

Alcohol FAQs for Businesses and Consumers

Liquor-Licensed Businesses

I operate a bar, restaurant, or brew pub that is licensed to serve both food and alcohol. What guidelines do I need to follow to operate in Denver under the current public health orders?

Alcohol cannot be ordered alone. These types of establishments may continue to operate to fulfill delivery, drive-thru, or take-out orders, which must include food, but may or may not include alcohol. Restaurants may not conduct sales on orders which do not contain food.

Alcohol beverages must be sold in sealed containers. A sealed container means any container or receptacle that is used for holding an alcohol beverage and is corked or sealed with any stub, stopper, or cap. For additional questions regarding the scope of the Governor's executive order and the notice issued by the Liquor Enforcement Division, please contact the appropriate state agency.

On-premises consumption and congregation prohibited. Alcohol beverages may not be consumed on-premises while fulfilling any to-go or takeout orders. The establishment must also ensure that customers on the licensed premises to pick up orders are in compliance with all physical distancing requirements.

Off-premises sales of alcohol. Restaurants that sell alcohol beverages for on-premises consumption may conduct off-premises sales pursuant to the Governor's executive order and the notice issued by the Liquor Enforcement Division. For questions about the Governor's executive order or the notice issued by the Liquor Enforcement Division, please contact the appropriate state agency.

I operate a brewery, distillery, or winery. What guidelines do I need to follow to operate in Denver under the current public health orders?

Breweries. Breweries may continue to manufacture beer in order to support and supply other essential businesses such as liquor stores, restaurants, and other retail outlets. Further, guidance from the Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division provides that breweries with an approved sales room may also sell beer for off-premises consumption. For further questions regarding off-premises sales by breweries please contact the state Liquor Enforcement Division.

Wineries and distilleries. Wineries and distilleries may continue to manufacture wine and spirits in order to support and supply other essential businesses like restaurants, liquor stores, and other retail outlets. However, wineries and distilleries with an approved sales room may not conduct sales of alcohol beverages for off-premises consumption to customers unless as a part of a sale of food, as is the case with other restaurants and bars.

I operate a retail outlet that sells alcohol for off-premises consumption. What guidelines do I need to follow to operate in Denver under the current public health orders?

Liquor stores and grocery stores that hold a retail liquor store license, fermented malt beverage retailer's license, or liquor-licensed drug store license may remain open under the state and local public health orders as long as they are in compliance with all physical distancing requirements and are not conducting any on-premises tastings or otherwise allowing for on-premises consumption.

I operate another type of liquor-licensed establishment that does not serve food. Can I operate in Denver under the current public health orders?

No. If you do not serve food, you must cease operation.

Customers

Can I order an alcohol beverage as part of my delivery, drive-thru, or take-out order from a liquor-licensed restaurant?

Yes, as long as the alcohol beverage is ordered along with food. Orders for alcohol beverages only cannot be fulfilled.

Can I order an alcohol beverage to drink while I'm at a restaurant waiting to pick up a take-out order?

No. All on-site consumption is prohibited at this time.

Can I purchase alcohol at a retail store?

Yes. Alcohol sales are still permitted at licensed liquor stores, grocery stores, and drug stores as long as these establishments are in compliance with all physical distancing requirements.

Can I have beer, wine, or liquor delivered to me at my home?

Yes. Several restaurants, breweries, and liquor stores are permitted to deliver alcohol beverages, though some restrictions may apply. For example, restaurants may only fulfill orders for delivery of alcohol beverages if the order also includes food. For further questions regarding off-premises sales by breweries please contact the state Liquor Enforcement Division.

Can I attend a tasting event for beer, wine, or liquor?

No. All on-site consumption is prohibited at this time.