

Aurora Liquor Informational Bulletin

This is the ninth 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

The Covid-19 Disaster Recovery order expired on May 5th and liquor licensees are now subject to additional provisions under state law regarding takeout and delivery of alcohol from on-premises licensees. All eligible on-premises licensees wishing to sell and deliver an alcohol beverage, or to allow a customer to remove an alcohol beverage from its licensed premises, must hold a valid takeout and delivery permit. Licensees that do not have a valid takeout and delivery permit shall cease offering takeout alcohol beverages and/or delivering alcohol beverages until a permit is issued to it by the state licensing authority, and local licensing authority if applicable.

[See state liquor bulletin 23-02 for more information.](#)

Responsible Vendor Training

Professionally serving liquor is key to avoiding criminal and civil liability that can threaten your business and your livelihood. The actions of your staff reflect on your business. It is good business practice to make sure staff is properly trained and supported to professionally serve alcohol. It may also show a good faith effort that can reduce your liability. The State has a list of approved responsible vendor training providers to obtain this training. Some will conduct onsite training for your entire staff. Both on premise and off premise retailers can face liability for selling to intoxicated patrons.

<https://sbg.colorado.gov/approved-responsible-vendors-training>

Hours of Operation

We encountered some licensees not following hours of operation requirements. Under state law, on-premise service must discontinue at 2:00 a.m. until 7:00 a.m. and off premise sales must stop at midnight until 8:00 a.m. Note that you may be subject to stricter requirements under the city's zoning

code, or the operation plan you filed with the city when you obtained your liquor license. For example, if your business is within 300 feet of a single family residential area, you may need Planning Commission approval of a conditional use before operating after midnight. If you are caught with alcohol service beyond the hours of operation in state law, no warning will be given before the issuance of a violation as these hours are commonly known.

Duty to Report Financial Interests

Anyone with more than a 10% financial interest in a liquor licensed business must be of good moral character and therefore must be reported to state and local licensing authorities. If you have a new business partner, make sure that it is disclosed as a change in corporate structure. Also, if you have a spouse or partner as part of the business and they have a criminal record, do not attempt to structure your application to avoid disclosing their interest in the business as it can lead to revocation/denial or even felony criminal charges. Do not attempt to claim financing as a loan when the person clearly has a direct interest in the proceeds from the sales of the business.

The liquor code allows for an applicant to demonstrate that they have reformed and some criminal events are not considered as something that would prevent someone from holding a liquor license. However, failing to disclose a financial interest is definitely something that is grounds for denial or revocation. If you have an undisclosed financial interest, it is best to disclose that sooner voluntarily than having it discovered later.

Alcohol Beverage Festival Permit Modifications

Colorado Senate Bill 23-264 modified the Alcohol Beverage Festival Permit. This permit now requires an application with the state 30 days prior to the festival (same as the city). The state fees are also increased to \$50. A licensee can be the applicant for up to 9 events per year or participate in up to 52 festivals per year. If you will hold the same festival event several times in the year, it is cheaper to apply for the event one time and list the dates.

[See state liquor bulletin 23-03 for more information.](#)

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. Submit alcohol beverage festival permit or temporary modification of premises applications at least 30 days in advance.
2. Submit renewals early and online. Easiest way to not forget.
3. We have limited staff handling liquor licenses, call ahead if you need to meet about the license so you can be sure we have the right staff available.
4. Report disturbances to the police department. Sometimes a fight that

- gets broken up leads to additional problems later.
5. Make sure any bottles and cans near the business are cleaned up so consumption outside the licensed premises is discouraged.

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>.