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## **Illinois Liquor Control Commission COVID-19 FAQ's as of 03/20/2020**

- Q.** Can an on-premise ONLY liquor license holder sell for off premise consumption and deliver alcohol?
- A.** Yes, if authorized by the Local Liquor Control Commission and if licensee abides by off-premises sales rules including selling alcoholic liquor in the original container only.
- Q.** Can an on-premise ONLY liquor license holder allow customers into premises for video gaming?
- A.** No, pursuant to an [order](#) issued by the Illinois Gaming Board, all licensed video gaming operations must cease 9pm on March 16, 2020.
- Q.** I have a private party scheduled at my licensed venue, ex: wedding. Do those events need to be cancelled?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** I have a caterer retailer license. Can I sell/serve food and beverages to more than 50 people at a private residence?
- A.** No, as of March 18, 2020.
- Q.** Are we allowed to receive liquor deliveries during the 2 weeks we are closed?
- A.** Yes, but product returns for beer are permitted no later than March 23, 2020. Product returns for wine and spirits are not permitted.
- Q.** Do we need to contact our vendors to make sure they do not deliver to our bar or restaurant?
- A.** If you choose not to accept deliveries, please contact your distributor and make all necessary arrangements.
- Q.** What time must bars and restaurants cease on-premise service pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order?
- A.** 9pm on March 16, 2020 through the end of calendar day on March 30, 2020.

- Q.** Are golf courses, social clubs, and private clubs with on-premises liquor licenses subject to the Executive Order?
- A.** Yes, if they continue to sell/serve beverages and food for on-premises consumption.
- Q.** Are alcohol tastings still permitted at a bar, restaurant, or other off-premise retail locations?
- A.** No, to the extent that such tastings are conducted on-site.
- Q.** Can on-premise licensed establishments have private meetings, private events, weddings etc.?
- A.** No, all on-site premises consumption is suspended.
- Q.** Can on premise licensed establishments have private events if the event brings their own alcoholic beverages?
- A.** Not if the event is for more than 50 people and is on or after March 18, 2020.
- Q.** Can on-premise licensed establishments accept deliveries from beer, wine and liquor wholesalers?
- A.** Yes.
- Q.** Can growlers and crowlers be sold curbside or drive through?
- A.** On-premises license holders that are currently authorized to sell to sell growlers and crowlers for off-premises consumption may continue to do so pursuant to the conditions set forth in 235 ILCS 5/6-6.5 and the Executive Order.
- Q.** Can “Combined” on and off-premise license holders continue to sell packaged alcoholic liquor if they don’t sell for on-premise consumption?
- A.** Yes.. Combined on and off-premise license holders may continue to sell packaged alcoholic liquor consistent with Illinois law if they are properly licensed.
- Q.** Can patrons who purchase pick up meals eat these meals on patios, decks or other area's on licensee's property?
- A.** No. Consumption on patios, decks or other areas on licensees’ property is consider on-site consumption.
- Q.** Which agencies or law enforcement entities will be enforcing all the new restrictions?

