



Serving It Right (British Columbia)

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Practice Questions

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1. Which provincial body is responsible for licensing and regulating liquor service in British Columbia?

- A. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- B. Service BC
- C. The Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB)
- D. Health Canada

2. What is the legal drinking age in British Columbia?

- A. 18
- B. 19
- C. 21
- D. 20

3. What is 'secondary supply' of liquor?

- A. Buying liquor for yourself
- B. An of-age person giving or buying liquor for a minor or an intoxicated person
- C. Ordering a second drink
- D. Stocking the bar before opening

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4. Which of the following is a common visible sign of intoxication?

- A. Ordering water
- B. Slurred speech and unsteady balance
- C. Paying with a credit card
- D. Reading the menu carefully



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5. Under BC law, you must NOT serve liquor to a person who is:

- A. Apparently intoxicated
- B. Drinking water
- C. Sitting quietly
- D. Eating a meal

6. If an intoxicated patron is over-served and then injures someone after leaving, who could be held legally liable?

- A. Only the patron
- B. The server, the establishment, and potentially the patron
- C. Only the injured person
- D. No one

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7. A core responsibility of every liquor server in BC is to:

- A. Maximize the number of drinks sold
- B. Serve liquor responsibly and prevent harm
- C. Let patrons police themselves
- D. Avoid ever refusing a customer

8. Martin is a male in his late twenties who weighs about 180 lbs. He started drinking at 4 pm, and by 7 pm, has had five standard drinks. What is his approximate BAC?

- A. approximate BAC is 0.05
- B. approximate BAC is 0.06
- C. approximate BAC is 0.07
- D. approximate BAC is 0.08

9. Which piece of legislation sets out the main rules for serving liquor in British Columbia?

- A. The Smart Serve Act
- B. The Liquor Control and Licensing Act (LCLA) and its Regulation
- C. The Ontario Liquor Licence and Control Act
- D. The federal Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act

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10. When checking ID in BC, how many pieces of identification should you generally ask for?

- A. None, just ask their age
- B. Four pieces
- C. Two pieces, at least one government-issued with a photo
- D. Only a social media profile

11. Can a minor be present in all areas of a BC liquor primary establishment (such as a bar)?

- A. Yes, at any time
- B. Yes, if they do not drink
- C. No, minors are generally not permitted in liquor primary establishments unless the licence allows it
- D. Yes, after 9 p.m.

12. Which factor does NOT directly affect how quickly a person becomes intoxicated?

- A. Body weight
- B. Whether they have eaten
- C. The colour of their clothing
- D. How fast they drink

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13. The best time to slow or stop service is:

- A. After the patron passes out
- B. Only when police arrive
- C. Early, before the patron becomes heavily intoxicated
- D. Never, keep serving

14. 'Over-service' means:

- A. Continuing to serve liquor to an intoxicated person
- B. Serving food too quickly
- C. Giving extra napkins
- D. Serving water



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15. Before a busy shift, a responsible server should:

- A. Pre-pour many strong drinks
- B. Remove all water from tables
- C. Know the house policies, service limits, and how to arrange safe rides
- D. Plan to ignore ID checks to save time

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16. This 9-ounce pina colada is 13% alcohol. Is it less than, equal to, or more than one standard drink?

- A. Less than a standard drink
- B. Equal to a standard drink
- C. More than a standard drink

17. In British Columbia, who must hold a valid Serving It Right certificate?

- A. Licensees, managers, and anyone who serves or supervises the service of liquor
- B. Only the business owner
- C. Only bartenders who mix cocktails
- D. Only staff working after midnight

18. Which of the following is an acceptable piece of primary identification in BC?

- A. A valid passport
- B. A library card
- C. A student timetable
- D. A gym membership card

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19. If a parent asks you to serve their 17-year-old child a beer in your licensed restaurant, you should:

- A. Refuse, because it is illegal to serve liquor to a minor regardless of parental consent
- B. Serve one beer because the parent consented
- C. Serve a low-alcohol beer only
- D. Serve it if the parent signs a waiver



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20. Roughly how long does the body take to process one standard drink?

- A. About one hour
- B. About five minutes
- C. About ten seconds
- D. About one full day

21. Which is a good technique when refusing further liquor service?

- A. Embarrassing the patron in front of others
- B. Being calm, polite, firm, and non-judgmental
- C. Arguing about how much they drank
- D. Physically pushing them out

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22. Commercial host liability in BC means a licensed establishment may be responsible for:

- A. The decor of the building
- B. Customers' parking tickets
- C. Foreseeable harm caused by a patron it over-served
- D. The weather outside

23. Offering food and water to patrons who are drinking is:

- A. A good responsible-service practice
- B. Against the law
- C. Only for non-drinkers
- D. A way to increase intoxication

24. This gin and tonic is 2 ounces gin (40% alcohol) and 5 ounces tonic water. Is it less than, equal to, or more than one standard drink?

- A. Less than a standard drink
- B. Equal to a standard drink
- C. More than a standard drink

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25. What is the Serving It Right program in British Columbia?

- A. A liquor delivery service
- B. A government tax program
- C. BC's mandatory responsible beverage service certification program
- D. A loyalty program for bars

26. A patron presents an ID showing a birthdate that makes them 18 years old. You should:

- A. Serve them a single drink only
- B. Serve them if they look mature
- C. Serve them if a friend vouches for them
- D. Refuse liquor service because they are under 19

27. You suspect an of-age customer is buying drinks to pass to a minor at their table. You should:

- A. Do nothing
- B. Serve faster to keep them happy
- C. Only act if the minor actually drinks
- D. Stop serving that customer and prevent the liquor from reaching the minor

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28. A customer says coffee will 'sober them up' quickly. The correct understanding is:

- A. Coffee removes alcohol from the blood
- B. Coffee halves the blood alcohol level
- C. Coffee speeds up alcohol processing
- D. Coffee may make them more alert but does not lower their blood alcohol level

29. When you stop serving an intoxicated patron, a responsible next step is to:

- A. Let them drive home immediately
- B. Serve them coffee with a shot
- C. Ignore how they get home
- D. Offer water and help arrange safe transportation



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30. Which step best reduces an establishment's liability risk?

