



REPORT ON UNDERAGE AND HIGH-RISK DRINKING

AS PRESCRIBED BY ACT 85 OF 2006



JUNE 2023

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GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF ACT 85 OF 2006

Since Feb. 1, 2007, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) has been required to prepare a biennial report on underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking in this commonwealth. The report is presented to the House Liquor Control Committee and the Senate Law and Justice Committee. Details of the report include current levels and trends related to underage and high-risk drinking, current state preventative programs and current science that better defines the problems and suggests proven prevention strategies.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report, prepared by the PLCB as mandated by Act 85 of 2006, is a resource regarding the status of underage and high-risk drinking of alcohol within the commonwealth.

Alcohol is the most widely used substance among youth in America and is a serious public health problem.¹ Underage drinking has many direct and indirect consequences, such as but not limited to deaths from alcohol poisoning, suicide, homicide or motor vehicle crashes; injuries; risky sexual behavior; family, school or legal problems; and altered brain development.² Research has shown that the human brain is not fully developed until a person enters their mid- to late-20s.³ Because the area responsible for planning and controlling impulses, the prefrontal cortex, is not fully developed, teens are more likely to engage in risky behaviors without considering the consequences of their actions.⁴

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), more adolescent girls have now reported past-month alcohol use and binge drinking than boys.⁵ The report also states that adolescents are more likely to use alcohol than tobacco or marijuana.⁶

The PLCB has been addressing underage and dangerous drinking since its formation; specifically, the mission of the Bureau of Alcohol Education is to provide leadership and resources that will reduce alcohol misuse in Pennsylvania. As problem drinking has evolved over time, so too have the programs and partnerships developed by the PLCB in the interest of social responsibility and public health and well-being.

Today, for example:

- Since the PLCB is a responsible retailer of alcohol, its Fine Wine & Good Spirits (FW&GS) store associates are among the first lines of defense against underage drinking. FW&GS personnel are trained to verify the age of those purchasing alcohol and look for signs of visible impairment.
- The PLCB's Responsible Alcohol Management Program (RAMP) provides training and resources to liquor licensees and their employees so they may understand and employ responsible alcohol management practices. Training for servers and sellers, as well as owners and managers, addresses how to detect fraudulent identification and visibly intoxicated persons and provides guidance on establishing policies governing safe and responsible alcohol service. The PLCB also provides posters and training materials to licensees to address the issues of underage and high-risk drinking.

¹"Underage Drinking," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, March 2023, accessed 13 June 2023 via https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIAAA_Underage_Drinking_1.pdf

²Ibid.

³"The Teen Brain: 7 Things to Know," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, National Institute of Mental Health, 2023, Accessed 13 June 2023 via <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/sites/default/files/documents/health/publications/the-teen-brain-7-things-to-know/teen-brain-7-things-to-know.pdf>

⁴Ibid.

⁵"Underage Drinking," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, March 2023, accessed 13 June 2023 via https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIAAA_Underage_Drinking_1.pdf

⁶Ibid.

- The PLCB awards Reducing Underage and Dangerous Drinking Grants to schools, community organizations, municipalities, law enforcement organizations, nonprofit organizations, for-profit organizations and institutions of higher education to fund programs that focus on strategies to discourage and reduce both underage and dangerous drinking. Grant projects include increased police patrols, social norms campaigns, college alcohol assessment surveys, online alcohol education programs and peer training.
- The PLCB uses grant funding from the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA) to further its mission by providing learning opportunities for staff and community partners. Initiatives include hosting a free conference, attending statewide trainings and events, partnering with like-minded organizations to develop needs assessments and sponsoring in-state conferences.
- The PLCB's award-winning Alcohol Awareness for Student Leaders and Influencers Training is customized for each college campus to provide its resident assistants and student leaders – those on the front line as new college students encounter the unique challenges of campus life – the tools they need to effectively guide and help other students through experiences with alcohol.
- The PLCB's award-winning media campaign *Know When. Know How.*SM is a statewide, research-based education and prevention effort that empowers Pennsylvania parents of children ages 8 to 12 with the tools, resources and confidence needed to engage in meaningful conversations with their kids about the dangers of alcohol from an early age, before trial or use of alcohol begins.

With the passage of laws in 2016 that increased convenience and access relative to alcohol, the beverage alcohol landscape in Pennsylvania continues to transform. Today, more than 1,600 private retailers have the ability to sell limited quantities of both beer and wine to go, including nearly 1,300 grocery and convenience stores. Increased visibility of alcohol in these places can present teachable moments for parents, providing a natural opportunity to open the conversation about alcohol and make clear that alcohol use by their children and other minors is neither allowed by law nor acceptable by the parent.

It is widely understood and scientifically accepted that the earlier in life a person begins drinking alcohol, the more likely the person is to experience alcohol problems throughout life. It is central to the reduction of underage and dangerous drinking to acknowledge that parents and guardians have significant and unique influence over their children's decisions regarding alcohol. Prevention must be a joint effort, not only from various state agencies, but also from parents, guardians, school personnel, student leaders, law enforcement, peers, clergy and other influencers.

Underage drinking and its negative consequences experienced by youth, families, communities and society remain problems, despite decades of efforts to combat them. This report intends to present underage and high-risk drinking information within the context of research identifying the problems, review the agencies and programs across the commonwealth actively engaged in the prevention of underage and high-risk drinking and review emerging prevention techniques to better address the unique challenges posed by this critical public health issue.

A MULTI-AGENCY PUBLIC HEALTH EFFORT

Many state agencies and organizations provided the PLCB with information and assistance in the coordination of this report. These organizations and agencies play an active role in researching, identifying and addressing issues of underage and dangerous drinking within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The PLCB gratefully acknowledges the information and efforts provided by the following:

- Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE)
- Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP)
- Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)
- Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT)
- Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)
- Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission (MPOETC)
- Institute for Law Enforcement Education (ILEE)
- Pennsylvania Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Association
- Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD)
- Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Coalition
- Commonwealth Prevention Alliance (CPA)

Additionally, the following national organizations play a key role in assisting state initiatives:



National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA):

Founded in 1938, NABCA is the national association representing states that directly control the distribution and sale of beverage alcohol. NABCA's mission is to support member jurisdictions in their efforts to protect public health and safety and ensure responsible and efficient systems for beverage alcohol distribution and sales. NABCA provides research, analytics and regulatory information related to alcohol policy.



