

Liquor Control Licensing and Enforcement:
Compliance, New Product Trends, and Prevention Impact



Introduction

Liquor Control's Mission





Disclaimer

This information is presented to help attendees understand laws and regulations that DCP administers surrounding alcohol regulation.

It is not intended to establish any new, or change any existing definitions, interpretations, standards, or procedures, nor is it intended to provide binding guidance or legal advice.

Any comments and opinions belong to the presenter.



Liquor Control Division

Our Mission

We strive to safeguard public health and safety by:

- 1. Licensing all entities involved in distributing, selling, and dispensing alcoholic liquor in our three-tier system
 - Manufacturers (from CT and other states/countries)
 - Wholesalers
 - On-premise businesses (bars, restaurants) and off-premise business (package stores, grocery stores)
- 2. Preventing sales to minors and intoxicated persons
- 3. Maintaining alcohol product integrity
- 4. Ensuring that licensed premises are safe and sanitary



LicensingThe role of municipalities





STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

Liquor Control Division
Telephone: (860) 713-6210

Email: dcp.liquorcontrol@ct.gov

Web Site: www.ct.gov/dcp/liquorcontrol



Instructions: Complete parts A and B and then bring the application to the town offices for the signatures. Then scan the completed and signed document and have that image available on the device you are using to complete the online application.

LIQUOR PERMIT APPLICATION: LOCAL OFFICIAL APPROVALADDENDUM

Department of Consumer Protection, 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 801, Hartford, CT 06103 Section A: PERMIT SELECTION (Select one): Connecticut Craft Cafe (LCR) Cafe (LCA) Nonprofit Public Museum (LPA) Restaurant (LIR) Casino (LCN) Hotel (LIH) Nonprofit Theater (LTH) Restaurant Caterer (LRC) Military (LMI) Outdoor Open Air (LSE) Restaurant Wine & Beer (LRW) Nonprofit Club (LPC) Resort (LIC) Tobacco Bar (LCA) Coliseum (LCM) Section B: BUSINESS INFORMATION 2. Backer Name: 3. Trade Name (DBA Name) 4. Business Address Zip Code Business Telephone Number 8. Type of Live Entertainment: YES NO (If yes, please check (√) all that apply below) Live Bands Comedians Magicians ■ PATION/EXTENSION OF USE (Outdoor Service) (FEE: \$190.00 each) Section C: APPROVAL/CERTIFICATION OF LOCAL OFFICIALS 11. Zoning Authority Approval: I certify tht I am familiar with the zoning ordinances and bylaws of the city/town identified in this application and they do not prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages under the type of liquor permit/establishment identified in this application and/or the entertainment in #8. Signature of Zoning Official X Title of Official 12. Certification of Town Clerk: The town in which the business identified in this application is to be operated, has no ordinance restricting the hours of sale of alcoholic liquors beyond those set forth in State law except as indicated in the box below. (If none, please enter "NONE") Additional Restrictions: Signature of Town Clerk X 13. Fire Marshal's Approval: I certify that the premises identified in this application and on the sketch of this application is physically constructed in a manner that is safe for the type of business that will be operated there. Signature of Fire Marshal X Title of Official 14. Local Health Approval: (For patios only; needed if premise has an outdoor patio) I certify that the patio at the premises identified in this application and on the sketch of this application meets local health approval. Signature of Health Official X Print Name Title of Official

Licensing

Municipal Sign-Offs

- Process begins at town level
 - Municipal signatures required
 - Defer to local zoning ordinances
 - Items controlled locally:
 - Patios
 - Hours*
 - Entertainment
 - Type of license allowed
 - Distance restrictions
 - Parking







NOTE- Remonstrances can be filed every year <u>at least 21 days before</u> renewal

- No placards for renewal
- Tend to be more successful than remonstrances at application

Placard provides information on:

- Permit type
- Applicant
- Entertainment
- Remonstrance date

State of Connecticut *Department of Consumer Protection LIQUOR PERMIT REQUESTED FOR THESE PREMISES

Posting Date: 02/13/2024
Type of Permit: RESTAURANT LIQUOR
Permittee: JAMI COLOMBINO
Backer-Owner: Matteo Group LLC

Entertainment, If Any: No Live Entertainment

Objections must be received to DCP - Liquor Control Division by:

