



Virginia Laws & Regulations Summary

Regulations for this jurisdiction last reviewed on 05/25/2010

General Regulations

Dram Shop Liability Laws	No <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:31AM, last updated on 1/27/2005 1:42:07PM</i>
Social Host Liability Laws	No <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:33AM, last updated on 1/27/2005 1:42:32PM</i>
Notes on Server/Seller Training Regulations	Virginia has a voluntary Responsible Vendor Program (RVP). TIPS is an approved provider for this program. <i>Last validated and updated on 4/8/2009 11:49:50AM</i>
Age to Consume	21 <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:08AM, last updated on 1/27/2005 10:37:03AM</i>
Server Training Regulated	Virginia has a voluntary Responsible Vendor Program (RVP). TIPS is an approved provider for this program. <i>Last validated and updated on 4/8/2009 11:49:20AM</i>
Age to Sell	No minimum age if an employee at least 21-years-old is present. Employee must have proper work permit. <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:11AM, last updated on 10/29/2007 11:01:02AM</i>
Age to Serve	A person aged 18 or older may work as waiter or waitress in a mixed beverage establishment. <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:13AM, last updated on 10/29/2007 11:01:42AM</i>
DUI and DWI Limit	.08 <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:17AM, last updated on 1/27/2005 10:38:30AM</i>
Age to Pour	Must be 21 to pour, but an individual who is 18 years old may act in the capacity of a bartender in an establishment that only serves beer. <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:09AM, last updated on 10/29/2007 11:03:10AM</i>
Maximum Alcohol per Drink	Hotels may deliver one bottle of spirits to the room of a customer. <i>Last validated and updated on 5/25/2010 4:06:30PM</i>
DUI and DWI Limit Under 21	.02 <i>Last validated and updated on 2/12/2010 4:36:29PM</i>
Number of Drinks at One Time	2 <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:23AM, last updated on 1/27/2005 1:41:42PM</i>
Corkage/Merlot Laws	Customers may not bring alcoholic beverages into a licensed establishment. The only alcoholic beverages allowed on the premises of a licensed establishment are those purchased by a wholesaler. Removing wine from a restaurant is permissible if the bottle was purchased in a licensed establishment and is re-corked in the original container. <i>Last validated and updated on 4/7/2008 2:48:21PM</i>
Seller Training Regulated	Virginia has a voluntary Responsible Vendor Program (RVP). TIPS is an approved provider for this program. <i>Last validated and updated on 4/8/2009 11:50:06AM</i>
Notes on Liability Laws	Information is not available at this time. <i>Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:51:36AM, last updated on 5/23/2005 1:11:41PM</i>

Hours of Sale

Off Premise	Retail Stores: Monday through Sunday, 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 a.m. State Liquor Stores: Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. 1:00pm - 6:00pm on Sunday for some stores. Contact VABC for details. <i>Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 1:58:03PM</i>
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On Premise On Premise Establishments: Monday through Sunday, 6:00 a.m. until 2:00 a.m. in mixed beverage localities. 6:00am until midnight in other localities.
Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 2:12:01PM

ID's/Underage Persons

ID Confiscation Allowed No
Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:03AM, last updated on 1/27/2005 1:44:49PM

Policies Regarding Underage Persons It is unlawful to serve or sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Minors are permitted in any establishment, though establishments can set policies to only admit patrons 21 years or older. Police are authorized to arrest minors who are intoxicated, whether they are driving or not. Evidence of drinking does not need to be present, just the appearance of intoxication. A new law will go into effect on July 1, 2006, providing that a person in his/her own home may provide alcoholic beverages to his/her family members under 21; but any guests who are provided alcohol must be 21 years of age or older unless they are accompanied by a parent, guardian or spouse 21years of age or older.
Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:08AM, last updated on 6/29/2006 4:09:55PM

Notes on ID Confiscation Virginia does not authorize the confiscation of false IDs; licensees should contact an ABC agent or the local police department.
Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:05AM, last updated on 3/16/2004 11:18:27AM

Recommended age for carding 25 - Not mandatory.
Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:01AM, last updated on 6/30/2004 11:35:20AM

Acceptable Forms of ID A valid state driver's license issued by any state of the United States or the District of Columbia, or a valid armed forces or Coast Guard ID issued by the U.S. government, or a valid U.S. passport or passport card, or a valid foreign government visa, or a valid special identification card issued by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, or any valid identification card issued by any other U.S. or state government agency, excluding student university and college identification cards, provided such identification shall contain a signature and photograph the subject, with the subject's height and date of birth. A government-issued Alien Resident Card is not an acceptable identification card, because it doesn't contain the height and weight of the subject. College/university ID, expired ID, social security card, government work ID, resident alien card, green card, international driver's license, INS border crosser card and INS worker's authorization card are specifically NOT APPROVED for use as identification for the sale or service of alcoholic beverages.
Last validated and updated on 2/19/2010 10:32:35AM