National Liquor Law Enforcement Association (NLLEA):

Established in 1988, NLLEA is a national association of law enforcement personnel dedicated to the enforcement of liquor laws and regulations. The NLLEA is committed to improving the standards and practices of liquor law enforcement, the professional development of its members and recognition of the role and achievements of liquor law enforcement in protecting and promoting public safety.

Research indicates that multifaceted, evidence-based strategies are most effective when youth receive consistent messages regarding the consequences of underage drinking and support from parents and families, law enforcement, healthcare providers, community organizations, schools and universities and local, state and federal government agencies.⁷ This report discusses initiatives taken in Pennsylvania to address alcohol use among the underage and college population in Pennsylvania.

⁷ "Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking 2021," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, October 2022, Accessed 28 October 2022 via https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/media/ReportToCongress/2021/report_main/2021_Report_to_Congress_updated_Oct2022.pdf

STATUS OF UNDERAGE AND DANGEROUS DRINKING

Alcohol Consumption Trends

The most widely used substance among youth in the U.S. is alcohol. Underage alcohol consumption results in thousands of deaths annually due to motor vehicle crashes, violence, suicide and alcohol poisoning, to name a few causes. Underage drinking can also lead to long-term cognitive impairment and decreased academic performance, as well as increase the chances of developing an alcohol use disorder as an adult.

Binge drinking is a dangerous pattern of consuming excessive alcohol, which brings a person's blood alcohol concentration (BAC) to 0.08% or higher.⁸ Binge drinking occurs when a female consumes four or more drinks and when a male consumes five or more drinks in about two hours.⁹ Approximately 4.2 million (11.1%) 12- to 20-year-olds reported binge drinking at least once in the past month.¹⁰ It has been reported that 44% of high school students who binge drink have consumed eight or more drinks.¹¹ One in four adults that report binge drinking also report consuming eight or more drinks.¹² Binge drinking is one form of excessive drinking that can lead to chronic health conditions.

Some recent alcohol-related trends may facilitate binge drinking. Alcopops, higher alcohol by volume (ABV) beers, alcohol slushies and borgs (blackout rage gallons) can contribute to binge drinking.

- Alcopops are sugary, sweet alcoholic beverages packaged like their nonalcoholic soda counterparts.¹³ Alcopops can contain up to 15% ABV and have little alcohol taste.¹⁴ These beverages are marketed to young, inexperienced drinkers and can be dangerous when consumed in high doses.¹⁵
- Many craft beers today have a higher ABV than a standard beer, which is 5% ABV. For example, a 12-ounce beer with a 15% ABV is equal to three standard drinks. With a higher ABV beer, it is easy to overconsume alcohol.
- Alcohol slushies are another beverage to be aware of. For example, a 32-ounce slushie made from malt liquor could equal four standard drinks, making overconsumption easy.
- Borgs are created by filling a gallon jug with half a gallon of water, half a gallon of vodka, caffeinated flavor drops and powdered electrolytes.¹⁶ Borgs have become popular among college communities and appear in many videos on social media. Many of those videos demonstrate how to make different types of borgs.¹⁷ One borg containing a half-gallon or 64 ounces of 80-proof vodka is equivalent to approximately 42 standard drinks. In addition, borgs combine alcohol with caffeine, which masks the depressant effects of alcohol and may increase alcohol consumption, leading to binge drinking.¹⁸

⁸ "Understanding Binge Drinking," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, March 2023, Accessed 13 June 2023 via https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/sites/default/files/publications/NIAAA_Binge_Drinking_3.pdf

⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ "Report to Congress on the Prevention and Reduction of Underage Drinking 2021," U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, October 2022, Accessed 28 October 2022 via https://www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/media/ReportToCongress/2021/report_main/2021_Report_to_Congress_updated_Oct2022.pdf

¹¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022, November 14). Binge Drinking. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/binge-drinking.htm#print>

¹² Ibid.

¹³ American Addiction Centers. (2020, September 25). Alcopops. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://alcoholrehab.com/alcoholism/effects/alcopops/>

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Sung, M. (2023, February 8). Borgs are Taking Over College Parties and TikTok. What Exactly are They?. NBC News. Accessed 9 February 2023 via https://www.nbcnews.com/pop-culture/viral/tiktoks-borgs-college-parties-harm-reduction-rcna69521?cid=sm_npd_nn_fb_ma&fbclid=IwAR1QaEpl4uQG7Dlhn8wTYno0wt6xz4GnMUDSwlSIW3k19fQMKaScOrc8c

¹⁷ Ibid.

¹⁸ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022, December 7). Alcohol and Caffeine. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://www.cdc.gov/alcohol/fact-sheets/caffeine-and-alcohol.htm>

With information available on the internet and in social media, teens are learning creative ways to inhale, communicate about and hide alcohol.

- Inhaling alcohol vapor bypasses the digestive system because it is absorbed into the lungs.¹⁹ Effects are felt quickly, as the alcohol is transported through the bloodstream to the brain.²⁰ Inhaling alcohol vapor is like binge drinking and can cause harm to the brain and lungs, leading to alcohol poisoning.²¹
- Youth today are using emojis, code words and hashtags that refer to drinking, underage drinking, someone supplying alcohol to minors and partying. By searching online, one can stay current on the language teens are using.
- Alcohol disguise devices conceal alcohol in ordinary-looking items. These items are readily available and can easily be purchased online.

The effects of excessive alcohol consumption can lead to an alcohol use disorder and memory loss. It is the cause of other chronic health conditions²², such as heart disease, liver disease and cancer, and those may increase the risk of death.²³ Despite being a preventable cause of death, chronic health conditions that resulted from excessive alcohol consumption have risen over the past 10 years.²⁴ Research has shown that excessive alcohol use was responsible for an estimated one in eight deaths among adults aged 20 to 64 years.²⁵ Ultimately, 140,000 excessive alcohol consumption deaths occur each year, reducing their average life expectancy by 26 years.²⁶

Levels and Trends of Alcohol Use According to the Pennsylvania Youth Survey

The Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS) has been administered biennially since 1989. This report measures the need for prevention services among youth in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12 in the areas of substance use and abuse (including illegal prescription drug use, vaping and e-cigarettes), delinquency, antisocial behavior, violence and mental health issues (including suicide and bullying), internet safety and after-school activities. The survey questions ask youth about the factors that place them at risk for substance use and other problem behaviors, along with protective factors that can prevent such behaviors. Since 2013, three Pennsylvania organizations, PDE, DDAP and PCCD, support the administration of PAYS by providing funding to eliminate the cost to any school or district.²⁷

PAYS is administered in the student's everyday learning environment in a method determined by each school. The completion of the survey is voluntary; students may skip any question they do not wish to answer or opt out of the survey entirely. Students are made aware that their responses will remain anonymous and confidential and that the individual information they provide cannot be obtained. The results of the survey are reported in aggregate at the local, county and state levels.