03-26-2024

Visit: https://portal.ct.gov/remonstrance for more information



LicensingRemonstrance Process

- A signed petition objecting to the <u>suitability of the location</u> or <u>the person</u>
- Requires 10 signatures from residents of town over age 18
- Requires a hearing before Liquor Control Commission
- Placard provides date
- Website:

https://portal.ct.gov/DCP/Liquor-Control-Division/Remonstrances

NOTE- Remonstrances can be filed every year <u>at least 21 days before</u> renewal

- No placards for renewal
- Tend to be more successful than remonstrances at application



Licensing THC Endorsement

THC Endorsement for infused beverages

available as of July 1, 2024

- Package stores only
- At initial application or any time thereafter
- 3mg or less per 12 ounce can
- Warning labels/QR code
- After October 1, 2024:
 - Endorsement ONLY
 - Waiver irrelevant
- 448 endorsements (3/26/25)





Licensing

Real-time data publicly available

Visit our homepage: www.ct.gov/dcp/liquorcontrol

- 1. Number of package stores available per town
- 2. Verify a permit (include what is provisional)
- 3. Run rosters of full reports



1. Link off our main webpage to number of package stores





Licensing

Real-time data publicly available

Applications & Forms



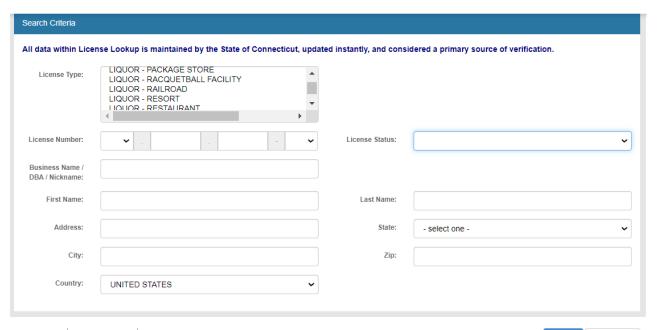
Brand Registration

Cancel My Permit

Change my DBA - Trade Name

Check the Status of your Liquor Permit Application

2. Link off our main webpage to check status of a permit



	Name	Credential	Credential Description	Status	Status Reason	City	DBA
Detail	1129 E PUTNAM GROCERY LLC	LGB.0015531	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	RIVERSIDE	1129 E PUTNAM GROCERY
Detail	1133 STRATFORD AVENUE, LLC	LGB.0015742	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	BRIDGEPORT	VINNY'S MARKET
Detail	115 DANBURY RD GROCERY LLC	LGB.0015604	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	RIDGEFIELD	115 DANBURY RD GROCERY
Detail	3 HERMANOS II LLC	LGB.0015112	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	STAMFORD	3 HERMANOS MARKET
Detail	303 NEWTOWN AVE LLC	LGB.0015651	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	NORWALK	COUNTRY CONVENIENCE
Detail	311 SAYBROOK ROAD, LLC	LGB.0015682	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	HIGGANUM	HIGGANUM VILLAGE MARKET
Detail	3JS LLC	LGB.0015860.P-CW	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	Bridgeport	3 J'S DELI
Detail	406 W. MAIN STREET GROCERY, LLC	LGB.0015522	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	STAMFORD	406 W. MAIN STREET GROCERY
Detail	7 ELEVEN INC & MOHAMMAD A WASEEM	LGB.0013747	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	NEWINGTON	7 ELEVEN STORE
Detail	7-ELEVEN INC & EMMANUEL DATTA	LGB.0013529	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	VERNON	7-ELEVEN FOOD STORE #15123A
Detail	7-ELEVEN INC & EMMANUEL DATTA	LGB.0013793	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	MANCHESTER	7-ELEVEN
Detail	704 MEAT CENTER INC	LGB.0012140	Department of Consumer Protection	ACTIVE	CURRENT	HARTFORD	LA PLAZA DEL MERCADO

The "P" after a credential means provisional



Clear Form

LicensingReal-time data publicly available

License Type:	Acupuncturist ADULT-USE CANNABIS BACKER ADULT-USE CANNABIS CULTIVATOR ADULT-USE CANNABIS DELIVERY SERVICE	•			
License Number:	•	- 🗸	License Status:		•
Business Name / DBA / Nickname:					
First Name:			Last Name:		
Address:			State:	- select one -	~
City:			Zip:		
Country:	UNITED STATES	•			
					Submit Clear For
e Online S	ervices				

Liquor - Retail Outlets (On Premise and Off Premise permits)

