

Disclaimer:

This document is not intended to provide legal advice. Laws on alcohol sales and service may vary greatly by city, county or state. For complete information on the alcohol laws in effect in your region, please contact the liquor authority in your state and/or municipality.

Pennsylvania – ServSafe Alcohol

STATE LIQUOR AUTHORITY	State of Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Northwest Office Building Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17124-0001 Phone: 717-783-7937 Fax: 717-772-2165 Website: www.lcb.state.pa.us
AGE TO CONSUME	21
AGE TO SERVE	18. Note: Persons between the ages of 16 and 18 may not be employed to serve food, clear tables and perform other similar duties, not to include the dispensing or serving of alcohol beverages.
AGE TO POUR	18
AGE TO SELL (PACKAGED LIQUOR)	18
MINORS ALLOWED ON PREMISE?	It is unlawful to serve or sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Minors may not frequent licensed establishments unless accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or are under the supervision of an adult over 25 years of age. Pizza Hut exception- Minors allowed in eating establishment.
CAN PARENTS SERVE?	It is unlawful to serve, sell or permit the furnishing or selling of alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. An exception to the prosecution is made for those found to have furnished wine to a minor under the age of 21 years, which is part of a religious service or ceremony, which may be conducted in a private home or place of worship where the amount of wine served does not exceed the amount reasonably, customarily, and traditionally required as an integral part of the service or ceremony.
HOURS OF SERVICE	On Premise Establishments: Monday thru Saturday: 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. Sunday sales permit generally for restaurants – 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. Off Premise/Retail Establishment: Monday thru Saturday: 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. (some arrears 10:00 p.m. closing). Sunday: 10% of Pennsylvania Wine & Spirits Shoppes may be open Noon to 5:00 p.m. (except Easter and Christmas) during a two year trial.
ACCEPTED ID'S	Valid photo driver's license; valid armed forces identification; valid passport; or travel visa issued by another country.
LEGAL LEVEL OF INTOXICATION WHILE DRIVING	.08 BAC
DRAM SHOP LAW	Limited. Licensees and servers can be held liable for service to a visibly intoxicated guest.
ID CONFISCATION	Pennsylvania licensees should contact a law enforcement officer rather than retain an obviously fraudulent ID.
HAPPY HOUR & OTHER SERVICE RESTRICTIONS	Licensees may not offer single-priced, unlimited service drink specials or two-for-one drink specials. Happy hour specials may only be two consecutive hours long and must occur before 12:00 a.m. Drinks of an increased size must be accompanied by a corresponding increased price. One daily drink special may be offered so long as it ends by 12:00 a.m. Pennsylvania law does allow a licensee to offer a food and drink combination for a special price so long as it does not violate section 13.102 of the Board's Regulations on the licensee's ability to discount the price of alcoholic beverages.
PENALTIES FOR SERVING OR SELLING TO A MINOR	3 rd degree misdemeanor. 1 st offense punishable by \$1000 to \$2000 fine and/or up to 1 year imprisonment. Subsequent offenses punishable by a minimum \$2500 fine and up to 1 year imprisonment.
WARNING SIGNS REQUIRED ON EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL ON FETUS?	Not regulated

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ADDENDUM: PENNSYLVANIA'S DRAM SHOP LAW

The terms "social host law" and "dram shop law" generally deal with an individual's liability for selling or serving alcohol to someone who then causes injury or damage to a third party or himself/herself.

Section 497 of the Liquor Code [47 P.S. § 4-497] addresses dram shop liability only to the extent of limiting a licensee's liability to those injuries or damages inflicted upon third persons off of the licensed premises by customers of the licensee who were sold, furnished or otherwise given alcohol by the licensee or its agents, servants or employees when the customer was visibly intoxicated. This provision applies only to establishments licensed by the Board to sell alcohol.

Please note, however, that there are sections of the Liquor Code which apply to non-licensees. These include prohibitions against selling alcohol without a license [47 P.S. § 4-491(1)] and providing alcohol to minors and visibly intoxicated persons [47 P.S. § 4-493(1)].

SECTION 497. LIABILITY OF LICENSEES. -

No licensee shall be liable to third persons on account of damages inflicted upon them off of the licensed premises by customers of the licensee unless the customer who inflicts the damages was sold, furnished or given liquor or malt or brewed beverages by the said licensee or his agent, servant or employee when the said customer was visibly intoxicated.

SECTION 491. UNLAWFUL ACTS RELATIVE TO LIQUOR, ALCOHOL AND LIQUOR LICENSEES. -

It shall be unlawful -

Sales of liquor

(1) For any person, by himself or by an employee or agent, to expose or keep for sale, or directly or indirectly, or upon any pretense or upon any device, to sell or offer to sell any liquor within this Commonwealth, except in accordance with the provisions of this act and the regulations of the board. This clause shall not be construed to prohibit hospitals, physicians, dentists or veterinarians who are licensed and registered under the laws of this Commonwealth from administering liquor in the regular course of their professional work and taking into account the cost of the liquor so administered in making charges for their professional service, or a pharmacist duly licensed and registered under the laws of this Commonwealth from dispensing liquor on a prescription of a duly licensed physician, dentist or veterinarian, or selling medical preparations containing alcohol, or using liquor in compounding prescriptions or medicines and making a charge for the liquor used in such medicines, or a manufacturing pharmacist or chemist from using liquor in manufacturing preparations unfit for beverage purposes and making a charge for the liquor so used. All such liquors so administered or sold by hospitals, physicians, dentists, veterinarians, pharmacists or chemists shall conform to the Pharmacopoeia of the United States, the National Formulary, or the American Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia. This clause shall not be construed to prohibit an executor or an administrator of a decedent's estate from selling privately or at public auction liquor which was an asset of the decedent. The board shall establish regulations to ensure that State taxes from the sales will be paid by the estate from the proceeds of the sale. The board may not prohibit a sale of liquor for the reason that it was not lawfully acquired prior to January 1, 1934 or has not been purchased from a Pennsylvania liquor store or in compliance with Pennsylvania law.

SECTION 493. UNLAWFUL ACTS RELATIVE TO LIQUOR, MALT AND BREWED BEVERAGES AND LICENSEES.

The term "licensee," when used in this section, shall mean those persons licensed under the provisions of Article IV, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

It shall be unlawful -

(1) Furnishing liquor or malt or brewed beverages to certain persons. For any licensee or the board, or any employee, servant or agent of such licensee or of the board, or any other person, to sell, furnish or give any liquor or malt or brewed beverages, or to permit any liquor or malt or brewed beverages to be sold, furnished or given, to any person visibly intoxicated, or to any insane person, or to any minor, or to habitual drunkards, or persons of known intemperate habits.