Liability and Legal Info

Happy Hour Laws Licensees may not offer single-priced, unlimited service drink specials, free drinks for patrons or two-for-one drink specials. Virginia prohibits patrons from possessing more than two alcohol beverages at one time. The hours that Happy Hour can be conducted are from 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Virginia law prohibits Happy Hour drink specials between 9:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. of the following day. Licensees can not advertise Happy Hour in the media or on the exterior of the premises. Licensees cannot increase the amount of the alcoholic beverages in a drink without charging a higher price. Licensees may pre-mix containers of sangria to be served and sold in pitchers for consumption on the licensed premises. Licensee may mix wine, beer and spirits if prepared for a patron.
Last validated and updated on 9/29/2010 11:42:13AM

Non-alcoholic beer and wine None
Last validated and updated on 3/16/2004 11:18:27AM



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Liquor Liability

Following is a list of POSSIBLE penalties for violations of the alcohol beverage laws: Sale to an underage person, first offense - 25-day suspension or \$2,000 fine, no minimums Sale to an intoxicated person, first offense - maximum 25-day suspension or \$2,000 fine Violations of Virginia's ABC laws and regulations are also punishable as a criminal offense with a maximum fine of \$2,500 and/or 12 months in jail.

Last validated and updated on 3/16/2004 11:18:27AM

Statute of Limitations

Statute of limitations varies by action.

Last validated and updated on 3/16/2004 11:18:27AM

Interior/Exterior Signage

Displays

Outdoor advertising is limited to signs. Please consult VABC for details.

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:13AM, last updated on 10/12/2004 1:46:53PM

Point of Sale (POS) Advertising

A manufacturer or its authorized vendor and a wholesale wine and beer licensee may lend, buy for, or give to a retail licensee any alcoholic beverage advertising material made of paper, cardboard, canvas, rubber, foam, or plastic, provided the advertising materials have a wholesale value of \$40 or less per item.

Alcoholic beverage advertising materials, other than those authorized by subsection B to be given to a retailer, may be displayed by a retail licensee in the interior of its licensed establishment provided: (1). The wholesale value of the advertising material does not exceed \$250 per item, and (2). The advertising material is not obtained from a manufacturer, its authorized vendor, or any wholesale wine or beer licensee.

A retail licensee shall retain for at least two years a record of its procurement of, including any payments for, such advertising materials along with an invoice or sales ticket containing a description of the item so purchased or otherwise procured.

A retail licensee shall not display in the interior of its licensed establishment any alcoholic beverage advertising materials, other than those that may be lawfully obtained and displayed in accordance with this section or Board regulation.

Last validated and updated on 3/26/2008 2:48:37PM

Tastings

Consumer Tastings - On Premise

Tasting licenses, which shall authorize the licensee to sell or give samples of alcoholic beverages of the type specified in the license in designated areas at events held by the licensee. A tasting license shall be issued for the purpose of featuring and educating the public about the alcoholic beverages being tasted. A separate license shall be required for each day of each tasting event. Any retail on-premises beer licensee, or retail on-premises wine or beer licensee, or any mixed beverage licensee may give a sample of wine, beer, or spirits to persons to whom alcoholic beverages may be lawfully sold for on-premises consumption. Samples of wine shall not exceed two ounces, samples of beer shall not exceed four ounces, and samples of spirits shall not exceed one-half ounce. No more than two product samples shall be given to any person per visit. A Solicitor Tasting Permit allows employees of manufacturers and wine or beer wholesales or authorized representatives of such manufacturers of wholesales to conduct tastings of wine, beer, or spirits within hotels, restaurants, and clubs licensed for on-premises consumption. All alcoholic beverages are served to the consumer by employees of the retail licensee and no more than \$100 may be expended by or on behalf of any such manufacturer or wholesaler at any retail licensed premises during any 24 hour period. The \$100 limitation shall be exclusive of taxes and gratuities, which gratuities may not exceed 20 percent of the cost of the alcoholic beverages, including taxes, for the alcoholic beverages purchased for the tasting.

Last validated and updated on 7/28/2008 10:19:43AM

Consumer Tastings - Off Premise

Consumer tastings are not allowed at state stores, but may possibly be conducted by wine/beer off-sale licensee selling spirits not over 7.5% ABV with tasting license pursuant to VA Code sec 4.1-206(5).

Gourmet shop licensees may allow sampling of wine, not to exceed 4 ounces by volume, for on premises consumption.



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Last validated and updated on 3/26/2008 2:38:04PM

Staff Training Tastings

Information is not available at this time.