□Beer Manufactures and Craft Cafes (No Fee Required)	
□Cafe Liquor Permits (No Fee Required)	
Caterer (No Fee Required)	
□Connecticut Farm Winery and Manufacturers of Cider Mead and Wine (No Fee Required)	
□Grocery Beer Permits (No Fee Required)	
□Off Premise Liquor Establishments (No Fee Required)	
□On Premise Liquor Establishments (No Fee Required)	
□Package Stores (No Fee Required)	
□ Package Stores: Number Allowed By Town And Current Count (Active and Requested) (No Fee Required)	•
□Package Stores: THC Endorsement and Waivers (No Fee Required)	
Restaurant Liguor Permits (No Fee Required)	

3. From same search page, scroll down to run a roster

1	Tax Town (Max Allowed Package Stores)	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	STORE NAME	STORE ADDRESS	CITY	PERMIT NUMBER	STATUS	EFFECTIVE DA	T EXPIRATION
2	ANDOVER (1)	TUSHAR	SHAH	WHISKEY & WINE WORLD	144 ROUTE 6	ANDOVER	LIP.0015779	ACTIVE	5/27/2023	5/26/20
3	ANSONIA (7)	DEVANG	CHAUHAN	ANSONIA WINE & LIQUOR	100 DIVISION ST	ANSONIA	LIP.0014176	ACTIVE	7/26/2023	7/25/20
4	ANSONIA (7)	GAGANDEEP	SACHDEVA	QUICK STOP LIQUORS	47 PERSHING DR	ANSONIA	LIP.0015251	ACTIVE	11/30/2023	11/29/20
5	ANSONIA (7)	GAGANDEEP	SACHDEVA	RIVERSIDE PACKAGE	27 MAPLE ST UNIT #19	ANSONIA	LIP.0016079	ACTIVE	10/24/2023	10/23/20
5	ANSONIA (7)	HARSHADBHAI	PATEL	NORTH MAIN PACKAGE STORE	141 N MAIN ST	ANSONIA	LIP.0013735	ACTIVE	6/3/2023	6/2/20
7	ANSONIA (7)	HITESHKUMAR	PATEL	VALLEY DISCOUNT	555 MAIN ST	ANSONIA	LIP.0012581	ACTIVE	6/28/2023	6/27/20
В	ANSONIA (7)	RAJESHKUMAR	PATEL	PARTY TIME	150 WAKELEE AVE	ANSONIA	LIP.0013798	ACTIVE	3/8/2023	3/7/20
9	ANSONIA (7)	TYRONDA	SINGLETON	WALDI'S DISCOUNT LIQUORS	340 Main Street	Ansonia	LIP.0015789	ACTIVE	3/30/2024	3/29/20
0	ASHFORD (1)	KATHLEEN	THALLER	ASHFORD SPIRIT SHOPPE	215 POMPEY HOLLOW RD	ASHFORD	LIP.0013859	ACTIVE	5/12/2023	5/11/20
1	ASHFORD (1)	VIKAS	PATEL	ROUTE 44 BEER WINE AND SPIRITS	5 NORTH RD	ASHFORD	LIP.0016149	ACTIVE	8/2/2023	8/1/20
12	AVON (7)	ANDREW	SCHWAB	AVON SUPER CELLAR WINE & SPIRITS	332 W MAIN ST	AVON	LIP.0015537	ACTIVE	8/28/2023	8/27/20
3	AVON (7)	GAURAV	BISHNOI	LIQUOROX	55 CLIMAX RD	AVON	LIP.0016192	PENDING		
4	AVON (7)	GAUTAMKUMAR	PATEL	CHEERS 2U WINE & SPIRITS	427 W AVON RD	AVON	LIP.0014847	ACTIVE	6/24/2023	6/23/20
5	AVON (7)	HITESHKUMAR	PATEL	BOTTLE STOP WINE & SPIRITS	260 W MAIN ST	AVON	LIP.0015176	ACTIVE	12/17/2023	12/16/20
6	AVON (7)	MATTHEW	DEAN	M & R LIQUORS	214 W MAIN ST	AVON	LIP.0012013	ACTIVE	12/3/2023	12/2/20
7	AVON (7)	MEGAN	MIHAI	WINE BEER MART	70 E MAIN ST STE C	AVON	LIP.0016073	ACTIVE	11/1/2023	10/31/20



How conducted and penalties







Liquor Control Jurisdiction

- Only have jurisdiction over locations with an active liquor permit or where an application pending
- The sale of alcohol without a permit is <u>criminal</u>
- We do not regulate BYOB





Enforcement Jurisdictions

Remember FOIA

Area 1 (Lower Half)

Supervising Agent Robert Willard

- Robert.Willard@ct.gov
- 860-305-5802

General Inquiries/Complaints

- General inquiries and complaints:
 - <u>DCP.LiquorControl@ct.gov</u>
 - 860-713-6210
- https://portal.ct.gov/DCP/Liquor-Control-Division/Liquor-Control-Complaints

Area 2 (Upper Half)

Supervising Agent Kevin Mercado

- Kevin.Mercado@ct.gov
- 860-306-5495

Submit By E-Mail: Submit a copy of the Complaint Form 📜 to dcp.liquorcontrol@ct.gov. Attach any photos, videos, or documents to the email.