The 2021 PAYS was administered to public and private school students in Fall 2021, resulting in 246,081 valid surveys. Of the 1,908 eligible schools in Pennsylvania, 1,072 chose to participate in the 2021 PAYS. More than 400 school districts and counties received community-level summary reports.

The 2021 PAYS results are available online at pccd.pa.gov.

¹⁹ Reid, N. Inhaling Alcohol is Dangerous: Know the Risks. National Capital Poison Center. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://www.poison.org/articles/inhaling-alcohol-is-dangerous>

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Ibid.

²² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022, July 11). Excessive Alcohol Use. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/publications/factsheets/alcohol.htm>

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Esser, M.B., Leung, G., & Sher, A. (2022). Estimated Deaths Attributable to Excessive Alcohol Use Among US Adults Aged 20 to 64 Years, 2015 to 2019. JAMA Network. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jamanetworkopen/fullarticle/2798004>

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2022, July 11). Excessive Alcohol Use. Accessed 8 February 2023 via <https://www.cdc.gov/chronicdisease/resources/publications/factsheets/alcohol.htm>.

²⁷ "2021 Pennsylvania Youth Survey State Report," 2022, Accessed 01 November 2022 via <https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Juvenile-Justice/Documents/2021%20PAYS/PAYS%202021%20State%20Report.Final.pdf>

PennDOT Crash Statistics

Alcohol-related crashes in Pennsylvania increased to 9,220 in 2021 from 7,700 in 2020. In 2021, alcohol-related fatalities also increased to 311 from 293 in 2020.²⁸ Although alcohol-related crashes accounted for approximately 8% of the total crashes in 2021, they accounted for 25% of fatal crashes. Alcohol-related crashes were four times more likely to result in a fatality than those not related to alcohol (3.2% of the alcohol-related crashes resulted in fatality, compared to 0.8% of crashes that were not alcohol-related).²⁹

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Data

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) compiles data regarding crash fatalities and the prevalence of alcohol impairment among fatal crashes. The following table provides data for Pennsylvania and the U.S., as compared to the state with the lowest percentage of alcohol-impaired driving fatalities for each year. Nationwide, alcohol-impaired driving crashes increased 14% from 2020 to 2021, higher than total traffic fatalities, which increased by 10%.³⁰

Alcohol-Impaired Driving Fatalities: Pennsylvania, U.S. and *Best State ^{31,32}				
Year	Location	Total Fatalities in all Crashes	Alcohol-Impaired Fatalities: (BAC = .08+)	
			Number	Percent (%)
2017	Pennsylvania	1,137	314	28
	U.S.	37,133	10,874	29
	*Utah	273	53	19
2018	Pennsylvania	1,190	339	28
	U.S.	36,835	10,710	29
	*Kentucky	724	136	19
2019	Pennsylvania	1,059	299	28
	U.S.	36,355	10,196	28
	*Utah	248	3,938	15
2020	Pennsylvania	1,129	318	28
	U.S.	39,007	11,718	30
	*District of Columbia	36	8	21
2021	Pennsylvania	1,230	337	27
	U.S.	42,939	13,384	31
	*Mississippi	772	155	20

²⁸ "Pennsylvania Crash Facts and Statistics," Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 2021, Accessed 15 December 2022 via https://www.penndot.pa.gov/TravelInPA/Safety/Documents/2021_CFB_linked.pdf

²⁹ Ibid.

³⁰ "Overview of Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes in 2021," U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, April 2023, Accessed 3 April 2023, via <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813435>

³¹ "Overview of Motor Vehicle Crashes in 2020," U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, March 2022, Accessed 27 October 2022 via <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813266>

³² "Overview of Motor Vehicle Traffic Crashes in 2021," U.S. Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, April 2023, Accessed 3 April 2023, via <https://crashstats.nhtsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/813435>

PROGRAMS AND STRATEGIES ADDRESSING UNDERAGE AND HIGH-RISK DRINKING

Underage and dangerous use of alcohol are issues addressed by many state and local agencies, as well as community groups and nonprofit and for-profit organizations. Often, evidence-informed practices are most successful in combating the problem. Organizations often cooperate or collaborate to ensure programs successfully reach target populations. Thus, programs and initiatives addressing underage and high-risk drinking fall into these broad categories: enforcement programs, professional training, youth training, community-based programs, family-based initiatives, school-based initiatives and advertising and media.



Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB):

Through its Bureau of Alcohol Education (BAE), the PLCB is committed to providing information about responsible alcohol consumption. The bureau's mission is to deliver no-use and zero-tolerance messages to those under the age of 21, encourage responsibility and moderation for any adult age 21 and over who chooses to drink alcohol and promote responsible alcohol service and practices among licensees and those who serve beverage alcohol in Pennsylvania.

Programs and Strategies

PLCB-Funded Enforcement

In fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22, the PLCB provided \$59.9 million in funding to BLCE, the organization primarily responsible for enforcement of liquor laws.

Reducing Underage and Dangerous Drinking (RUDD) Grant

During the two-year 2020-22 RUDD grant cycle, the PLCB awarded \$2.8 million to 84 recipients.

For the two-year 2022-24 grant cycle, a record \$3.4 million was awarded to 97 organizations. Grant recipients include schools, community organizations, municipalities, law enforcement organizations, nonprofit organizations, institutions of higher education and for-profit institutions to fund programs that focus on strategies to discourage and reduce both underage and dangerous drinking.

- Community law-enforcement organizations use funding for targeted underage patrols, training and education, outreach and equipment.
- Community and nonprofit organizations fund initiatives such as MADD's Power of Parents® and Parents Who Host Lose the Most®, Project Northland, public service announcements, town hall meetings and enforcement efforts.
- Primary and secondary schools fund various programs aimed at reaching students, such as social norms campaigns, guest speakers and impaired driving simulation activities.
- College and university recipients enable schools to develop strategies to reduce underage and dangerous drinking through surveys and assessments, enforcement efforts, alcohol-free alternative activities, attendance at alcohol education conferences, training for resident assistants, peer education programs and evidence-informed programs like EVERFI AlcoholEdu® and SafeColleges.
- For-profit organizations focus on peer-to-peer outreach and public service announcements.

