

Tips for Parents: Hosting Prom and Graduation Parties

These tips are part of Student Assistance Services' efforts to raise the level of awareness concerning the use of alcohol and other drugs during prom and graduation season.

1. Know the law. It is illegal to give or sell any alcoholic beverage to a person under age 21, unless you are that person's parent or guardian.
2. It is also illegal for you to allow an underage person (who is not your child) to consume alcohol in your home or on your property - even if you did not provide the alcohol.
3. An adult, or parent, who serves alcohol to persons under age 21 can be held responsible for injuries or damages caused by that minor's intoxication.
4. Remove all prescription and over-the-counter medications from any bathroom that will be used by guests.
5. Be visible and present to supervise. Invite parents of your child's friends to help chaperone.
6. Set up the ground rules before the party:
 - Agree on the guest list and send out invitations
 - Only those invited will be allowed to attend
 - All guests enter from one entrance
 - Notify police about the party date and time
 - Notify neighbors
 - Coats and bags will be "checked in"
 - The party will be alcohol and drug free. (Do not assume your child knows this). Any guest who brings alcohol or other drugs, arrives under the influence, drinks alcohol or uses other drugs, or becomes impaired/ill at the party will be asked to leave and their parents will be called so they can get home safely.
7. Monitor the inside and outside of your house, especially the garage, windowsills, bedrooms, and perimeter of your property.

You continue to play a significant role in your child's life. Clear expectations and rules will help keep your teen safe at this memorable time.

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*Feel free to contact our own SAP Counselor at Central, Diane Antoscia, at 624-6363 Ext. 130 with any questions.