
HOUSE BILL 1698

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Waters and Reed; by request of Liquor and Cannabis Board

Read first time 01/29/25. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection & Business.

1 AN ACT Relating to updating liquor permit and licensing
2 provisions; amending RCW 66.20.010, 66.20.300, 66.20.310, and
3 66.20.320; and repealing RCW 66.24.580.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 66.20.010 and 2024 c 91 s 1 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 Upon application in the prescribed form being made to any
8 employee authorized by the board to issue permits, accompanied by
9 payment of the prescribed fee, and upon the employee being satisfied
10 that the applicant should be granted a permit under this title, the
11 employee must issue to the applicant under such regulations and at
12 such fee as may be prescribed by the board a permit of the class
13 applied for, as follows:

14 (1) Where the application is for a special permit by a physician
15 or dentist, or by any person in charge of an institution regularly
16 conducted as a hospital or sanatorium for the care of persons in ill
17 health, or as a home devoted exclusively to the care of aged people,
18 a special liquor purchase permit, except that the governor may waive
19 the requirement for a special liquor purchase permit under this
20 subsection pursuant to an order issued under RCW 43.06.220(2);

1 (2) Where the application is for a special permit by a person
2 engaged within the state in mechanical or manufacturing business or
3 in scientific pursuits requiring alcohol for use therein, or by any
4 private individual, a special permit to purchase alcohol for the
5 purpose named in the permit, except that the governor may waive the
6 requirement for a special liquor purchase permit under this
7 subsection pursuant to an order issued under RCW 43.06.220(2);

8 (3) Where the application is for a special permit to consume
9 liquor at a banquet, at a specified date and place, a special permit
10 to purchase liquor for consumption at such banquet, to such
11 applicants as may be fixed by the board;

12 (4) Where the application is for a special permit to consume
13 liquor on the premises of a business not licensed under this title, a
14 special permit to purchase liquor for consumption thereon for such
15 periods of time and to such applicants as may be fixed by the board;

16 (5) Where the application is for a special permit by a
17 manufacturer to import or purchase within the state alcohol, malt,
18 and other materials containing alcohol to be used in the manufacture
19 of liquor, or other products, a special permit;

20 (6) Where the application is for a special permit by a person
21 operating a drug store to purchase liquor at retail prices only, to
22 be thereafter sold by such person on the prescription of a physician,
23 a special liquor purchase permit, except that the governor may waive
24 the requirement for a special liquor purchase permit under this
25 subsection pursuant to an order issued under RCW 43.06.220(2);

26 ~~(7) ((Where the application is for a special permit by an
27 authorized representative of a military installation operated by or
28 for any of the armed forces within the geographical boundaries of the
29 state of Washington, a special permit to purchase liquor for use on
30 such military installation;~~

31 ~~(8))~~ Where the application is for a special permit by a vendor
32 that manufactures or sells a product which cannot be effectively
33 presented to potential buyers without serving it with liquor or by a
34 manufacturer, importer, or distributor, or representative thereof, to
35 serve liquor without charge to delegates and guests at a convention
36 of a trade association composed of licensees of the board, when the
37 said liquor is served in a hospitality room or from a booth in a
38 board-approved suppliers' display room at the convention, and when
39 the liquor so served is for consumption in the said hospitality room
40 or display room during the convention, anything in this title to the

1 contrary notwithstanding. Any such spirituous liquor must be
2 purchased from a spirits retailer or distributor, and any such liquor
3 is subject to the taxes imposed by RCW 82.08.150, 66.24.290, and
4 66.24.210;

5 ~~((+9))~~ (8) Where the application is for a special permit by a
6 manufacturer, importer, or distributor, or representative thereof, to
7 donate liquor for a reception, breakfast, luncheon, or dinner for
8 delegates and guests at a convention of a trade association composed
9 of licensees of the board, when the liquor so donated is for
10 consumption at the said reception, breakfast, luncheon, or dinner
11 during the convention, anything in this title to the contrary
12 notwithstanding. Any such spirituous liquor must be purchased from a
13 spirits retailer or distributor, and any such liquor is subject to
14 the taxes imposed by RCW 82.08.150, 66.24.290, and 66.24.210;