The complete list of 2022-24 grant recipients and projects is available at lcb.pa.gov.

Training Programs

The Bureau of Alcohol Education offers training opportunities to institutions of higher education, law enforcement organizations and liquor license holders.

Alcohol Awareness for Student Leaders and Influencers Training is offered to colleges and universities free of charge at their request, for all student leaders, including but not limited to Greek Life chapter leaders, team captains, resident assistants, tutors and club leaders. This comprehensive training is designed to provide student leaders with the resources and knowledge to educate and influence their peers to abstain from underage drinking and to inform responsible consumption for those over 21. Topics include alcohol's effects on the human body; the unique challenges of the college environment related to drinking, binge drinking and alcohol poisoning; liquor laws and medical amnesty; and responsible drinking for those over 21. Seven presentations were given to collegians in 2021 and nine in 2022.

Understanding the Liquor Laws and Alcohol Related Offenses in Pennsylvania Training provides an overview of the commonwealth's laws and immunities regarding underage drinking, the current environment of liquor laws and the resources and authorities of the PLCB and BLCE. Since 2019, this training is required for all RUDD law enforcement grantees. Two trainings were provided to law enforcement in 2021 and 15 in 2022.

Responsible Alcohol Management Program



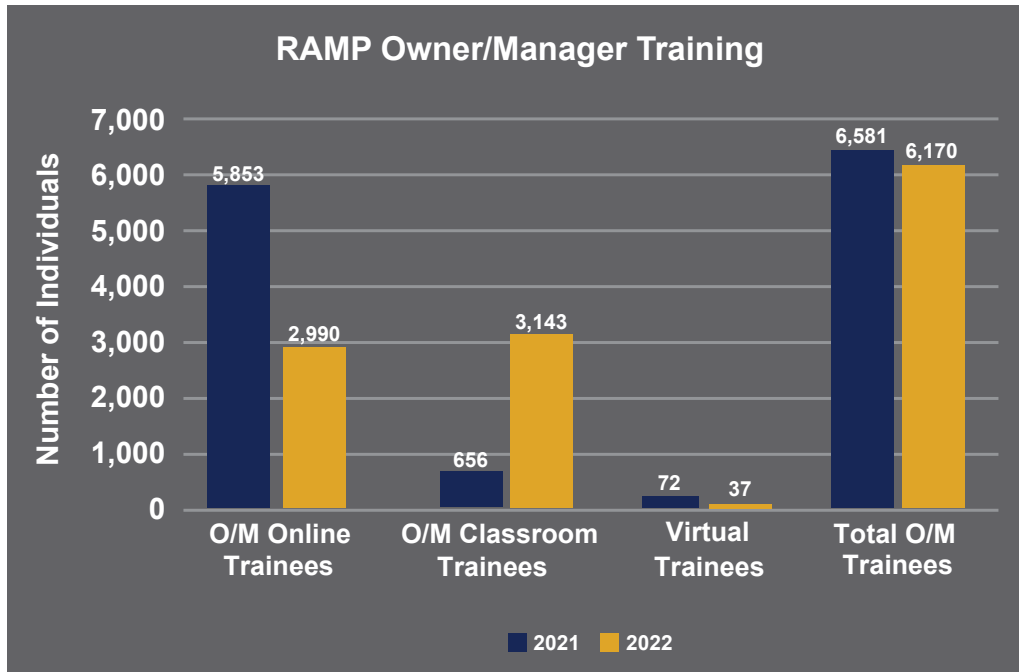
The Responsible Alcohol Management Program (RAMP) gives licensees the tools they need to serve alcohol responsibly. In 2000, RAMP was established as a voluntary program. In 2006, Act 26 mandated RAMP certification for licensees found guilty of sales to minors or visibly intoxicated persons (VIPs). RAMP may also be required as part of a conditional licensing agreement. Additionally, wine expanded permit holders must comply with all aspects of RAMP.

Licensees who seek RAMP certification of their licensed premises must successfully complete the four program prerequisites. Completing either the Owner/Manager or Server/Seller Training alone does not grant certification to the establishment or the person completing training.

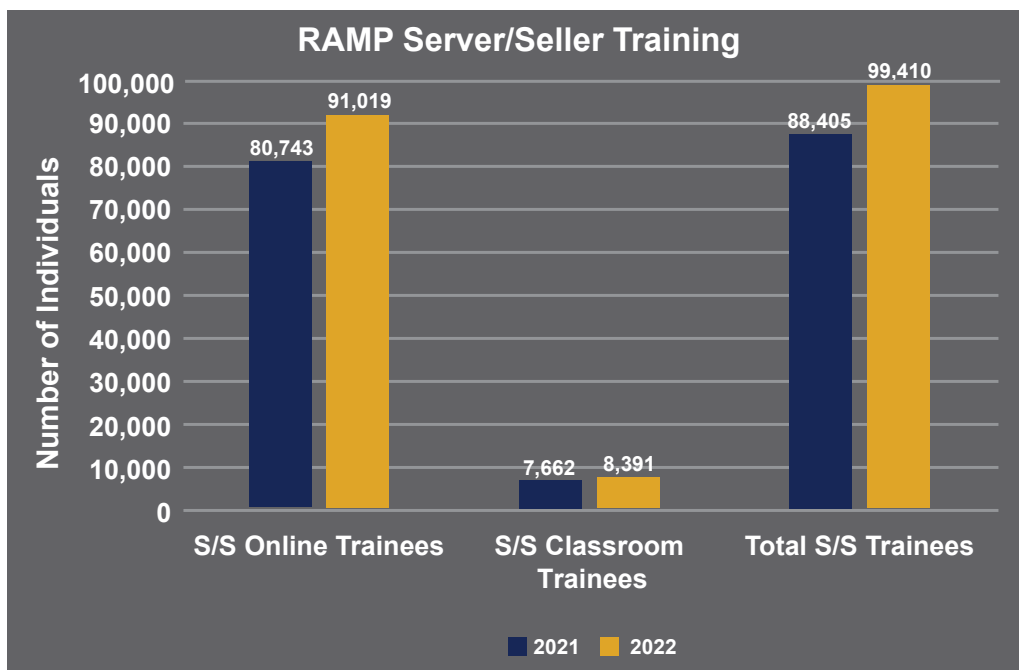
- 1. Owner/Manager Training** – This training is offered free to license owners and PLCB-approved managers and covers topics such as liability, how to develop and implement house policies, responsibilities of licensees and information covered in Server/Seller Training. This training is required for newly approved managers of certain license types. Owner/Manager Training expires after two years. Upon recent advisement from the PLCB Chief Counsel's Office, all PLCB-approved managers who were approved on or after Feb. 20, 2012, and who are still the PLCB-approved manager on the liquor license must renew the RAMP Owner/Manager Training every two years.

