

Aurora Liquor Informational Bulletin

This is the sixth edition of City of Aurora Liquor Licensee informational bulletin. Want to see prior editions? They are on the website at auroragov.org/liq. If you know of others that would benefit from subscribing, please forward them this link:

<https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/su/kJWE3xN/liquor>

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Takeout and Delivery Permits Needed - On Premises Licensees

The disaster declaration allowing takeout and delivery by certain licensees will be ending sometime soon. Takeout and delivery of alcohol is still allowed after the end of the declaration with a permit and if your license type allows it. The permit is form DR8496 and can be obtained on the State LED's website. No local permit is required in Aurora. <https://sbg.colorado.gov/liquor-forms-by-number>

For more information and which license types can have takeout or delivery, see state liquor bulletin 22-03 here:

<https://sbg.colorado.gov/liquor-tobacco-bulletin-board>

Regardless of license types, alcohol deliveries must be done by employees of the licensee. Also, ensure that you are not delivering to someone underage.

Tips to Avoid Underage Services

City and state staff have been out checking for underage tobacco and liquor sales. Note that Tobacco sales are now also limited to 21 and over via state law and a State Tobacco License is required if you sell tobacco. We are seeing too many sales to minors. This results in not only a criminal citation but also hefty fines and can expose you to liability. Make sure to check IDs! Also, if you have a stringent policy on checking IDs on all customers, you can watch their behavior and handling of the ID to ensure that they are not intoxicated. Note that you should not accept someone providing you with a birthdate instead of checking the ID. Minor operatives will lie about their age just like someone who is attempting to buy alcohol underage. Also, we have been seeing situations where minors are picking up an empty bottle from a table and then taking that to the bar as if they are ordering another drink. Don't let them trick you. You might also consider testing your employees that they are following your policies and not risking your liquor license.

Restaurant and Tavern Retail Liquor Purchase Limit

On premise retailers are limited to purchases of no more than \$2000 of liquor from a retail liquor store in a calendar year. Colorado is a three tier system and as a result, requires that you purchase the bulk of your alcohol from licensed wholesalers. A wholesaler cannot have a financial interest in a retail liquor store. So if you purchase alcohol from a business that sells to consumers, they are a retail liquor store. We are seeing some confusion with large format retail liquor stores. They will allow you to purchase alcohol on a wholesale account free from sales tax for resale, but they are not a licensed wholesaler and therefore you are not allowed to purchase more than \$2,000 from them. Receipts must be maintained for all alcohol purchased. You can lookup they type of license a business has on the state website here:

https://codor.mylicense.com/LED_Verification/

Focus on City's Cabaret License

If you allow dancing by patrons and have a liquor license, a cabaret license is required. We have seen circumstances of a restaurant or bar that later adds a dance floor that fails to obtain a cabaret license. The cabaret license is specific to the City of Aurora and does not have the same requirements as the Denver cabaret license. Aurora's cabaret license prohibits entry of individuals under the age of 21 after 11pm when the dance floor is in use or at any time if the business does not operate as a restaurant. Additionally, you must have enough seating for all patrons to remain comfortably seated when not on the dance floor.

Quick Links: Applications, Outdoor Dining, Takeout Permits

- [City application checklists and forms](#)
- [Guide for temporary outdoor restaurant and retail](#)
- [Takeout and delivery permits from the state \(DR8496\)](#)
- [City liquor licensing page and past newsletters](#)
- [Aurora South Metro Small Business Development Center](#)

Good Things To Know

1. If you have a Hotel / Restaurant license, you must have at least 25% of your sales come from food. You must serve full meals at all times you are open before 8pm and at least sandwiches and light snacks (something substantial) after 8pm.
2. Sales of single cigarettes are not permitted.
3. File your liquor renewals online as this helps to make sure that these are processed quickly and tracked.

Other Aurora Newsletters

The city also has several other newsletters that you may be interested in that you can sign up for at the following links:

https://www.auroragov.org/city_hall/media___news_updates/newsletters

and one specifically for businesses at

<https://www.AuroraGov.org/BusinessEmails>.