



## Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management

### State information: Virginia

#### **General Regulations**

Legal age to Consume Alcohol: 21

Legal age to Serve Alcohol or Sell Tobacco Products: 18

Legal age to Purchase or Possess Tobacco Products: 18

Limit for Driving While Intoxicated: .08

Limit for Driving While Intoxicated, Under 21: .02

Dram Shop Liability Laws: No

Maximum Alcohol per Drink: Not more than 24 ounces per drink; cannot serve one customer an entire bottle of spirits

Number of Drinks Served at One Time: 2

It is a Class 1 misdemeanor to serve alcohol to an individual who is less than 21 years of age or who appears to be intoxicated (showing significant signs of impairment).

Virginia ABC may revoke a license if a licensee has allowed the consumption of alcohol by any individual who is less than 21 years of age or who appears to be intoxicated.

A license may be revoked if the underage or intoxicated person is allowed to remain on the premises.

#### **Server Training**

Virginia currently does not regulate server training. Penalties for violations are reduced when retailer provides proof of using approved training programs.

#### **Acceptable Forms of ID**

Valid state driver's license

Valid Military ID

Valid State Government ID card

Valid State-issued ID card

Valid US Passport or passport card

Any valid government-issued identification card bearing the individual's photograph, signature, height, weight, and date of birth

#### **Recommended Age for Carding**

25. Not mandatory.

#### **ID Confiscation**

Virginia does not authorize the confiscation of false IDs. Licensees should contact an ABC agent or the local police department.

#### **Policies Regarding Minors**

It is a Class 1 misdemeanor to serve or sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. It is a Class 1 misdemeanor for an adult to purchase alcohol and give the alcohol to a minor. Minors are permitted in any establishment, though establishments can set policies to only admit patrons 21 years or older.

#### **Non-Alcoholic Beer and Wine**



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Not regulated

#### **Restricted Hours**

- 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. licensees shall not sell or permit to be consumed upon their licensed premises any wine, beer or mixed beverages.
- 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. licensees shall not offer Happy Hour discounts

#### **Liquor Liability**

The following is a list of possible penalties for violations of the alcohol beverage laws:

- Sale to an underage person, First offense – 25 day suspension or \$2,000 fine, no minimums
- Sale to an intoxicated person, First offense – maximum 25 day suspension or \$2,000 fine
- Violations to Virginia's ABC laws and regulations are also punishable as a criminal offense with a maximum fine of \$2,500 and/or 6 months in jail

#### **Statute of Limitations**

Statute of limitations varies by action.

#### **State Contact Information**

Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control  
2901 Hermitage Road  
Richmond, VA 23220  
(804) 213-4400  
[www.abc.state.va.us](http://www.abc.state.va.us)

This information has been provided to us by the regulating agency and is believed to be correct. However, laws and regulations may change at any time, and the information provided should not be relied upon in place of official documents. For more information or clarification, consult the regulatory body for this jurisdiction directly.