As of Oct. 1, 2021, per regulation, the first time an individual enrolls in Owner/Manager Training, they must attend the training in a classroom setting. Subsequent training may be completed three ways: classroom (in-person, instructor-led), virtual (instructor-led) or online (no instructor). The Owner/Manager Training, whether in-person, virtual or online, is facilitated by the PLCB.

Classroom Owner/Manager Trainings were suspended during most of 2021 due to COVID-19. To fill the gap, PLCB staff began offering virtual trainings in April 2021. Classroom trainings resumed in September 2021, resulting in an abnormally low number of classroom trainees.



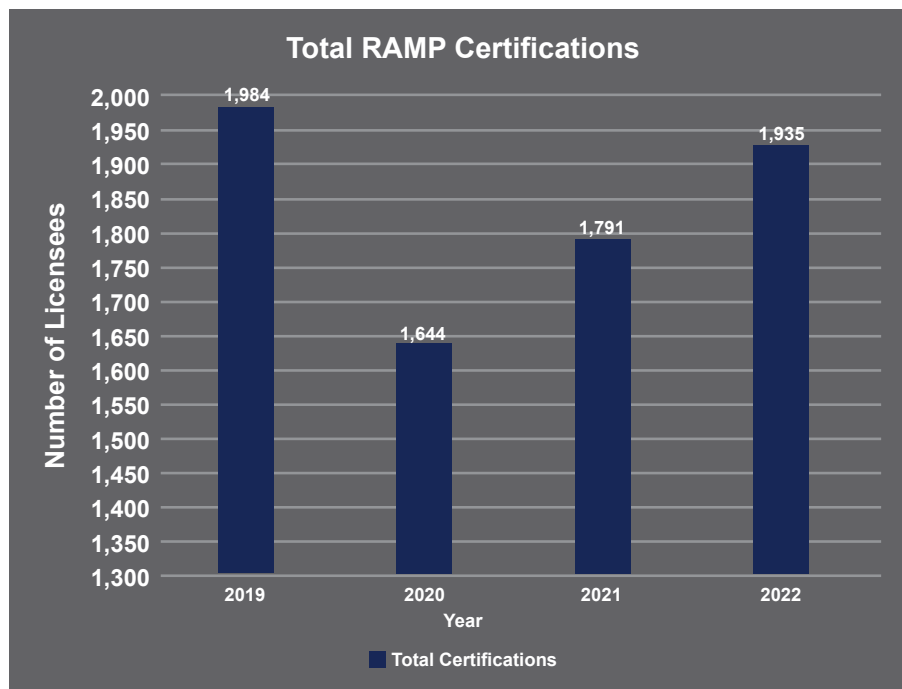
2. Server/Seller Training – At least 50% of the licensee’s alcohol service staff must be trained to apply for RAMP certification. This includes anyone who serves alcohol and/or checks IDs. Training includes tips on carding and spotting fake IDs, how to spot and effectively deal with VIPs and how to slow down or stop alcohol service. RAMP Server/Seller Training, whether online or in-person, is facilitated by PLCB-approved independent providers who are observed and monitored by the Bureau of Alcohol Education to ensure quality and consistency of training. *This training is required within six months of hire for anyone hired on or after Aug. 8, 2016, who serves or sells alcoholic beverages and/or checks IDs, unless the person successfully completed the training within the previous two years. Additionally, all personnel serving or selling alcohol at an establishment with a wine expanded permit must complete and maintain this training.*



3. New Employee Orientation – An owner or manager is responsible for reviewing the new employee orientation checklist, supplied by the PLCB, with every employee who serves/sells alcohol when seeking certification and every new employee in that role thereafter. The checklist includes legal information about the penalties for serving alcohol to minors and VIPs, acceptable forms of ID, carding practices and preventing criminal activity on the premises.

4. Signage – Posters or signs defining acceptable forms of ID and the refusal of alcohol service to minors and VIPs must be displayed at the licensed establishment. Appropriate signage is available to licensees free of charge at classroom Owner/Manager Trainings and can be ordered through PLCB+, our external web-based regulatory system.

Upon completion of the prerequisites of RAMP certification, the licensee must apply for RAMP certification in PLCB+. If all requirements are met, the licensee will receive certification valid for two years. There is no fee for applying for certification or recertification.



RAMP certification is typically voluntary; however, licensees may be required by the Office of Administrative Law Judge to complete all prerequisites and apply for RAMP certification if found guilty of serving alcohol to minors or VIPs. The PLCB may require RAMP certification as part of a conditional licensing agreement. Additionally, Act 39 of 2016 made RAMP certification a requirement for all licensees seeking wine expanded permits, which authorize the sale of limited quantities of wine for off-premises consumption.

The benefits of RAMP certification include:

- Knowledgeable, well-trained alcohol service staff and management
- Recognition as a responsible licensee in the community
- Less likelihood of dram shop liability
- Possible discount on liquor liability insurance
- Possible reduction in fines and penalties issued by an Administrative Law Judge for serving alcohol to a minor or a VIP, provided the licensee was RAMP-certified at the time of the violation and had no citations for either of those two violations in the previous four years

Community Initiatives

The PLCB also develops and distributes various educational materials to licensees and the public to address the issues of underage and high-risk drinking. All materials, which are provided free of charge, promote the safe and responsible use of alcohol for those 21 years of age or older and stress a “no use” message to those under 21. These materials come in many forms, including but not limited to pamphlets, children’s activity books and information cards. Customers can order, view and download all materials online through PLCB+. In 2021 and 2022, 1,767 orders for materials were filled. Additionally, many items were disseminated at events staffed by bureau personnel. In all, more than 91,751 items were distributed in 2021 and more than 151,866 items were distributed in 2022. COVID-19 mitigation efforts decreased the number of events, resulting in a decrease in the number of materials distributed in 2021.

PLCB RUDD grants to community organizations also helped deliver information about underage and dangerous drinking to targeted populations to encourage positive decision-making. Public awareness campaigns were also used to emphasize the dangers of underage drinking and the risks adults incur by purchasing alcohol for underage youth.