- A. Serving doubles to save time
- B. Ignoring how patrons get home
- C. Skipping ID checks
- D. Training staff, monitoring intoxication, and helping patrons get home safely



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Answer Key & Explanations

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1. C — The Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB)

In BC the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch (LCRB) administers liquor licences and enforces the rules. This differs from Ontario, where the AGCO plays that role.

2. B — 19

The legal drinking age in BC is 19. A person must be 19 or older to be served or to purchase liquor.

3. B — An of-age person giving or buying liquor for a minor or an intoxicated person

Secondary supply happens when someone of legal age provides liquor to a minor (or to an intoxicated person). It is illegal and staff must watch for it.

4. B — Slurred speech and unsteady balance

Slurred speech, poor balance, glassy eyes, and impaired coordination are common signs of intoxication that servers should monitor.

5. A — Apparently intoxicated

It is illegal to serve liquor to a person who is, or appears to be, intoxicated. Service must stop before a patron becomes a danger to themselves or others.

6. B — The server, the establishment, and potentially the patron

BC law and court decisions recognize that servers and licensees can share liability for harm caused by a patron who was over-served (third-party / 'commercial host' liability).

7. B — Serve liquor responsibly and prevent harm

The server's central duty is responsible service: checking age, monitoring intoxication, preventing over-service, and helping patrons stay safe.

8. C — approximate BAC is 0.07

9. B — The Liquor Control and Licensing Act (LCLA) and its Regulation

The Liquor Control and Licensing Act (LCLA) and the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation are the primary laws governing licensed liquor service in BC.

10. C — Two pieces, at least one government-issued with a photo

Best practice in BC is to ask for two pieces of ID, at least one being government-issued with the person's photo, signature, and date of birth.

11. C — No, minors are generally not permitted in liquor primary establishments unless the licence allows it

Minors are generally not allowed in liquor primary establishments such as bars and pubs unless the licence specifically permits it (for example, certain family-friendly times or areas).



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12. C — The colour of their clothing

Body weight, food in the stomach, drinking speed, and tolerance affect impairment. Clothing colour has no effect on blood alcohol concentration.

13. C — Early, before the patron becomes heavily intoxicated

Intervening early (slowing service, offering food and water) is safer and easier than dealing with a heavily intoxicated patron later.

14. A — Continuing to serve liquor to an intoxicated person

Over-service is serving liquor to someone who is already intoxicated. It is illegal and a major source of liability.

15. C — Know the house policies, service limits, and how to arrange safe rides

Being prepared (knowing house policies, service limits, ID rules, and transport options) helps a server act quickly and responsibly when issues arise.

16. C — More than a standard drink

17. A — Licensees, managers, and anyone who serves or supervises the service of liquor

Serving It Right is mandatory in BC for licensees, managers, servers, and others who sell, serve, or supervise the service of liquor.

18. A — A valid passport

Acceptable primary ID includes government-issued documents such as a passport, BC driver's licence, BC Services Card with photo, or BCID. A library or gym card is not acceptable.

19. A — Refuse, because it is illegal to serve liquor to a minor regardless of parental consent

It is illegal to serve or supply liquor to a minor in a licensed establishment, even with a parent's permission.

20. A — About one hour

The body eliminates roughly one standard drink per hour; this rate cannot be sped up by coffee, food, or water.

21. B — Being calm, polite, firm, and non-judgmental

A calm, respectful, firm approach reduces conflict. Avoid arguing or embarrassing the patron; offer water, food, and help arranging a safe ride.

22. C — Foreseeable harm caused by a patron it over-served

A commercial host (a licensed establishment) can be liable when it over-serves a patron and that patron then causes foreseeable harm, such as a drunk-driving crash.

23. A — A good responsible-service practice

Encouraging food and water slows alcohol absorption and helps keep patrons safer; it is a recommended responsible-service practice.

24. C — More than a standard drink

2 oz of 40% spirits contains approximately 1.33 standard drinks worth of alcohol (a standard drink uses 1.5 oz of 40% spirits), so this is more than one standard drink.

25. C — BC's mandatory responsible beverage service certification program

Serving It Right is BC's legally required responsible beverage service program, administered by go2HR, that teaches servers how to serve liquor safely and lawfully.



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26. D — Refuse liquor service because they are under 19

Anyone under 19 cannot be served liquor in BC, regardless of appearance or who vouches for them.

27. D — Stop serving that customer and prevent the liquor from reaching the minor

If you reasonably believe liquor is being supplied to a minor, you must intervene, stop service, and prevent the minor from receiving liquor.

28. D — Coffee may make them more alert but does not lower their blood alcohol level

Only time reduces blood alcohol concentration. Coffee may make a person feel more awake but they remain impaired.

29. D — Offer water and help arrange safe transportation

After stopping service, help arrange a safe way home (taxi, rideshare, sober friend) and offer water and food. Do not let an intoxicated patron drive.

30. D — Training staff, monitoring intoxication, and helping patrons get home safely

Trained staff, active monitoring, refusing over-service, and arranging safe transport all reduce harm and the establishment's liability exposure.



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