15 ~~((+10))~~ (9) Where the application is for a special permit by a
16 manufacturer, importer, or distributor, or representative thereof, to
17 donate and/or serve liquor without charge to delegates and guests at
18 an international trade fair, show, or exposition held under the
19 auspices of a federal, state, or local governmental entity or
20 organized and promoted by a nonprofit organization, anything in this
21 title to the contrary notwithstanding. Any such spirituous liquor
22 must be purchased from a liquor spirits retailer or distributor, and
23 any such liquor is subject to the taxes imposed by RCW 82.08.150,
24 66.24.290, and 66.24.210;

25 ~~((+11))~~ (10) Where the application is for an annual special
26 permit by a person operating a bed and breakfast lodging facility to
27 donate or serve wine or beer without charge to overnight guests of
28 the facility if the wine or beer is for consumption on the premises
29 of the facility. "Bed and breakfast lodging facility," as used in
30 this subsection, means a facility offering from one to eight lodging
31 units and breakfast to travelers and guests;

32 ~~((+12))~~ (11) Where the application is for a special permit to
33 allow tasting of alcohol by persons at least 18 years of age under
34 the following circumstances:

35 (a) The application is from a community or technical college as
36 defined in RCW 28B.50.030, a regional university, or a state
37 university;

38 (b) The person who is permitted to taste under this subsection is
39 enrolled as a student in a required or elective class that is part of
40 a culinary, sommelier, wine business, enology, viticulture, wine

1 technology, beer technology, or spirituous technology-related degree
2 program;

3 (c) The alcohol served to any person in the degree-related
4 programs under (b) of this subsection is tasted but not consumed for
5 the purposes of educational training as part of the class curriculum
6 with the approval of the educational provider;

7 (d) The service and tasting of alcoholic beverages is supervised
8 by a faculty or staff member of the educational provider who is 21
9 years of age or older. The supervising faculty or staff member shall
10 possess a class 12 or 13 alcohol server permit under the provisions
11 of RCW 66.20.310;

12 (e) The enrolled student permitted to taste the alcoholic
13 beverages does not purchase the alcoholic beverages;

14 (f) The enrolled student permitted to taste the alcoholic
15 beverages conducts the tasting either: (i) On the premises of the
16 college or university at which the student is enrolled; or (ii) while
17 on a field trip to a grape-growing area or production facility so
18 long as the enrolled student is accompanied by a faculty or staff
19 member with a class 12 or 13 alcohol server permit who supervises as
20 provided in (d) of this subsection and all other requirements of this
21 subsection (~~((12))~~) (11) are met; and

22 (g) The permit fee for the special permit provided for in this
23 subsection (~~((12))~~) (11) must be waived by the board;

24 (~~((13))~~) (12) Where the application is for a special permit by a
25 distillery or craft distillery for an event not open to the general
26 public to be held or conducted at a specific place, including at the
27 licensed premise of the applying distillery or craft distillery, upon
28 a specific date for the purpose of tasting and selling spirits of its
29 own production. The distillery or craft distillery must obtain a
30 permit for a fee of \$10 per event. An application for the permit must
31 be submitted for private banquet permits prior to the event and, once
32 issued, must be posted in a conspicuous place at the premises for
33 which the permit was issued during all times the permit is in use. No
34 licensee may receive more than 12 permits under this subsection
35 (~~((13))~~) each year;

36 (~~((14))~~) (13) Where the application is for a special permit by a
37 manufacturer of wine for an event not open to the general public to
38 be held or conducted at a specific place upon a specific date for the
39 purpose of tasting and selling wine of its own production. The winery
40 must obtain a permit for a fee of \$10 per event. An application for

1 the permit must be submitted at least ten days before the event and
2 once issued, must be posted in a conspicuous place at the premises
3 for which the permit was issued during all times the permit is in
4 use. No more than 12 events per year may be held by a single
5 manufacturer under this subsection;