The PLCB supports a number of organizations focused on underage and high-risk drinking through attendance at their regional and statewide meetings. Regional Communities That Care (CTC) groups, which coordinate local community coalitions, invite the BAE to participate in meetings, as does the board of directors of the Commonwealth Prevention Alliance (CPA). Attendance at these meetings provides the opportunity for an exchange of information regarding strategies pursued at the state and local levels.

Additionally, the PLCB was awarded \$50,000 from the NABCA Awards Program to continue working with CPA to address excessive drinking on and around college and university campuses throughout the commonwealth. The CPA worked to develop a network of key stakeholders from campus safety, health centers and student affairs, in addition to other key members from institutes of higher education to create an action plan for implementing the assessment recommendations, specifically related to establishing a collaborative like the State of Maryland, in the commonwealth.

Conferences

The PLCB used \$10,000 from NABCA’s Awards Program to help fund the PLCB’s 2022 Alcohol Education conference showcasing prominent experts in alcohol education, prevention and enforcement who shared their experience and knowledge with professionals, counselors, law enforcement officers, businesses, activists and educators interested in reducing underage drinking and promoting responsible drinking among those of age. The conference had nearly 150 attendees.

This was the first conference held since the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated its cancellation.

Advertising and Media

In January 2018, after a year of Pennsylvania-based research and campaign development, the PLCB introduced *Know When. Know How.*SM, a statewide education and prevention effort targeting Pennsylvania parents of children ages 8 through 12. In line with the agency’s mission of promoting no-use and zero-tolerance alcohol messages for those under the age of 21, the goal of the campaign is to prevent underage drinking by arming parents with the information, tools and confidence they need to begin having meaningful and effective conversations about alcohol with their children at an early age, before trial or use of alcohol begins.

According to research in the Journal of Adolescent Health, one in three children has tried alcohol by age 8; by age 12, that number jumps to two out of three.³³ Also according to the Journal of Substance Abuse, kids who begin drinking by age 13 are four times more likely to become alcohol-dependent later in life.³⁴

³³ Donovan, J. E. and Molina, B. S. (2013). Types of alcohol use experience from childhood through adolescence. The Journal of Adolescent Health: official publication of the Society for Adolescent Medicine, 53(4), 453-9.

³⁴ Grant, BF and DA Dawson. (1998). Age at Onset of Drug Use and its Association with DSM-IV Drug Abuse and Dependence: Results from the National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey. Journal of Substance Abuse, 10(2), 163-173.

Since kids ages 8 to 11 are most receptive to parents' feedback, the PLCB, in conjunction with advertising firm the Partnership of Packer Oesterling & Smith, designed a campaign to give parents the tools they need to start talking to their kids earlier than they may have thought necessary. The campaign stresses that underage drinking doesn't have to be one big, intimidating "talk." Instead, a series of brief, age-appropriate conversations that spring out of everyday experiences and grow as children mature over time are more effective.

With a heavy digital focus, while also including traditional television and radio commercials, the campaign features advertisements and messages that highlight facts and statistics, emphasize the role of parental responsibility as it relates to prevention, offers tips and resources for parents on how to start the conversation with their kids about alcohol and drives consumers to the campaign's mobile-friendly website, KnowWhenKnowHow.org, for more information.

KnowWhenKnowHow.org presents information about alcohol in digestible bits and pieces so parents can become comfortable discussing the topic without being overwhelmed. The campaign website provides scenarios and tips on how parents can spark conversations about alcohol with their kids and also features campaign advertisements, downloadable materials and suggestions for community partners in prevention to help promote the campaign.

From January 2021 through December 2022, the campaign totaled 48.8 million digital impressions, resulting in more than 93,547 link clicks and 42,207 Pennsylvania-based visitors to the *Know When. Know How.*SM website.

With regard to social media, the PA Alcohol Education Facebook page had 313,980 page reaches and 4,770 page visits from January 2021 through December 2022. The page features information about PLCB materials and RAMP Owner/Manager Trainings, articles related to underage and dangerous drinking and tips for combating such behavior, mocktail recipes, photographs from events, and grantee-created projects.



Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement (BLCE):

BLCE's mission is to maintain or improve the quality of life for the citizens of the commonwealth through education and ensuring compliance with the provisions of the Liquor Code, Title 40 and related statutes. This mission is accomplished through an organized, professional and effective enforcement strategy focused on practical alliances with licensees and the surrounding communities. The BLCE is the primary agency charged with liquor law enforcement throughout the commonwealth.

Programs and Strategies

Enforcement Programs

The BLCE employs various tactics to increase visibility of enforcement activities. Both uniformed and undercover officers are used in these efforts, and investigations are conducted inside licensed establishments, as well as in the surrounding communities. In addition to efforts in and around Pennsylvania's many colleges and universities, the BLCE conducts minor patrols at venues and events where it is likely that alcohol-related offenses may occur. These patrols are convened to investigate illegal sales to minors, and the purchase, consumption, possession and transportation of alcohol by minors. The BLCE conducted 530 minor patrol details in 2021 and 1,001 in 2022.

The College Enforcement and Public Awareness Initiative provides a visible enforcement presence at institutions of higher education as well as licensed establishments across the commonwealth. Enforcement efforts are aimed at preventing underage drinking and sales to minors. The majority of enforcement activities are a collaborative effort with campus authorities and local law enforcement agencies. Each year, BLCE district office personnel are tasked with identifying colleges and/or universities within their respective districts consistent with established criteria. Incidents of underage drinking, underage driving under the influence, disorderly conduct and similar alcohol-related offenses are prioritized.

Although emphasis is placed on the fall semester with the return of students to campuses each year, enforcement efforts continue throughout the school year. Awareness and education are key components of this initiative. Public information releases are prepared prior to the start of each school year to identify commonly seen violations, along with explanations of the associated penalties. Visits are made to licensees surrounding identified colleges and universities in an effort to educate licensees on methods to prevent the sale of alcohol to minors.

In 2021, the BLCE investigated 10,430 incidents; of these, 1,113 were alleged incidents involving minors. The following year, the BLCE investigated 10,612 incidents; of these, 2,346 were alleged incidents involving minors.

The BLCE is committed to limiting youth access to alcohol. Until the legislatively established program sunset on Dec. 31, 2022, the BLCE conducted age compliance checks at licensed establishments. This program permitted the BLCE to recruit and train people between the ages of 18 and 20 to enter a licensed establishment and attempt to purchase an alcoholic beverage under the direction and supervision of Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs). Licensees who complied with the law by refusing the service of alcohol to the underage buyer were notified immediately and in writing within 10 days, receiving a letter commending them for their adherence to the law. Licensees who served alcoholic beverages to the underage buyer were notified in a face-to-face meeting with the LEO supervising the underage buyer immediately after the purchase of alcohol was completed.