- A.** All agencies with law enforcement authority, including but not limited to Illinois Liquor Control Commission, Illinois State Police, Illinois Department of Public Health, and Local Law Enforcement may coordinate and enforce the new restrictions as appropriate.
- Q.** Does the Executive Order impact all alcoholic-liquor retailers?
- A.** The Executive Order impacts all alcoholic liquor license holders **and** non-license holders authorized to sell food and beverages for consumption on the licensed premise.
- Q.** Is the suspension of on-premises sales statewide or is it only for the County of Cook?
- A.** The suspension is statewide.
- Q.** Can a retailer that sells carry-out food also sell beer to-go as well.
- A.** Yes, if authorized by the Local Liquor Control Commission and beer is sold in the original container (or growlers/crowlers sold pursuant to 235 ILCS 5/6-6.5)
- Q.** Can alcoholic liquor be sold and delivered to a private home?
- A.** Subject to the approval of the Local Liquor Control Commission, licensees authorized to conduct retail sales of alcoholic liquor are permitted to provide home delivery of alcoholic liquor in the original container (or growlers/crowlers sold pursuant to 235 ILCS 5/6-6.5).
- Q.** Can alcoholic liquor be sold for curbside pick-up?
- A.** Subject to the approval of the Local Liquor Control Commission, licensees authorized to conduct retail sales of alcoholic liquor are permitted to provide curbside pickup of alcoholic liquor in the original container (or growlers/crowlers sold pursuant to 235 ILCS 5/6-6.5).
- Q.** What are the laws that govern drive-through liquor windows?
- A.** Subject to the approval of the Local Liquor Control Commission, licensees authorized to conduct retail sales of alcoholic liquor are permitted to provide drive-through service of alcoholic liquor in the original container (or growlers/crowlers sold pursuant to 235 ILCS 5/6-6.5).
- Q.** How will this affect movie theaters? Can they continue to operate the theater and the other food service, just without the sale of alcohol?
- A.** The Executive Order applies to all businesses in the State of Illinois that offer food or beverages (alcoholic or non-alcoholic) beverages for on-premises consumption.
- Q.** How are grocery stores affected?

- A.** Grocery stores are not permitted to sell alcoholic liquor for on-premise consumption or conduct tastings. They may continue to sell alcoholic liquor for consumption off-premise.
- Q.** May a hotel/motel with a liquor license continue to sell food and beverages via room service, mini-bar or to go?
- A.** Yes, if authorized for such sales by the local liquor control commission.
- Q.** May a business sell food, alcoholic liquor or non-alcoholic liquor for consumption on the premises of an airport, hospital building, or college/university dining hall?
- A.** Yes, consistent with existing license restrictions.
- Q.** May a non-resident dealer or manufacturer of alcoholic liquor sell or deliver alcoholic liquor to a licensed distributor if the distributor has not expressly authorized such sale and delivery?
- A.** No.
- Q.** May a retailer return beer to a licensed distributor?
- A.** Yes. Beer may be returned for any reason authorized by the Illinois Liquor Control Act (235 ILCS 5/6-5.5) OR for any reason if the beer was purchased and delivered to the retailer on or before March 23, 2020 and subject to the acceptance and legal conditions of the return required by the distributor.
- Q.** May a retailer return wine and spirits to a licensed distributor?
- A.** No, unless the reason for return is expressly authorized by the Illinois Liquor Control Act (235 ILCS 5/6-5.5) and subject to the acceptance and legal conditions of return accepted by the distributor.
- Q.** My license expires on March 31, 2020. Do I have to renew the license to purchase and sell alcoholic liquor?
- A.** Licenses that expire March 31, 2020, April 30, 2020, and May 31, 2020 have been extended to July 31, 2020. Licensees are encouraged to renew their licenses as soon as they can through their MyTax Illinois Account.
- Q.** My license was reported on the ILCC Delinquent List? Can I still purchase wine and spirits from a distributor?

- A. The licensed retailer may file a bona fide dispute with the Illinois Liquor Control Commission. While the dispute is pending, the retailer will be removed from the Delinquency List. The Commission encourages settlements between distributor and retailer. A delinquency reported as a bona fide dispute will not be resolved until or after the next meeting of the Commission. Please see ILCC website for “Guidance on Retailer Delinquency” for instructions.
  
- Q. May a brewer, class 1 brewer, class 2 brewer, class 1 craft distiller, class 2 craft distiller, brew pub or distilling pub conduct curbside delivery, home delivery or other similar means of sale?
  
- A. Under special temporary circumstances related to the COVID-19 outbreak, alcoholic liquor manufacturers, brew pubs and distiller pubs may deliver alcoholic liquor if the licensee holds a local retail liquor license and if the local liquor control commission authorizes delivery sales. If the manufacturer does not hold a local retail license, it is not authorized to conduct retail sales of alcoholic liquor in any form.