6 ~~((15))~~ (14) Where the application is for a special permit by a
7 manufacturer of beer for an event not open to the general public to
8 be held or conducted at a specific place upon a specific date for the
9 purpose of tasting and selling beer of its own production. The
10 brewery or microbrewery must obtain a permit for a fee of \$10 per
11 event. An application for the permit must be submitted at least 10
12 days before the event and, once issued, must be posted in a
13 conspicuous place at the premises for which the permit was issued
14 during all times the permit is in use. No more than 12 events per
15 year may be held by a single manufacturer under this subsection;

16 ~~((16))~~ (15) Where the application is for a special permit by an
17 individual or business to sell a private collection of wine or
18 spirits to an individual or business. The seller must obtain a permit
19 at least five business days before the sale, for a fee of \$25 per
20 sale. The seller must provide an inventory of products sold and the
21 agreed price on a form provided by the board. The seller shall submit
22 the report and taxes due to the board no later than 20 calendar days
23 after the sale. A permit may be issued under this section to allow
24 the sale of a private collection to licensees, but may not be issued
25 to a licensee to sell to a private individual or business which is
26 not otherwise authorized under the license held by the seller. If the
27 liquor is purchased by a licensee, all sales are subject to taxes
28 assessed as on liquor acquired from any other source. The board may
29 adopt rules to implement this section;

30 ~~((17))~~ (16) (a) A special permit, where the application is for a
31 special permit by a nonprofit organization to sell wine through an
32 auction, not open to the public, to be conducted at a specific place,
33 upon a specific date, and to allow wine tastings at the auction of
34 the wine to be auctioned.

35 (b) A permit holder under this subsection ~~((17))~~ (16) may at
36 the specified event:

- 37 (i) Sell wine by auction for off-premises consumption; and
38 (ii) Allow tastings of samples of the wine to be auctioned at the
39 event.

1 (c) An application is required for a permit under this subsection
2 (~~((17))~~) (16). The application must be submitted prior to the event
3 and once issued must be posted in a conspicuous place at the premises
4 for which the permit was issued during all times the permit is in
5 use.

6 (d) Wine from more than one winery may be sold at the auction;
7 however, each winery selling wine at the auction must be listed on
8 the permit application. Only a single application form may be
9 required for each auction, regardless of the number of wineries that
10 are selling wine at the auction. The total fee per event for a permit
11 issued under this subsection (~~((17))~~) (16) is \$25 multiplied by the
12 number of wineries that are selling wine at the auction.

13 (e) For the purposes of this subsection (~~((17))~~) (16), "nonprofit
14 organization" means an entity incorporated as a nonprofit
15 organization under Washington state law.

16 (f) The board may adopt rules to implement this section;

17 (~~((18))~~) (17) An annual special permit to allow a short-term
18 rental operator to provide one complimentary bottle of wine to rental
19 guests who are age 21 or over. The annual special permit fee is \$75.
20 A single permit applies to all rental properties owned or operated by
21 the short-term rental operator and identified in the permit
22 application. One complimentary bottle of wine per booking may be
23 provided, regardless of the total number of rental guests. The
24 provision of the complimentary bottle of wine may occur only after an
25 operator or staff person of the short-term rental, who is present at
26 the short-term rental property, verifies that each rental guest who
27 will consume the complimentary bottle of wine is age 21 or over by
28 checking a valid form of identification of each such rental guest at
29 the time rental guests arrive. The rental guests must be informed the
30 rental guests are being offered one complimentary bottle of wine and
31 that opening or consuming the bottle of wine in a public place is
32 illegal pursuant to RCW 66.44.100. The rental guests must not have
33 notified the operator that the rental guests decline the
34 complimentary bottle of wine. The complimentary bottle of wine may be
35 consumed on the premises of the rental property or removed and
36 consumed off the premises of the rental property. A permit holder may
37 purchase wine from wine distributors in accordance with RCW
38 66.24.200, and from retailers and other suppliers of wine authorized
39 under this title to sell wine at retail to consumers for off-premises
40 consumption. For purposes of this subsection, the terms "short-term

