



COVID-19 – Common Practices for Beverage Retailers

On-Premise

As bars, taverns and restaurants transition to “to-go” or “curbside” service during the COVID-19 crisis, there are some common public health practices to keep in mind to protect employees and customers.

- Make sure all to-go alcohol sales are made to those who are 21 and older.
- Consider wearing gloves when handling payment, taking orders and touching containers during prep.
- Maintain a safe distance (6 feet) from others.
- Provide hand sanitizer near checkout if allowing on-site pick-up.
- Practice responsible social distancing by remaining as far from the customer as possible when providing their order.
- Make sure straws and utensils are pre-wrapped.
- Clean and sanitize any objects or surfaces that may have been touched including menus and pens for signing credit card receipts.

Off-Premise

Since the middle of March, package liquor stores that sell beer, wine and spirits have been deemed “essential” businesses in more than 35 states. As these businesses remain open to serve their communities, there are some common practices that can be employed to make sure customers and employees stay safe.

- Communicate the busiest times to customers.
- Limit the number of customers in the store (EX: 10).
- Post in-store signage that encourages appropriate social distancing.
- Place stickers on the floor to keep people six feet apart when in line at the register.
- Provide hand sanitizer near checkout and disinfecting wipes for customers. to use on carts, handles, touch pads, pens and any other human contact points.
- Sanitize any objects or surfaces that may have been touched (e.g. doorknobs/handles; POS).
- Limit or prohibit employees from the floor or doing carry out.

All Licensees

- Wash hands often for 20 seconds or longer.
- Wash hands especially after using POS, cash registers, phone or handling credit cards/cash.
- Take advantage of e-payment & contactless payment cards to reduce handling cash.
- Have staff wear gloves.
- To the extent allowed by state law, provide curbside pick-up.
- Employees should stay home when they feel sick.
- Contact your [state and local health departments](#) for the latest advisories/information about coronavirus in your community.

What did we miss? Share your best practices with ABL at info@ablusa.org.