Submit Online: Visit www.eLicense.ct.gov. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to "More Online Services" and click "File a Complaint." You may choose to include your name and contact information, or to proceed anonymously. This is the only way to submit a fully anonymous complaint. Follow the prompts to fill out the required information and upload any pictures or documentation. Although you do not need an eLicense account to submit a complaint, you may log into your account if you have one or create an account before you begin if you'd like to save a copy of your complaint. For more information on how to submit an online complaint, please find instructions in this announcement.

Submit By Mail: Send a copy of the Complaint Form \(\bar{\mathbb{N}} \) and any supporting documentation to:

Department of Consumer Protection Liquor Control Division 450 Columbus Blvd., Suite 901 Hartford, CT 06103

How Conducted

Off-premise (package stores/grocery stores)

- Minor walks in unaccompanied
- Liquor Agent follows in shortly after
- Minor selects a product generally attractive to minors (single beer, package of White Claw, Budweiser)
- Minor brings product to register and attempts to purchase
 - Agent in position to observe sale
- Completes sale if able; turns alcohol over to Agent

On-Premise (bar, restaurant)

- Two minors take a seat at bar or table
- Liquor Agent follows shortly after and finds spot to watch/hear
- Minor attempts to order single beer
- If served, pays and leaves beer



How Conducted



Rules

- Minor cannot lie about age
- Minor must show real ID if asked
- Minor cannot try to appear older or deceive server on age
 - Heavy makeup
 - Very full beards
 - Apparel with alcohol brands
 - Avoid detailed conversation
- Limited to alcohol products
 - No tobacco
 - No THC beverages



Minor Compliance Checks Liquor Control Raids

We often find minors when we conduct raids

- Agent goes in undercover to determine if any patrons appear young and if they are purchasing beverages, OR
- 2. General raid where we go in with police, block exits, turn on lights and start carding

We utilize this form to document the sale to minor when we have not visually seen the sale but find the minor



STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION LIQUOR CONTROL DIVISION

MINOR REV. 12/2012

OFFICE USE ONLY: ON PREMISES OFF PREMISES 30-86(b) SALE TO MINOR 30-90 MINOR LOITERING						
TRADE NAME:	PERMIT #:					
DATE OF INCIDENT:	CASE #:					
INTERVIEWING AGENT:	REPORTING AGENT:					
NAME:						
AGE: DOB: SCE	HOOL:					
ADDRESS:	PHONE:					
TYPE OF ID USED TO VERIFY THE ABOVE INFORMATION	E					
QUANTITY AND TYPE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE(S):						
DID YOU PURCHASE/RECEIVE THE ALCOHOL FROM AN	EMPLOYEE AT THIS PREMISE? YES: NO:					
IF YES: DESCRIPTION OF EMPLOYEE:						
IF NO: HOW DID YOU OBTAIN THE ALCOHOL?						
WERE YOU ASKED FOR IDENTIFICATION? YES:	NO: BY WHOM:					
IF YES: WHAT DID YOU SHOW?	IS ID VALID, FAKE OR ALTERED?					
WERE YOU EVER ASKED TO COMPLETE AN AGE STATES On-Premises Only ARE YOU ON THE PREMISES WITH YOUR PARENT(S)/LEG						
I, , DO HEREBY SWEAR O AND TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY.	R AFFIRM THAT I ANSWERED THE ABOVE QUESTIONS TRUTHFULLY					
Minor's Signature:	Date:					
SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY	GRANTED IN SECTION (30-8) OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES.					
AGENT'S SIGNATURE:	DATE: TIME:					
WAS THE MINOR WITNESSED DRINKING? YES:	NO: BY WHOM:					
WHERE WAS THE MINOR FOUND:						
WAS THE MINOR INTOXICATED? YES: NO:	VERIFIED/WITNESSED BY:					
POLICE ON SCENE: YES: NO:						
MINOR ARRESTED: YES: NO:						
IF YES: OFFICER'S NAME/DEPT:						
DID THE MINOR IDENTIFY THE SELLER/SERVER? YES	. □ NO: □					
NAME OF SELLER/SERVER:	PHONE #					
ADDRESS:	DOB: ID:					

