

Increasing Access, Increasing Harm

COVID-19 has changed the way people access alcohol. According to Best Practice Guidance set forth by the National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (nlllea.org), increasing access to alcohol not only increases consumption, but increases related harms such as violence, assaults, alcohol-attributable hospital admissions, and impaired driving to name a few. Consumers are also gravitating to larger pack sizes according to a Nielsen survey.



Home Delivery

A restaurant, bar, or retailer uses their own employees or a third-party service to deliver alcohol to a consumer's home. This has been problematic all across the county for youth access. In California, the Department of Alcohol Beverage Control conducted compliance checks to ensure youth were not accessing alcohol. Bars and Restaurants had a 25% failure rate, and third-party delivery service apps failed 80% of the time.



Curbside Delivery

Curbside delivery takes place when the consumer purchases alcohol from a retailer, restaurant, or bar and travels to that location to have the product delivered to their vehicle. In Illinois, restaurants and bars are allowed curbside delivery and home delivery of alcohol without a food purchase. Distilled spirits must be sealed by the manufacturer for curbside/home delivery.



Cocktails-To-Go

Illinois amended the IL Liquor Control Act of 1934 to allow for Cocktails-To-Go. The container must be filled, sealed, and secured by a retail licensee's employee at their location with a tamper-evident lid or cap. This can be delivered by a retailer's employee who is 21 or above. This cannot be delivered by a third-party. The sealed container must be placed in the trunk of a vehicle and properly labeled. This amendment is set to be repealed on June 2, 2021.



Direct Ship

Illinois allows for the direct shipment of wine to a consumers home. At the point of delivery, age verification should take place. The package should be labeled, identifying the contents inside as alcohol.

DIRECT TO CONSUMER ALCOHOL

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Prevention Response to Increased Access



Alcohol Compliance Checks

Alcohol Compliance Checks are an evidence-based law enforcement strategy that is typically implemented in on-premise/off-premise establishments. Checks can be done on home delivery and curbside pick-up. The NLLEA has published their [Best Practices](#) for conducting such checks. The APRC can also provide certified training (Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board) to law enforcement.



BASSET Promotion

Beverage Alcohol Sellers and Servers Education and Training (BASSET) is required for curbside and delivery sales to prevent illegal sales of alcohol either to a minor or intoxicated person. Under this law third party delivery companies are prohibited to deliver cocktails or mixed drinks. Coalition members can become a BASSET trainer. For more information on BASSET, please go to <https://www2.illinois.gov/ilcc/Education/Pages/BASSET/Home.aspx>



Illegal ID Detection

Age verification should be conducted at both the point of sale/order and upon delivery. Knowing how to detect an illegal ID is critical in the prevention of underage alcohol use. COVID-19 has presented challenges for proper carding procedures, however, it must still be done. Ensuring that employees are trained to determine if the ID is fake or if it is not that person's ID can be accomplished through BASSET training. The APRC can provide certified training to law enforcement on illegal ID detection.



Ordinance Implementation

BASSET training is mandatory for servers, bartenders, and security staff for on-premise locations. Ordinances can be implemented at the local level to make BASSET training mandatory for off-premise locations as well. [Model ordinances](#) can be found on the [Illinois Liquor Control Commission's](#) website. Alcohol outlet density regulation is defined as applying regulatory authority to reduce or limit alcoholic beverage outlet density (the number of alcohol retailers such as bars, restaurants, and liquor stores in a given area). Regulation is often implemented through licensing or zoning processes.



Conduct an Awareness Campaign

Best practices instruct that awareness campaigns go hand-in-hand with Alcohol Compliance Checks. Awareness Campaigns should also be implemented within your community to educate on the harms of increased access for youth. Coalitions can conduct an awareness campaign on why it's imperative the containers be sealed and transported away from the driver for Cocktails-To-Go. In 2018, 1,031 people were killed in a motor vehicle crash in Illinois. 30% of those drivers had a BAC of .08 or greater. Source: <https://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/States/StatesAlcohol.aspx>