1 rental," "operator," and "guest" have the same meanings as in RCW
2 64.37.010; and

3 ~~((19))~~ (18) Where the application is for an emergency liquor
4 permit by a licensed manufacturer to authorize the sale, service, and
5 consumption of liquor on the premises of another liquor licensee with
6 retail sales privileges when an emergency or disaster as defined in
7 RCW 38.52.010 has made the premises of the applicant inaccessible and
8 unable to operate due to an emergency or road closure, except that
9 the fee must be waived if there is a proclamation of a state of
10 emergency issued by the governor or by the city, town, or county
11 where the applicant is located. The permit shall be valid for 30 days
12 and may be continually renewed for periods of 30 days if the
13 emergency or disaster continues. Employees or agents of the emergency
14 permit holder or the licensed premises may serve liquor provided by
15 the permit holder. The permit holder may store no more than a 30-day
16 supply of liquor at the licensed premises in segregated storage. No
17 more than a total of three emergency permit holders may sell at the
18 same licensed premises under an emergency permit.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 66.20.300 and 2019 c 64 s 20 are each amended to
20 read as follows:

21 The definitions in this section apply throughout RCW 66.20.310
22 through 66.20.350 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

23 (1) "Alcohol" has the same meaning as "liquor" in RCW 66.04.010.

24 (2) "Alcohol server" means any person who as part of ~~((his or
25 her))~~ their employment participates in the sale or service of
26 alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption at ~~((a retail
27 licensed premise))~~ an on-premises licensed facility as a regular
28 requirement of ~~((his or her))~~ their employment, and includes those
29 persons eighteen years of age or older permitted by the liquor laws
30 of this state to serve alcoholic beverages with meals.

31 (3) ~~(("Board" means the Washington state liquor and cannabis
32 board.~~

33 ~~(4) "Retail licensed premises"))~~ "On-premises licensed facility"
34 means any:

35 (a) Premises ~~((licensed))~~ issued an annual license to sell or
36 serve alcohol by the glass or by the drink, or in original containers
37 primarily for consumption on the premises, or a premises holding a
38 privilege for on-premises tasting activities, as authorized by this
39 ~~((section and RCW 66.20.310, 66.24.320, 66.24.330, 66.24.350,~~

1 ~~66.24.400, 66.24.425, 66.24.690, 66.24.450, 66.24.570, 66.24.610,~~
2 ~~66.24.650, 66.24.655, and 66.24.680)~~ title;

3 (b) Distillery licensed pursuant to RCW 66.24.140 that is
4 authorized to serve samples of its own production;

5 (c) Facility established by a domestic winery for serving and
6 selling wine pursuant to RCW 66.24.170(4); ~~((and))~~

7 (d) Brewery or microbrewery authorized to serve or sell beer or
8 other liquor under RCW 66.24.240 or 66.24.244;

9 (e) Grocery store licensed under RCW 66.24.360, but only with
10 respect to employees whose duties include serving during tasting
11 activities under RCW 66.24.363;

12 (f) Beer and/or wine specialty shop licensed under RCW 66.24.371,
13 but only with respect to employees whose duties include serving
14 during tasting activities;

15 (g) Spirit retailers licensed under RCW 66.24.630 or 66.24.632,
16 but only with respect to employees whose duties include serving
17 during tasting activities.

18 ~~((5))~~ (4) "Training entity" means any liquor licensee
19 associations, independent contractors, private persons, and private
20 or public schools, that have been certified by the board.

21 **Sec. 3.** RCW 66.20.310 and 2024 c 265 s 1 are each amended to
22 read as follows:

23 (1)(a) There is an alcohol server permit, known as a class 12
24 permit, for:

25 (i) A manager;

26 (ii) A bartender selling or mixing alcohol, spirits, wines, or
27 beer for consumption at an on-premises licensed facility; or

28 (iii) An employee conducting alcohol deliveries for a licensee
29 that delivers alcohol under RCW 66.24.710.