SEE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



AGE STATEMENT FORM

Permittee / Agent:	_
Date: 20	_
I here (Please Print Name)	by represent to (Permittee / Agent Name)
Permittee of the Connecticut Department of 21 years, having been born on	f Consumer Protection that I am over the age th / Day) (Year) (Town / State)
This statement is made to induce said per beverages to the undersigned. I understa	mittee to sell or otherwise furnish alcoholic nd that Title 30 of the Connecticut General or to any person who is not twenty-one years
	of one hundred dollars for the first offense dollars for each subsequent offense for ourposes set forth in this statement.
	(Signature)
TO BE COMPLETED BY PERMITEE (OR AGENT:
NAME:	
ADDRESS:	
ID TYPE:	
ID NUMBER:	
Photo ID YES NO	
2ND Form of IDOp	tional
ID TYPE:	
ID NUMBER:	
Photo ID YES NO	
	Te/TR 4 244

Minor Compliance Checks

Age Statement Form

- This form is an absolute defense to sale to minor for on and off premises locations
- Copies should be present in every liquor permitted location in Connecticut
 - Can be signed electronically
- Supposed to be signed at time of sale



Recent Statistics

Date	Location	Total Checked	Failed	Fail Rate	
9/13/2024	Danbury	24	4	16.67%	
9/6/2024	Stratford	24	2	8.33%	
8/29/2024	Stamford	24	9	37.50%	
7/24/2024	East Hartford	32	18	56.25%	
7/23/2024	Somers	4	1	25.00%	
7/11/2024	Norwalk	18	3	16.67%	
6/5/2024	Stamford	25	8	32.00%	
6/4/2024	Colchester	9	4	44.44%	
6/4/2024	Ellington	7	1	14.29%	
5/22/2024	Thomaston	5	3	60.00%	
4/18/2024	East Haven	18	5	27.78%	
4/9/2024	Vernon	18	2	11.11%	
3/14/2024	Southbury	11	4	36.36%	
2/28/2024	Derby	8	2	25.00%	
2/28/2024	Ansonia	9	1	11.11%	
1/9/2024	Glastonbury	10	10	100.00%	31.30%

Premises checked to date: 255

Premises failed: 80

Date	Location	Total Checked	Failed	Fail Rate	
(Ctrl) → 23	Trumbull	7	5	71.43%	
9/21/2023	Enfield	21	5	23.81%	
9/13/2023	Enfield	25	2	8.00%	
8/25/2023	Danbury	47	8	17.02 %	
7/12/2023	East Hampton	6	0	0.00%	
3/22/2023	Willimantic	6	2	33.33%	
3/21/2023	Glastonbury	10	7	70.00%	
10/27/2022	Enfield	21	3	14.29%	22.38%

Premises checked: 143

Premises failed: 32

178% more premises checked in 2024



Enforcement

Handled by DCP Legal Division

- Compliance meeting with opportunity to settle
- Administrative case before Liquor Control Commission
- Possible penalties
 - Education
 - Suspension
 - Fines
 - Revocation

Suspensions and formal Liquor Commission decisions available on our website.





Recent Enforcement Penalties for Sale to Minor (all cases with fines

closed in 2024)

FormattedCaseNumber	FormattedContactName	FEE Amount	Suspension Duration
X2024-31	99 WEST LLC	2000	2
X2024-288	AH KHALSA LLC	1000	
X2024-98	ALDI INC	3750	
X2024-127	AMBIKA LLC	1000	1
X2024-33	B DIAMOND LLC	2000	2
X2024-32	B EAST LLC	2000	2
X2024-30	BERTUCCI'S RESTAURANTS, LLC	2000	2
X2024-190	BIG GARYS II LLC	1250	
X2024-75	BOTTLE STOP 1 LLC	1500	
X2024-191	BROADWAY WINES & SPIRITS LLC	1500	
X2024-35	CHEN SAKURA INC	2000	2
X2024-41	CLUBHOUSE ON MAIN LLC	2000	2
X2024-40	F & L GLASTONBURY INC	2000	2
X2024-126	GENCO INC	1000	1
X2024-78	HARIHARA LLC	5000	5
X2024-182	HIGHRIDGE BEVERAGES LLC	1000	1
X2024-24	JIGGY'S 91 INC	1250	
X2024-77	JMJM DERBY INC.	5000	5
X2024-221	KAMAN FINE WINES & LIQUOR INC	1000	1
X2024-129	KP LLC	1000	1
X2024-125	MA'S WINE CELLAR LLC	1000	1
X2024-304	Narvu Spirits, LLC	1000	

