



## OHIO ALCOHOL LAWS (In plain English)

### AGE:

- It is illegal (unlawful) for any person under the age of 21 to purchase or attempt to **purchase** any type of alcohol.
- It is illegal for any person under the age of 21 to **possess or consume** alcoholic beverages.
- It is illegal to **give or sell** alcoholic beverages to persons under the age of 21.

### PARENTS:

- As a parent, you *cannot* give alcohol to your children's friends (under 21) under ANY circumstances, even in your own home, even with their parent's permission.
- As a parent, you *cannot* knowingly allow a person under 21, other than your own child, to remain in your home or on your property while they are consuming or possessing alcohol.

### EMPLOYMENT:

- 18-year olds may sell alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, mixed beverages or spirituous liquor) in sealed containers only.
- 19-year olds may handle alcoholic beverages in open containers when acting in the capacity of a waiter or waitress.
- 19-year olds may sell BEER ONLY across a bar; a person must be 21-years old to sell wine, mixed beverages or liquor across a bar.
- A person of any age, employed by a permit holder, may handle beer, wine, mixed beverages and spirituous liquor in connection with stocking, bagging, bussing tables, etc.

### PUBLIC PLACES:

- Having an open container of alcohol in a public place, regardless of your age, is illegal (unlawful). Public places are those which anyone can enter freely and include: sidewalks, streets, lawns, some outdoor areas of apartment complexes, and inside parked or moving cars.

### BAC (Blood Alcohol Concentration):

- Blood alcohol concentration is a measure of how much alcohol is in someone's blood. It is the most accurate and measurable gauge of alcohol impairment. When a person reaches .08 BAC, it is illegal for him or her to drive a vehicle.
- For individuals under 21, it is illegal to have a BAC of .02 or higher.

## EFFECTS OF ALCOHOL



### **IDENTIFICATION:**

- It is against the law to knowingly show or give false information about name, age or other identification if under the age of 21 and trying to buy alcoholic beverages of any kind.
- It is illegal for any person other than the state to manufacture, sell or distribute in any manner, any identification card issued for the purpose of establishing a person's age that displays the great seal of Ohio, the words "Ohio", "State", "Official", or any other designation that represents the card as an official identification card of the State of Ohio.

### **THE EXACT LEGAL WORDING CAN BE FOUND IN THE OHIO REVISED CODE:**

<http://onlinedocs.andersonpublishing.com/revisedcode>

### **REFERENCES:**

Ohio Department of Public Safety/Bureau of Motor Vehicles Website

[http://bmv.ohio.gov/faq\\_OVI\\_law\\_changes.stm](http://bmv.ohio.gov/faq_OVI_law_changes.stm)

[http://bmv.ohio.gov/als\\_positive\\_test.stm](http://bmv.ohio.gov/als_positive_test.stm)

Ohio Department of Transportation Website

<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/TransSysDev/ProgramMgt/CapitalPrograms/Documents/Safety/FactSheets/CHSP%20Alcohol.pdf>

LAWriter Ohio: Laws and Rules Website

<http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4301>

Ohio State University Website

[http://partysmart.osu.edu/ohio\\_laws.asp](http://partysmart.osu.edu/ohio_laws.asp)