

the RED CUP Q&A

separating alcohol fact from fiction

wildfact

30% of on-campus 911 calls last year were related to alcohol or other drugs. (UEMS 2016-2017, n=1,023)

When should I call for Emergency Medical Services (EMS)?

Whenever you need to. Calling for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is completely free. They are there to help you and it never hurts to be evaluated by trained professionals. However, it is important to remember that if they determine you need help beyond what they can give you, you may be transported to Banner University Medical Center by ambulance (which can cost quite a bit).

So what happens when you call 911? Calling 911 on campus means that UAPD, University EMS, and Tucson Fire Department will respond to make sure the person you called for is okay. If you think someone has had too much to drink, call. It is better to be safe than sorry.

If it is determined that the person is safe to make it through the night, they may be released into the care of friends, an RA, or any responsible party. If the person you called for is too intoxicated or impaired to be safe, they may be transported to the hospital. They can be transported

with Basic Life Support (BLS) for basic cases or with Advanced Life Support (ALS) for more severe cases. Last year, 61% of the alcohol-related calls resulted in transport, 85% of those with BLS, and 15% with ALS.

Scared of getting in trouble for calling? Recently, The University of Arizona created the Good Samaritan Policy which states that “Students and/or organizations that seek assistance will not be subject to University disciplinary action with respect to the alcohol policy.” Basically, you won’t get in trouble for calling 911 to help your friend. The requirements? Don’t leave once you call and give EMS any information they need to help the person.

You can learn about University EMS and how they respond on campus at www.ems.arizona.edu (click on “About Us”). You can also view the Good Samaritan protocol. Go to www.life.arizona.edu and search for “Good Samaritan.”

Guest author: Samantha Roberts, UEMS

Got a question about alcohol? Email it to redcup@email.arizona.edu



www.health.arizona.edu



**CAMPUS
HEALTH**

The Red Cup Q&A is written by Lynn Reyes, LCSW, LISAC, David Salafsky, MPH, Lee Ann Hamilton, MA, CHES, Spencer Gorin, RN, and Christiana Clauson, MPH, in the Health Promotion and Preventive Services (HPPS) department of the UA Campus Health Service.