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:26AM, last updated on 2/9/2007 4:08:14PM

Promo Items

Promo Items to Retailer

A manufacturer or its authorized vendor and a wholesale wine and beer licensee may lend, buy for, or give to a retail licensee any alcoholic beverage advertising material made of paper, cardboard, canvas, rubber, foam, or plastic, provided the advertising materials have a wholesale value of \$40 or less per item.

Alcoholic beverage advertising materials, other than those authorized by subsection B to be given to a retailer, may be displayed by a retail licensee in the interior of its licensed establishment provided: (1). The wholesale value of the advertising material does not exceed \$250 per item, and (2). The advertising material is not obtained from a manufacturer, its authorized vendor, or any wholesale wine or beer licensee.

A retail licensee shall retain for at least two years a record of its procurement of, including any payments for, such advertising materials along with an invoice or sales ticket containing a description of the item so purchased or otherwise procured.

Last validated and updated on 3/26/2008 2:46:30PM

Promo items to Consumers

Patrons can only be given novelty items with the responsibility message where the brand identification is subordinate to the message.

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:38AM, last updated on 7/12/2006 9:44:36AM

Solicitor Permit

Solicitor Permit

Must be 18 or older, and may not be employed at the same time by an out-of-state wholesaler and by a licensee to solicit the sale of or sell wine or beer.

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:41AM, last updated on 9/21/2004 1:32:00PM

Coupons

Cents off coupons

Cents off coupons are not allowed. 3 VAC 5-20-90

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:51AM, last updated on 6/17/2004 4:45:13PM

Refund coupons

Refund coupons may be offered by manufacturers. These coupons are permitted in print media, by direct mail to consumers, and at POS. These coupons must have 45 days prior approval on state store items and have a limitation of value to 50% of normal retail. Coupons must be mailed directly to manufacturer or agent and cannot be honored at retail outlet. 3 VAC 5-20-90.

Last validated and updated on 6/17/2004 4:45:33PM

Contact Information



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Contact

Agency Headquarters

Virginia Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
2901 Hermitage Road
Richmond, VA23220

Regional Offices

Abingdon (Satellite Office)

545 West Main St.
Abingdon, VA 24210
(276) 676-5502

Alexandria

6308 Grovedale Dr.
Alexandria, VA 22310
(703) 313-4432

Chesapeake

1103 South Military Hwy.
Chesapeake, VA 23320
(757) 424-6700

Hampton

4907 West Mercury Blvd.
Hampton, VA 23666
(757) 825-7830

Lynchburg

20353 Timberlake Rd., Suite A
Lynchburg, VA 24502
(434) 582-5136

Richmond (North) Central Office

2901 Hermitage Rd.
Richmond, VA 23220
(804) 213-4620

Richmond (South) Central Office

2901 Hermitage Rd.
Richmond, VA 23220
(804) 213-4624

Roanoke

2943 D Peters Creek Rd.
Roanoke, VA 24019
(540) 562-3604

Staunton/Charlottesville

460 Commerce Square
Staunton, VA 24401
(540) 332-7800

Last validated and updated on 12/29/2008 2:29:08PM

Phone

804-213-4400

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:55AM, last updated on 3/16/2004 11:18:27AM

Email address

joseph.cannon@abc.virginia.gov

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:57AM, last updated on 1/23/2006 3:04:12PM

Web URL Address

www.abc.virginia.gov

Last validated on 2/22/2008 8:52:58AM, last updated on 6/30/2005 9:02:01AM

eTIPS Off Premise

What is the legal age to sell alcohol in my state?

No minimum age if an employee at least 21 years old is present.

Last validated and updated on 3/2/2010 2:43:15PM



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Does my state have Dram Shop Laws?

No

Last validated and updated on 1/27/2005 1:42:07PM

What is the legal age to consume and/or purchase alcohol in my state?

21

Last validated and updated on 1/27/2005 10:37:03AM

Does my state regulate seller training, and if so, what do I need to know about those regulations?

Virginia has a voluntary Responsible Vendor Program. eTIPS is an approved program.

Last validated and updated on 12/29/2009 3:03:22PM

What are the legal hours of sale for alcohol in my state?

Retail Stores: Monday through Sunday, 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 a.m. State Liquor Stores: Monday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. 1:00pm - 6:00pm on Sunday for some stores. Contact VABC for details.

Last validated and updated on 12/17/2009 2:18:28PM

Does my state authorize me to confiscate IDs from customers?

Virginia does not authorize the confiscation of false IDs. When presented with a false ID, licensees should contact an ABC agent or the local police department.

Last validated and updated on 3/2/2010 2:44:05PM

What is the DUI and/or DWI legal limit in my state?

.08

Last validated and updated on 1/27/2005 10:38:30AM

This information has been provided to us by the regulating agency and is believed to be correct. However, laws and regulations may change at any time, and the information provided should not be relied upon in place of official documents. For more information or clarification, consult the regulatory body for this jurisdiction directly.