

# LIQUOR & TOBACCO ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

## Valid Proof of Age

- Colorado law **does not** require that licensed establishments selling 3.2% beer, or regular beer, wine, and spirits, check identification for proof of age.
- Colorado law **does not** prohibit underage persons from entering and remaining in licensed establishments.
- Colorado law **does not** require persons to carry proof of age.
- Colorado law **does** prohibit any licensed establishment from selling or serving any alcohol beverages to an underage person.
- Licensees should always check proof of age if there is the slightest doubt of the customer's actual age. If no acceptable proof of age is available, no service should be provided.

**Identification** | The following forms of identification (see Regulation 47-912) may be relied upon by licensees to show proof of age. Note that each such ID has a photo and a description of the bearer:

1. An operator's, chauffeur's or similar type driver's license containing a picture, and date of birth, issued by any state, within the United States, or any U.S. Territory, or any foreign country including Canada or Mexico.
2. An identification card issued by any state for the purpose of proof of age in accordance with C.R.S. 42-2-302 and 42-2-303.
3. Military identification card.
4. A passport.
5. An alien registration card.

6. A valid employment authorization document issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

If a licensee reasonably relies on one of the above ID's for proof of age, that licensee's liquor license cannot be suspended or revoked for sale to a minor. If, however, a licensee relies on any other type of ID, his license can still be suspended or revoked if the customer with the ID turns out to be underage. Licensees need not take chances, and they should only accept one of the five types of proper ID's above. Persons without proper ID can always be refused service of alcohol.

**False Identification** | Licensees are permitted under CRS 12-47-901(5)(a)(II) to confiscate suspected false or fraudulent identification. Confiscated identification must be turned over to a state or local law enforcement agency within 72 hours. The following are some methods which can be used to detect false ID's:

1. Ask for a second piece of identification.
2. Put a flashlight behind a Colorado driver's license to spot alterations.
3. Check for an extra layer of lamination.
4. Look at both sides of an ID for alterations.