30 (b) There is an alcohol server permit, known as a class 13
31 permit, for a person who only serves alcohol, spirits, wines, or beer
32 for consumption at an on-premises licensed facility.

33 (c) As provided by rule by the board, a class 13 permit holder
34 may be allowed to act as a bartender without holding a class 12
35 permit.

36 (2)(a) Effective January 1, 1997, except as provided in (d) of
37 this subsection, every alcohol server employed, under contract or
38 otherwise, at ~~((a retail licensed premise))~~ an on-premises licensed
39 facility must be issued a class 12 or class 13 permit.

1 (b) Every class 12 and class 13 permit issued must be issued in
2 the name of the applicant and no other person may use the permit of
3 another permit holder. The holder must present the permit upon
4 request to inspection by a representative of the board or a peace
5 officer. The class 12 or class 13 permit is valid for employment at
6 any (~~retail licensed premises~~) on-premises licensed facility
7 described in (a) of this subsection.

8 (c) Except as provided in (d) of this subsection, no licensee of
9 an on-premises licensed facility holding a license as authorized by
10 this (~~section and RCW 66.20.300, 66.24.320, 66.24.330, 66.24.350,~~
11 ~~66.24.400, 66.24.425, 66.24.690, 66.24.450, 66.24.570, 66.24.600,~~
12 ~~66.24.610, 66.24.650, 66.24.655, and 66.24.680~~) title may employ or
13 accept the services of any person whose duties include the
14 compounding, sale, service, or handling of liquor without the person
15 first having a valid class 12 or class 13 permit.

16 (d) Within sixty days of initial employment, every person whose
17 duties include the compounding, sale, service, or handling of liquor
18 must have a class 12 or class 13 permit.

19 (e) No person may perform duties that include the sale or service
20 of alcoholic beverages (~~on a retail licensed premises~~) at an on-
21 premises licensed facility without possessing a valid alcohol server
22 permit.

23 (f) Every person whose duties include the delivery of alcohol
24 authorized under RCW 66.24.710 must have a class 12 permit before
25 engaging in alcohol delivery. A delivery employee whose duties
26 include the delivery of alcohol authorized under RCW 66.24.710 must
27 complete an approved class 12 permit course that includes a
28 curriculum component that covers best practices for delivery of
29 alcohol.

30 (3) A permit issued by a training entity under this section is
31 valid for employment at any (~~retail licensed premises~~) on-premises
32 licensed facility described in subsection (2)(a) of this section for
33 a period of five years unless suspended by the board.

34 (4) The board may suspend or revoke an existing permit if any of
35 the following occur:

36 (a) The applicant or permittee has been convicted of violating
37 any of the state or local intoxicating liquor laws of this state, has
38 been convicted at any time of a felony under chapter 9A.40, 9A.44,
39 9A.46, 9A.86, or 9A.88 RCW, or a felony that is directly related to
40 alcohol service; or

1 (b) The permittee has performed or permitted any act that
2 constitutes a violation of this title or of any rule of the board.

3 (5) The suspension or revocation of a permit under this section
4 does not relieve a licensee from responsibility for any act of the
5 employee or agent while employed upon the (~~retail—licensed~~
6 ~~premises~~) on-premises licensed facility. The board may, as
7 appropriate, revoke or suspend either the permit of the employee who
8 committed the violation or the license of the licensee upon whose
9 premises the violation occurred, or both the permit and the license.

10 (6) (a) After January 1, 1997, it is a violation of this title for
11 any (~~retail~~) on-premises licensed facility licensee or agent of a
12 (~~retail—licensee~~) on-premises licensed facility as described in
13 subsection (2) (a) of this section to employ in the sale or service of
14 alcoholic beverages, any person who does not have a valid alcohol
15 server permit or whose permit has been revoked, suspended, or denied.

16 (b) It is a violation of this title for a person whose alcohol
17 server permit has been denied, suspended, or revoked to accept
18 employment in the sale or service of alcoholic beverages.

