. The President is authorized to, and may from time to time, designate a place on property owned or controlled by the University where alcoholic beverages may be served.

Alcohol may be sold by a third-party vendor at specified Athletics facilities during certain University-sanctioned public sporting events. The requirements set out in Provisions IV and V of this policy do not apply to the sale of alcohol under these circumstances.

Alcohol may be sold by a third-party vendor at specified Athletics facilities at other authorized events. The cost of such events shall not be financed with Student Programming fees. The requirements and conditions set out in Provisions IV and V apply to these events.

III. Definitions

A. Designated Area. The specific area in which the consumption of alcoholic beverages has been approved. A sports authority facility is deemed a designated area.
B. Sale. Any transfer, trade, exchange, or barter, in any manner or by any means, for consideration, including but not limited to, requiring fees or purchase of tickets for admission to the area or an event at which alcoholic beverages will be served.

C. Sports authority facility. Any facility that is designed and used for University-sanctioned public sporting events at which a third party vendor may sell alcohol.

IV. Request to Serve Alcohol

Organizers and sponsors of events where alcoholic beverages will be served must submit an approved Application for Use of Facilities Form along with an Approval to Serve Alcohol on Campus Form to the President’s Office within two (2) weeks prior to the event.

V. Conditions for the Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages

Designated areas where consumption of alcoholic beverages may be permitted shall not be in classrooms, labs, faculty or administrative offices, residence halls, student dining halls, student gathering areas, or outdoor public areas. Consumption of alcohol is not permitted at athletic facilities accessible to the public, except as allowed pursuant to this policy. The use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages by students are prohibited on property owned or controlled by the University. However, students of legal drinking age may consume alcohol at events at which consumption of alcohol has been approved pursuant to this policy. This policy shall not be construed as prohibiting the use of alcoholic beverages in academic coursework where said beverages are not consumed but are used solely in the tasting process in a manner consistent with state law. T.C.A. § 57-4-109.

Alcohol will not be permitted at events where the event is marketed and promoted primarily to students.

The sale of alcoholic beverages at the designated area is prohibited, except as allowed pursuant to this policy.

No state funds nor state accounts can be used to purchase alcoholic beverages except as equipment and supplies for approved academic programs.

The President may limit the length of the event, the amount of alcohol to be served, the nature of the event, and the number and age of the anticipated participants attending.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages must also be available concurrently with the serving of alcoholic beverages at the event. Adequate proportions of these items will be considered as criteria for event approval.
The only alcoholic beverages that may be possessed or consumed at campus events are those alcoholic beverages that are served or made available for sale at the event. Furthermore, alcoholic beverages served or available for sale at an event must be consumed within the facility or area designated for the event.

The sponsoring group is responsible for identifying an individual to be present at the event who will be responsible for ensuring that the event complies with this policy and all applicable state and local laws regarding the serving of alcohol.

Exceptions to this policy can be made at the discretion of the President.

Forms:

Application for Use of Facilities

Approval to Serve Alcohol on Campus

Revisions: June 5, 2017 (original); __________, 2018.

References:  T.C.A. § 57-4-102(33)(C);  T.C.A. § 57-4-109.