X2024-25	ODIN'S KEEP AXE HOUSE LLC	1500	1
X2024-79	OLD COUNTRY STORE DELI, LLC	1500	
2024-93	OM SHREE RAM LLC	5000	5
X2024-130	OMKAR REAL ESTATE LLC	1000	1
X2024-193	PARIN LLC	1000	1
X2024-89	PATTY'S PANTRY INC	1100	1
X2024-39	PEPPER DINING INC	2100	2
X2024-27	POWDER HOLLOW BREWERY LLC	2000	
X2024-174	SAIRAM LIQUOR LLC	1050	1
X2024-38	SQUARE PEG PIZZERIA LLC	2250	1
X2024-99	STOP & SHOP SUPERMARKETCO	3750	
X2024-88	TIYA LLC	1500	
X2024-220	TOKALAS INVEST LLC	2000	2
X2024-34	TRACY A HARPER	5000	
X2024-192	UNCORKED STAMFORD LLC	1000	1
X2024-26	UNION BELL LLC	1500	
X2024-74	UNITED WINE & LIQUOR LLC	1500	
X2024-194	VIR J & S LLC	1000	1

Total Days: 47

Total Fines: \$77,000



Industry Trends Up and coming industry topics





Much of the data and photos in this section are from the following presentation sponsored by NLLEA:



Matt Rossheim, PhD | Associate Professor, UNT Health Science Center



- A huge, growing category in alcohol beverage market
- Spirit manufacturers switching to malt-based beverages, but relying on their brand power











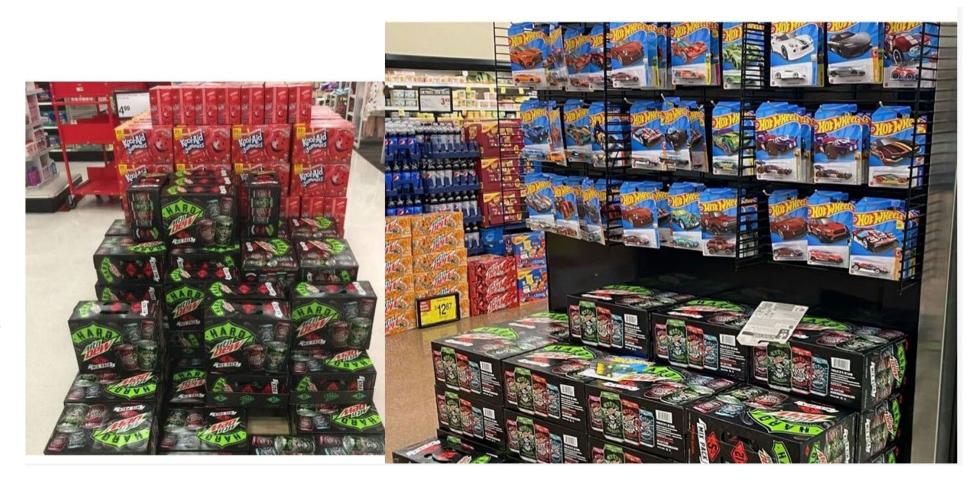




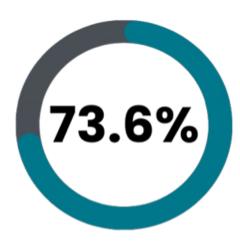
Because products are malt-based, they can be sold in more retail outlets like grocery stores.

This leads to mixed product placement that can:

- 1. Confuse consumers
- 2. Increase minor consumption
- 3. Heading toward alcopops







Among underage drinkers, 73.6% consumed a "flavored alcoholic beverage" in the past month.

