

Did you know...

A customer purchasing liquor who appears to be under the age of 25 is required to produce identification upon each entry into a minors prohibited establishment.

Did you know...

Every individual in the liquor business must assume responsibility for ensuring minors are not being served liquor.

Did you know...

All staff of licensed premises should be vigilant to ensure safeguards are in place to prevent minors from accessing liquor.

Why would a licensee be penalized for serving liquor to someone of legal age?

Licensees are expected to comply with all liquor laws and policies. This policy was put in place to help ensure no one under the age of 18 is able to purchase liquor.

The Under 25 ID policy has been in place in Alberta for 10 years. Most other provincial jurisdictions have similar liquor licence policies in place that require proof of age from anyone appearing under the age of 25.

Licensees could be penalized if they serve anyone who appears under 25 without asking for ID.

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Hard to Tell. Have to Ask.



Are these individuals over 18? It is hard to tell, so you have to ask.



What is the Under 25 ID Policy?

The legal drinking age in Alberta is 18. However, the Alberta Gaming and Liquor Commission (AGLC) has a policy in place that requires all liquor licensees and their staff to request photo identification when a customer purchasing liquor appears to be under 25.

Why was the Under 25 ID policy introduced?

The policy was put in place in 1994 after the public voiced concerns that minors were accessing liquor in spite of the industry's best efforts to curb these sorts of incidents. Since the policy was introduced, the AGLC has conducted two audits. The first audit in 2002 showed the liquor industries were only 23 per cent compliant with the Under 25 ID policy. A second audit the next year showed a real improvement with over 67 per cent of licensees complying.

Acceptable picture ID includes:

- Alberta Registries Operator's Licence
- Alberta Registries Identification Card
- Passport
- Firearms Licence
- Armed Forces ID
- Out-of-Province Operator's Licence
- Indian Status Certificate
- Immigration Authorization Card

In the event that the picture ID is questioned, then a second piece of ID is required.

Acceptable secondary ID includes:

- Birth Certificate
- Social Insurance Card
- Citizenship Certificate
- Baptismal Certificate
- Foreign Government Visa

How do you judge if someone is under 25?

Sometimes it is hard to tell if an individual is 18, so a licensee must ask for identification from anyone who appears under 25 in order to prevent minors (those under 18) from accessing liquor.

What happens if you don't ask for ID and/or sell liquor to a minor?

A licensee could face penalties such as a \$750 fine, a three day suspension of the liquor licence, or even possible cancellation of the licence for not asking for ID.

A licensee could face penalties such as a \$2,000 fine, an eight-day licence suspension of the liquor licence up to possible cancellation of their licence for serving alcohol to a minor or allowing a minor to purchase alcohol.