

Responsible Beverage Service Training

What is Responsible Beverage Service Training?

Responsible Beverage Service (RBS) is a community-based approach to reducing risks associated with retail alcohol environments.

RBS has three essential elements: policy development, merchant education, and partnerships with law enforcement.

The goal is to reduce alcohol-related problems by holding merchants accountable if they violate state and local laws, such as sales to minors and intoxicated patrons.

Good RBS means that bars check IDs, refuse service to drunk patrons, and the community gets involved to ensure safe alcohol service and sales.



Why Should My Community Be Concerned About Responsible Beverage Service Training?

Research shows that simply training servers and sellers is not enough to create long-term change; a successful RBS program must be rooted in the community.

This means conducting an assessment to find out which outlets are problematic. From this assessment comes a training program that is tailored to the community's concerns: off-sale (stores), on-sale (bars, restaurants), or special events (fairs, festivals).

What is the Role of Owners and Managers in Responsible Beverage Service Training?

Server training is part of RBS, but it must be connected to house policies that clearly define how alcohol is sold. Key management personnel must endorse these policies and everyone, from the doorman to the owner, must comply with local and state laws.

Finally, consistent enforcement by local law enforcement supports the community norm that those who sell and serve alcohol must do so in a way that does not contribute to community problems.

How is Responsible Beverage Service Training Connected to Enforcement Efforts?

RBS is a highly recommended follow-up to Shoulder Tap and Minor Decoy Operations. This training is currently offered free of charge to licensees across the county.

The training is a 3 hour session, and is for on or off sale. The goals of these sessions are to provide technical assistance, consultation and training regarding the selling and serving of alcohol.

The training is available to licensees at no cost.

When Are Responsible Beverage Service Trainings Held in Marin County?

Current scheduled sessions include:

Thursday, July 13

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 26

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 1

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Monday, August 14

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Monday, August 28

1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

You must call 415-453-9980 x382 to sign up. Trainings are held at the county Health and Human Services offices at 10 San Pedro Road, Suite 1013, San Rafael, 94903.

For directions, please call 415-453-9980 x381. *Many of the electronic maps incorrectly identify the location of this office.*

Can I have Responsible Beverage Service Training for My Employees at My Business Site?

It is possible to schedule RBS training classes at your business location. Please call if you require additional assistance, or if you have any questions.



Who Should I contact?

Trainings are conducted and coordinated by Laura Kantorowski at Bay Area Community Resources. Call (415)453-9980 x382 to register or for more information.