



## HAPPY HOUR AND BYOB

### BYOB AND HAPPY HOUR CITY OF CHICAGO GUIDELINES

- A business must guard against minors consuming alcohol.
- Happy Hour:
  - Limited to 4 hours a day and cannot exceed more than 15 hours a week.
  - A business cannot change single drink prices.
  - Must have a notice 7 days prior to the promotion period.
  - Not allowed from 10:00 p.m. to closing time.
  - No unlimited drink specials (unless part of a meal/party package) are allowed.
  - A business cannot offer 2-for-1 drink specials.
  - Drinking games or contests are not permitted.
- BYOB (Bring Your Own Bottle):
  - The City of Chicago does not regulate the practice of BYOB in any restaurant or commercial business, except for sidewalk cafes.
  - A customer should purchase their own alcohol, bring it in to a business, serve themselves, keep the alcohol in their possession and leave the business with the empty alcohol container.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR BYOB AND HAPPY HOUR

- A business should obtain liability insurance to protect against potential lawsuits.
- A business should place limits on how much alcohol can be brought in by a customer.
- Employees of BYOB businesses should limit how much alcohol they handle, deliver, pour, or store for the customer.
- A business may provide a glass and ice for the customer.
- Businesses may charge a corkage.
- Happy Hours may be advertised, including on social media.
- Illinois Public Act 99-0046 includes more information on Happy Hour in Illinois.

### RESOURCES

- Consumers are urged to use the CHI 311 system (call 3-1-1, use the CHI311 mobile app, or visit [311.chicago.gov](http://311.chicago.gov)) to report fraud or other possible illegal practices by businesses or contractors located in Chicago.