Miech, R. A., Johnston, L. D., Patrick, M. E., O'Malley, P. M., & Bachman, J. G. (2024). Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use, 19752023: Overview and detailed results for secondary school students. Monitoring the Future Monograph Series. Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. Available at Source: Saving lives, spending less: the case for investing in noncommunicable diseases. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2021. Licence: CC BY-NC-SA 3.0 IGO.17.9%/24.3%=73.6%



Industry Trends

1. Malt Based RTDs, cont.

Issues with Alcopops

- Sweeter and easier to consumer faster
- Higher ABV
 - Consumer unaware
 - Easier to consume more alcohol for less volume
- Larger serving sizes
- Attractive to minors

2011-2012 Nation-Wide Study

- 9% of underage drinkers consumed a supersized alcopop in the last 30 days
 - ≥16 ounces and ≥10% abv
- 6% consumed Four Loko

Preference for Supersized Alcopops

 More likely to chose an alcopop over other types of alcohol

Youth-Appealing Characteristics

- Youth-oriented marketing
- Sugar-sweetened flavors
- High alcohol content
- Retail availability
- Low price



Relative Alcohol Content

13.9% abv



16.5% abv











2 Supersized Alcopops

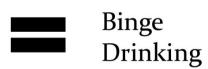
11 Alcopops

However, this is one-third the liquid!







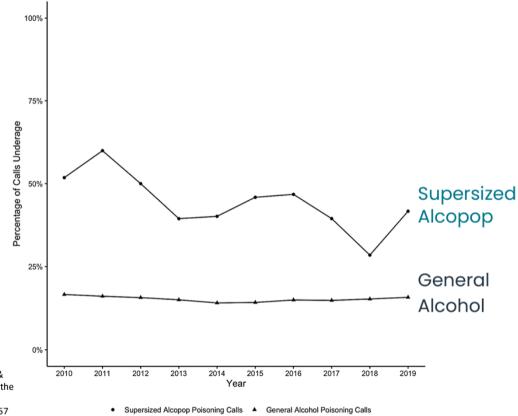


(1 Four Loko can equal 5.5 standard size drinks)

Federal Trade Commission (2013A). Phusion Projects, LLC; Jaisen Freeman; Christopher Hunter; and Jeffrey Wright. Available at: https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/cases-proceedings/112-3084/phusion-projects-llc-jaisen-freeman-christopher-hunter. Accessed November 20, 2017. Percent of calls to poison control for consumers under the legal drinking age

(under 21 years old)

Rossheim, M.E., Livingston, M.D., Walker, D., Reid, N.E., Liu, L.P., & Mazer-Amirshahi, M. (2021). Supersized Alcopop Related Calls in the National Poison Data System, 2010-2019. Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 222, 108657. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2021.108657





First Time Consumption of Four Loko

- Classroom surveys at public universities in FL, MT, and VA/Undergraduate lifetime drinkers (n = 1,036)
 - 46% had consumed Four Loko (n = 474)
 - 40% age 21 or older, but 93% first drank Four Loko when under 21
 - 58% consumed at least 1 entire can
 - 10% drank 2 or more cans their first time drinking it

Among those who finished I or more cans:

- 34% blacked out
- 18% vomited
- Students in FL and VA were more likely to black out (AOR = 1.9) and/or vomit (AOR = 2.0) than students in MT
- Women more likely to underestimate alcohol in can
- Rossheim, M.E., Greene, K.M., Yurasek, A.M., Barry, A.E., Gonzalez-Pons, K.M., Trangenstein, P.J., Cavazos, T., Nelson, C., Treffers, R.D., Thombs, D.L., & Jernigan, D.H. (in press). Underage drinkers' first experience consuming a popular brand of supersized alcopop. American Journal of Drug and Alcohol Abuse. doi: 10.1080/00952990.2019.1653316



Industry Trends 2. Co-Branded Products

Co-branded products share the name and branding of a popular non-alcoholic item.

Logos and design are nearly identical.

















Industry Trends2. Co-Branded Products, cont.

Co-branding crosses product class; not only maltbased, but also spirits (minimal wine).



















Industry Trends 2. Co-Branded Products, cont.



Easier for minors to pass the alcoholic product as the nonalcoholic product

• Viral self-checkout trick shared on Tik-Tok



Industry Trends
3. AI/VR/Augmented Advertising

States and TTB regulate advertising

- No cooperative advertising
- No kickbacks/rebates
- No expensive free products
 - State-imposed limits
- Required disclosures in print media
- No direct to consumer advertising
- So where does the internet fit in?
 - Some policies on internet advertising
 - But Al...?