In 2021, 385 age compliance checks were conducted; 253 licensees were found in compliance and 132 licensees were not in compliance. In 2022, 1,678 compliance checks were conducted; 1,156 licensees were found in compliance and 522 were not in compliance. Age compliance details were suspended immediately with the onset of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of underage volunteers, as well as BLCE personnel. Below are some statistics of age compliance checks conducted. Many colleges/universities within the commonwealth transitioned to a virtual learning environment since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. With fewer students in and around college campuses, alcohol-related incidents involving minors substantially decreased.

Licensed establishments failing two consecutive age compliance checks:

- 2020 – 54 (43%)
- 2021 – 47 (39%)
- 2022 – 170 (31%)

Compliance checks where the underage buyer was carded and still served/non-compliant:

- 2020 – 38 (54%)
- 2021 – 65 (49%)
- 2022 – 303 (58%)

Compliance checks where the underage buyer was not carded and still served/non-compliant:

- 2020 – 33 (46%)
- 2021 – 67 (51%)
- 2022 – 220 (42%)

Compliance checks involving a RAMP-trained server and/or RAMP-certified establishment that were non-compliant:

- 2020 – 42 (59%)
- 2021 – 68 (52%)
- 2022 – 252 (48%)

Compliance checks involving a RAMP-trained server and/or RAMP-certified establishment that were compliant:

- 2020 – 167 (71%)
- 2021 – 173 (68%)
- 2022 – 785 (68%)

The underage drinking hotline 1-888-UNDER21 was established by BLCE in 1999 to help combat underage drinking across Pennsylvania. Callers, who can remain anonymous, are encouraged to provide tips about planned events alleged to involve underage drinking or about parties already underway. The Pennsylvania State Police refers calls that require immediate attention directly to the proper police agency for response. The hotline received 51 calls about drinking parties and minors being served alcohol in 2021 and 73 calls in 2022.

School-Based Initiatives

The CHOICES Program is a culturally diverse alcohol awareness program presented by trained personnel from BLCE to exemplify the multitude of risks associated with underage drinking. Instructors for the CHOICES Program are Pennsylvania State Police LEOs who discuss laws, penalties, peer pressure and consequences of engaging in underage drinking. The goal of the CHOICES Program is to encourage students to make informed decisions about alcohol use and consider the wide range of healthy alternatives. This program is tailored toward students in middle school, high school and college. The objective is to educate students on the dangers of alcohol and the destructive consequences that may result from its use and/or abuse. The program fully acknowledges that alcohol and other drugs are part of life both inside and outside of the school setting for many students and encourages them to recognize the effects of alcohol and other substances on their mental, physical and emotional well-being.

CHOICES Programs administered at colleges and universities across the commonwealth serve two purposes: they serve as a valuable opportunity for the BLCE to strengthen campus-community alliances while also providing an ideal platform to introduce students to law enforcement. In addition to offering students choices related to alcohol consumption, the program also features law enforcement as a career opportunity. In fact, many underage buyer participants in the BLCE Age Compliance Program were recruited during attendance at these presentations. In 2021, 15 presentations reached 784 youth; in 2022, 27 presentations reached 1,167 youth. CHOICES presentations in 2020 were significantly reduced due to COVID-19. Limitations on in-person gatherings and the advent of virtual learning impacted the administration of this program.

In addition to offering presentations in schools, BLCE officers also provide the program to attendees of the numerous Pennsylvania State Police Camp Cadet summer programs throughout the commonwealth. Camp Cadet is a summer camp for boys and girls from Pennsylvania between the ages of 12 and 15. The goal of Camp Cadet is to introduce participants to the criminal justice system and establish a positive relationship with law enforcement personnel. The camp focuses on discipline, self-esteem, teamwork, drug and alcohol education, violence prevention and many other issues facing today's youth.



Pennsylvania Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP):

DDAP furthers the advancement and implementation of substance misuse prevention policies and practices throughout the commonwealth. This work is implemented locally in conjunction with Single County Authorities (SCAs) and their contracted prevention providers. SCAs plan and deliver underage and high-risk alcohol consumption prevention services by identifying and addressing patterns of alcohol use and risk and protective factors influencing alcohol use. DDAP provides funding and support for the Pennsylvania Youth Survey as an important tool to help identify needs and guide prevention work at the state and local level.

Programs and Strategies

Professional Trainings

Professional trainings provided through DDAP's 47 regionally established SCAs include Student Assistance Program (SAP) trainings for educators, counselors, SAP liaisons and other related professionals. This training aids in the effective implementation of SAP, which is designed to assist in identifying issues including alcohol, tobacco, other drugs and mental health issues that pose a barrier to a student's success and help students overcome these barriers. PLCB's RAMP is also endorsed and promoted by DDAP's SCAs.

School-Based Programs

Through funding and resources from DDAP, SCAs and their contracted providers offer numerous school-based prevention programs. Examples of these programs include:

