



Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management

State information: Washington

General Regulations

Legal age to Consume Alcohol: 21

Legal age to Serve Alcohol: 18 (must be under the supervision of someone 21 or older at all times)

Limit for Driving While Intoxicated: .08

Limit for Driving While Intoxicated, Under 21: .02

Dram Shop Liability Laws: Yes

Maximum Alcohol per Drink: Not regulated

Number of Drinks Served at One Time: Not regulated

Server Training

Washington enacted a mandatory server training program for on-premise establishments which became effective January 1, 1997. The state requires servers to have either a Class 12 or Class 13 permit. Permits are valid for five years. A list of approved programs and trainers is available from the Liquor and Cannabis Board

Acceptable Forms of ID

Drivers License

Military ID

Passport

State ID card

State Liquor Control ID

Merchant Marine ID

Recommended Age for Carding

30 (not mandatory)

ID Confiscation

Licensees may not confiscate an ID they believe to be false. It is recommended that the licensee or employee state they have some questions about the ID and tell the customer that they will call the police to come and check out the ID. The situation will be resolved in one of three ways: the customer will abandon the ID, the customer will take their ID and leave, or the customer will wait for the police. Licensees are urged to call local law enforcement officials or their local liquor agent and advise them of the situation.

ID is the property of the person presenting it. You cannot take their property even if you think the ID is fake or is someone else's ID.

Tell the customer that you are calling the local police department to verify the ID. Either the customer will wait for the police or they will leave your business. If they leave your premises without the ID, you have abandoned property. Turn the abandoned ID over to the local law enforcement or the WSLCB with date, time, description of ID user and any



Techniques for Effective Alcohol Management

State information: Washington

other information you might have. Remember, it is not worth a physical altercation to hold onto an ID. Give the ID back if the customer is confrontational.

Policies Regarding Minors

It is unlawful to serve or sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Minors are not permitted in taverns or cocktail lounges. Drivers under 21 years old are subject to loss of their driver's license if their BAC is .02 or more. Minors are not allowed to consume alcohol either on or off a licensed premise.

Non-Alcoholic Beer and Wine

Not regulated.

Liquor Liability

For Establishments: the penalty for violating liquor laws can be severe. Penalties for liquor law violations range from a letter of admonition to suspension of the liquor license privileges or revocation of the license. A monetary option instead of a license suspension is sometimes available. The minimum suspension period is for 3 days. The minimum monetary penalty is \$100. Most penalties are considerably more than the minimum.

For Servers: the penalty for violating liquor laws can be severe. Penalties for liquor law violations range from 5-day permit suspension or \$100.00 monetary penalty, up to 30-day suspension or \$600.00 monetary for third violation, to revocation of permit. Conviction of DUI or felony can lead to 5-day permit suspension and/or \$100.00 monetary fine. A second offense can lead to revocation of permit. Individual permit holders can also face criminal charges.

State Contact Information

Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board (WSLCB)
MAST@lcb.wa.gov
360-664-1727 or 360-664-1728
1025 Union Ave SE
Olympia, WA 98504
www.liq.wa.gov

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.