Prohibited Practices

Some claims prohibited from appearing in advertisements include:

- · General statements that are false, untrue, or misleading
- Statements that are inconsistent with approved product labels (i.e., label or statement depicted in advertisement inconsistent with the COLA)
- False or misleading statements that are disparaging of a competitor's product
- Health-related statements that are false or misleading
- Misleading material relating to analyses, standards, or tests
- Misleading guarantees (Money back guarantees are not prohibited)
- · Misleading organic claims

For a complete listing of the prohibited practices, please review the following regulations:

Wine-27 CFR 4.64 Distilled Spirits - 27 CFR 5.235 Malt Beverages - 27 CFR 7.235



From AI to VR: Diageo launches lab to develop digital concepts which go 'beyond the bottle'

By Rachel Arthur 10-Oct-2023 - Last updated on 10-Oct-2023 at 15:04 GMT





Diageo has launched a new partnership lab, called Fusion by Diageo, which will bring in innovators to 'co-develop the next generation of digital products that will elevate

Rising Industry Concerns 3. AI/VR/Augmented, Cont.

- How tech is used
 - Augmented cans
 - Virtual worlds
 - Skins/Filters
 - QR codes with product info
 - Al-generated recs
 - Alcohol-related benefits in games
 - Online advertising algorithms
 - Social media influencers



Alcohol marketing on digital platforms

- Sophisticated algorithms target ads making them highly persuasive
- As early as 2012, there were more than 1,000 alcohol company sponsored brand-related sites on youth-accessible Facebook pages
- Social media allows alcohol-related content to spread beyond paid ads
- Friends and other user-generated content such as influencer endorsements, are harder to regulate and can easily reach underage audiences
- Difficult to distinguish between organic user engagement and advertising such as industrysponsored influencers.
- This digital marketing not only normalizes alcohol consumption among young people but can also fosters brand loyalty at an early age, potentially leading to earlier initiation of drinking and higher consumption levels
- *Matt Rosshein, PhD

Rising Industry Concerns

3. AI/VR/Augmented, Cont.







Industry Trends

4. Drinks to Go

- Restaurants can offer drinks to go with food made on their premise
 - Pickup
 - Self-deliver
 - Third-party delivery
- Two main issues
 - 1. Packaging
 - 2. Age verification





delinery.com





@EatStreet



















Industry Trends

4. Drinks to Go







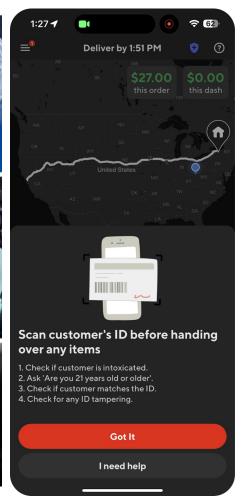












You didn't verify ID on an alcohol delivery

Uber

Hi Joshua,

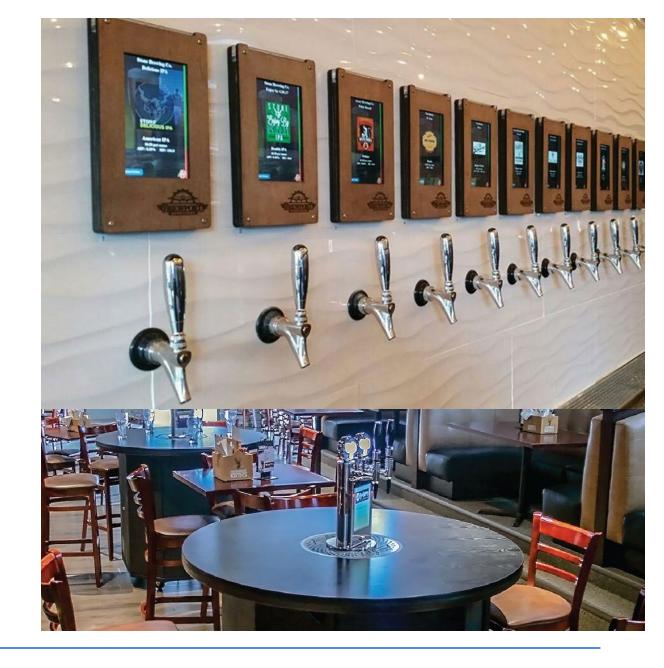
We have noticed that you may not have been able to fulfill the requirements in verifying customers' ID when delivering alcohol. If you don't verify customers' IDs when delivering orders that include alcohol, we have to stop sending you requests for alcohol deliveries.



Industry Trends 5. Self-service taps

Self-service taps are recently allowed in Connecticut.

- Patron must have an RFID device
- RFID programmed to allow limited qualities poured per activation (32 oz beer)
- System must be under surveillance
- Must be clearly labeled
- Must dispense from the manufacturer's original container
- Must be cleaned biweekly and calibrated monthly





Thank you!

M. Caitlin Anderson, Director, Liquor Control Division

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