

FAST FACTS

MANDATED RESPONSIBLE BEVERAGE SERVICE TRAINING (RBS)



Overview of Mandated Responsible Beverage Service Training

Responsible beverage service (RBS) training programs give owners, managers, and staff of establishments that sell and serve alcohol the knowledge and skills to help them serve alcohol responsibly and meet the legal requirements of alcohol service.

Training programs for managers and owners most often provide guidance on implementation of service policies and practices. Training programs for servers focus on knowledge and skills that enhance their ability to prevent excessive alcohol consumption among patrons and minimize harms from excessive drinking that has already occurred.¹

The Goal of Mandated Responsible Beverage Service Training

Responsible beverage service programs target both on-premise and off-premise alcohol retailers and are designed to reduce sales to minors and intoxicated adults. Responsible beverage service training is an alcohol policy aimed at reducing easy retail access of alcohol by underage youth.

The goals and objectives of responsible beverage service training are to:

- Train and educate sellers/servers to engage in responsible alcohol service
- Spot signs of intoxication and use various intervention techniques
- Prevent DUIs and alcohol-related fatalities
- Stop underage sales and underage drinking
- Create safer communities and establishments where alcohol is served
- Educate owners, managers, and staff on dram shop insurance, state laws, and local ordinances regarding alcohol service

Why Mandated RBS Training is Important to Communities

The Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) reports in the past year, 19% of high school seniors usually got their own beer, wine, or liquor from a retail source.²

Environmental strategies like responsible beverage service training can produce widespread and lasting change by influencing community norms, changing institutional rules and regulations, and reducing the availability of alcohol to underage youth.

Considerations for Planning and Implementing RBS Training

Responsible beverage service training provides the training to assist those who sell and serve alcohol with the knowledge and skills to serve alcohol responsibly, while compliance checks are used to ensure merchants are following the law, checking IDs, and not selling alcohol to underage youth. Communities should always include the enforcement aspect of compliance checks along with responsible beverage training.

Required Training Dates for Mandated RBS Training

Public Act 99-0046 was signed by the Illinois General Assembly in July 2015. This law requires alcohol servers and those who check IDs for alcohol service in Illinois on-premise establishments to successfully complete a Beverage Alcohol Sellers/Servers Education and Training (BASSET) class every three years. This law takes effect by a predetermined date based upon county population from the 2010 U.S. Census.³

It is important to note that some municipalities and county liquor licensing authorities have additional RBS training requirements beyond the state law. Each alcohol retailer should become familiar with both the state law and local requirements in their community.

BASSET Certification required as of July 1, 2015

Cook County

BASSET Certification required by July 1, 2016 (counties with 200,000+ people)

Champaign County	Lake County	St. Clair County
DuPage County	Madison County	Will County
Kane County	McHenry County	Winnebago County

BASSET Certification required by July 1, 2017 (counties with 30,000 - 200,000 people)

Adams County	Grundy County	Logan County	Peoria County
Boone County	Henry County	Macon County	Randolph County
Bureau County	Jackson County	Macoupin County	Rock Island County
Christian County	Jefferson County	Marion County	Sangamon County
Clinton County	Kanakakee County	McDonough County	Stephenson County
Coles County	Kendall County	McLean County	Tazwell County
DeKalb County	Knox County	Monroe County	Vermilion County
Effingham County	LaSalle County	Montgomery County	Whiteside County
Franklin County	Lee County	Morgan County	Williamson County
Fulton County	Livingston County	Ogle County	Woodford County

BASSET Certification required by July 1, 2017 (counties with 30,000 people or less)

Alexander County	Edwards County	Johnson County	Putnam County
Bond County	Fayette County	Lawrence County	Richland County
Brown County	Ford County	Marshall County	Saline County
Calhoun County	Gallatin County	Mason County	Schuyler County
Carroll County	Greene County	Massac County	Scott County
Cass County	Hamilton County	Menard County	Shelby County
Clark County	Hancock County	Mercer County	Stark County
Clay County	Hardin County	Moultrie County	Union County
Crawford County	Henderson County	Perry County	Wabash County
Cumberland County	Iroquois County	Piatt County	Warren County
De Witt County	Jasper County	Pike County	Washington County
Douglas County	Jersey County	Pope County	Wayne County
Edgar County	Jo Daviess County	Pulaski County	White County

The Illinois Liquor Control Commission houses a list of upcoming BASSET training courses being held throughout the state of Illinois as well as additional resources about responsible beverage service training.

References

1. The Community Guide. Alcohol – Excessive Consumption: Responsible Beverage Service Training. Web. August 2017.
2. Center for Prevention Research and Development. (2019). Illinois Youth Survey 2018 Frequency Report: State of Illinois. Champaign, IL: CPRD, School of Social Work, University of Illinois.
3. Illinois Liquor Control Commission. <https://www.illinois.gov/ilcc/about/Pages/About.aspx>

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