19 (7) Grocery stores licensed under RCW 66.24.360, the primary
20 commercial activity of which is the sale of grocery products and for
21 which the sale and service of beer and wine for on-premises
22 consumption with food is incidental to the primary business, and
23 employees of such establishments, are exempt from RCW 66.20.300
24 through 66.20.350, except for employees whose duties include serving
25 during tasting activities under RCW 66.24.363.

26 **Sec. 4.** RCW 66.20.320 and 2023 c 279 s 4 are each amended to
27 read as follows:

28 (1) The board shall regulate a required alcohol server education
29 program that includes:

30 (a) Development of the curriculum and materials for the education
31 program;

32 (b) Examination and examination procedures;

33 (c) Certification procedures, enforcement policies, and penalties
34 for education program instructors and providers; and

35 (d) The curriculum for an approved class 12 alcohol permit
36 training program that includes but is not limited to the following
37 subjects:

38 (i) The physiological effects of alcohol including the effects of
39 alcohol in combination with drugs;

1 (ii) Liability and legal information;
2 (iii) Driving while intoxicated;
3 (iv) Intervention with the problem customer, including ways to
4 stop service, ways to deal with the belligerent customer, and
5 alternative means of transportation to get the customer safely home;
6 (v) Methods for checking proper identification of customers;
7 (vi) Nationally recognized programs, such as TAM (Techniques in
8 Alcohol Management) and TIPS (Training for Intervention Programs)
9 modified to include Washington laws and rules; and
10 (vii) Best practices for delivery of alcohol for a course
11 approved for a person whose duties include the delivery of alcohol
12 authorized under RCW 66.24.710.

13 (2) The board shall provide the program through liquor licensee
14 associations, independent contractors, private persons, private or
15 public schools certified by the board, or any combination of such
16 providers.

17 (3) Each training entity shall provide a class 12 permit to the
18 manager, bartender, or delivery employee who has successfully
19 completed a course the board has certified. A list of the individuals
20 receiving the class 12 permit shall be forwarded to the board on the
21 completion of each course given by the training entity.

22 ~~(4) ((After January 1, 1997, the board shall require all alcohol~~
23 ~~servers applying for a class 13 alcohol server permit to view a video~~
24 ~~training session. Retail liquor licensees shall fully compensate~~
25 ~~employees for the time spent participating in this training session.~~

26 ~~(5) When requested by a retail liquor licensee, the board shall~~
27 ~~provide copies of videotaped training programs that have been~~
28 ~~produced by private vendors and make them available for a nominal fee~~
29 ~~to cover the cost of purchasing and shipment, with the fees being~~
30 ~~deposited in the liquor revolving fund for distribution to the board~~
31 ~~as needed.~~

32 ~~(6) Each training entity may provide the board with a video~~
33 ~~program of not less than one hour that covers the subjects in~~
34 ~~subsection (1)(d)(i) through (v) of this section that will be made~~
35 ~~available to a licensee for the training of a class 13 alcohol~~
36 ~~server.~~

37 ~~(7))~~ Applicants shall be given a class 13 permit upon the
38 successful completion of the program.

1 (~~(8)~~) (5) A list of the individuals receiving the class 13
2 permit shall be forwarded to the board on the completion of each
3 video training program.

4 (~~(9)~~) (6) The board shall develop a model permit for the class
5 12 and 13 permits. The board may provide such permits to training
6 entities or licensees for a nominal cost to cover production.

7 (~~(10)~~) (7)(a) Persons who have completed a nationally
8 recognized alcohol management or intervention program since July 1,
9 1993, may be issued a class 12 or 13 permit upon providing proof of
10 completion of such training to the board.

11 (b) Persons who completed the board's alcohol server training
12 program after July 1, 1993, but before July 1, 1995, may be issued a
13 class 13 permit upon providing proof of completion of such training
14 to the board.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** RCW 66.24.580 (Public house license—Fees—
16 Limitations) and 2021 c 6 s 13, 2011 c 119 s 206, 1999 c 281 s 6, &
17 1996 c 224 s 2 are each repealed.

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