- Alcohol Literacy Challenge™ – Brief classroom-based program designed to alter alcohol expectancies and reduce the quantity and frequency of alcohol use among middle and high school and college students. Alcohol expectancies are an individual's beliefs about the anticipated effects of alcohol use, including those that are positive (e.g., increased sociability, reduced tension) and negative (e.g., impairments to mental and behavioral functioning, increased aggressiveness or risk-taking). Alcohol Literacy Challenge™ served 76 participants in one SCA during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- EVERFI AlcoholEdu® for High School – An online, interactive, alcohol education and prevention course designed to increase alcohol-related knowledge, discourage acceptance of underage drinking and prevent or decrease alcohol use and its related negative consequences. EVERFI AlcoholEdu® served 5,891 participants in two SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Keep a Clear Mind – A parent-child take-home program in drug/alcohol education for students in grades 4, 5 and 6. Students take activity books home (alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and good choices) and complete the program with their parents. Students receive incentives for showing their teacher their parents' signatures to indicate they have completed the activity book with their child. Keep a Clear Mind served 1,883 participants in two SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- LifeSkills Training (LST) – A program providing elementary, middle school/junior high and high school students with the necessary skills to resist social pressure to smoke, drink and use drugs. LST helps students develop greater self-esteem, self-mastery and self-confidence; enables children to effectively cope with social anxiety; increases their knowledge of the immediate consequences of substance misuse; and enhances cognitive and behavioral competency to reduce and prevent a variety of health risk behaviors. LST served 22,302 participants in 25 SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Project Alert – A drug prevention curriculum for middle school students designed to reduce the onset and regular use of substances. The two-year, 14-lesson program focuses on the substances that adolescents are most likely to use: alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and inhalants. Project Alert served 8,625 participants in four SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Project Northland – A multilevel, multiyear program proven to delay the age young people begin drinking, reduce alcohol use among those who have already tried drinking and limit the number of alcohol-related problems of young drinkers. Designed for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students, Project Northland addresses both individual behavioral change and environmental change. Project Northland served 215 participants in two SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Project Towards No Drug Abuse – A substance use prevention program for high school youth. The program is designed to help students develop self-control and communication skills, acquire resources that help them resist drug/alcohol use, improve decision-making strategies and develop the motivation to not use drugs/alcohol. Project Towards No Drug Abuse served 1,893 participants in 12 SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Too Good for Drugs – A school-based prevention program for kindergarten through 12th grade that builds on students' resiliency by teaching them how to be socially competent and autonomous problem-solvers. The program is designed to reduce the intention to use alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs. Too Good for Drugs served 83,471 participants in 38 SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Other social and emotional learning (SEL) programs to help youth build skills and protective factors to prevent alcohol misuse such as I Can Problem Solve, Incredible Years, Lions Quest, Positive Action, Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies and Second Step served 39,381 participants in 24 SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.

- Student Assistance Program (SAP) – A systematic team process used to mobilize school resources to remove barriers to learning, including problems like underage drinking that negatively impact student academic and social growth. SCAs fund SAP liaisons and training/technical assistance to support SAP teams. Liaison services include screening/assessment, consultation, referral and/or small group education for SAP-identified youth. In the 2020-21 and 2021-22 school years, 3,127 and 7,658 students, respectively, were referred to SAP due to either a violation of the school’s drug and alcohol policies or suspected drug and alcohol issues.

Family-Based Education

SCAs and their contracted providers, through funding and resources from DDAP, offer parent education programs/campaigns. Examples of these programs/campaigns include:

- The Strengthening Families Program for Parents and Youth 10 to 14 is a seven-week, evidence-based parent, youth and family skills-building curriculum. The program uses realistic videos, role-playing, discussions, learning games and family projects to enhance parenting skills, build life skills in youth and strengthen family bonds and communication. The Strengthening Families Program served 1,550 participants in 24 SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Strong African American Families (SAAF) is a seven-session, evidence-based program designed for youth ages 10 to 14 and their caregivers. The goal of SAAF is to build on the strengths of African American families and support parents and youth during the transition from early adolescence to the teen years with a specific emphasis on helping young people avoid risky and dangerous behaviors (e.g., substance use). SAAF served 140 participants in four SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- The Incredible Years® parenting programs focus on strengthening parenting competencies and fostering parent involvement in children’s school experiences to promote children’s academic, social and emotional skills and reduce conduct problems. Incredible Years parenting programs served 399 participants in seven SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Guiding Good Choices is a prevention program that provides parents of children ages 9 to 14 with the knowledge and skills needed to guide their children through early adolescence. It seeks to strengthen and clarify family expectations for behavior, enhance the conditions that promote bonding within the family and teach skills that allow children to successfully resist drug and alcohol use. Guiding Good Choices served 329 participants in two SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- MADD’s Power of Parents® empowers parents of middle school and high school students to have ongoing, intentional conversations about the dangers and consequences of underage drinking. Parent workshops provide an opportunity to talk to parents and provide them with the Parent Handbook, a resource for continuing the conversation with their children. Power of Parents served 365 participants in four SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Triple P – Positive Parenting Program is a parenting and family support system designed to prevent – as well as treat – behavioral and emotional problems in children and teenagers. It aims to prevent problems in the family, school and community before they arise and create family environments that encourage children to realize their potential. Triple P served 49 participants in four SCAs during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- Evidence-based home visiting parenting programs such as Nurse Family Partnership, Family Check-Up and Parents as Teachers are provided to help strengthen families. Five SCAs helped to fund these programs serving 1,649 participants during fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22.
- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Talk. They Hear You® media campaign is designed to help prevent underage drinking among children ages 9 to 15 by providing parents and caregivers with the resources they need to properly address this issue with children early. The campaign website offers customizable radio, television and print public service announcements, social media tools and fact sheets, talking points and other printed materials to share with parents and caregivers in the community.

- Parents Who Host Lose the Most® is a campaign designed by Prevention Action Alliance to prevent underage drinking. Its key message reminds parents that it is unsafe, unhealthy, unacceptable and illegal to provide alcohol for underage youth.

Community-Based Initiatives

- Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Awareness/Prevention – SCAs and their contracted providers, through funding and resources from DDAP, work to promote awareness of FASD and prevent alcohol use during pregnancy. Education, presentations, trainings, media campaigns and other information are provided to a variety of target populations. Many of these activities take place during FASD Awareness Month in September. During fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22, 1,685 FASD awareness and prevention activities were provided.



Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE):

PDE's Office for Safe Schools is the primary source of technical assistance and guidance to public and nonpublic schools on alcohol, tobacco, other drug use and violence prevention activities. PDE is the administrative body for Student Assistance Programs (SAP) that provides assessment and intervention for students demonstrating behaviors potentially indicative of needing additional attention and/or services.

Programs and Strategies

School-Based Initiatives

PDE, in conjunction with DDAP and the Department of Human Services (DHS), revises the SAP training to be administered by SAP-approved trainers throughout the state, ensuring SAP teams in every district receive consistent training, regardless of region. PDE participates regularly in interagency collaborations with the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and DDAP to develop and incorporate best practices for Pennsylvania educators and SAP teams to effectively prevent drug and alcohol use and support initiatives that provide aid to students who are dealing with substance misuse issues.

PDE developed Pennsylvania Career Ready Skills (PA CRS), social emotional learning progressions that support the development of student competence by teaching skillsets in the areas of self-awareness and self-management, establishing and maintaining relationships and social problem solving. PA CRS reflects the priority of PDE of ensuring youth are prepared to meet the demands of the 21st century workplace.

PDE developed various initiatives to support the reduction of substance usage through increases in mental health awareness and the development of supportive learning environments, reducing stress factors for our most vulnerable populations. Initiatives include PDE Equitable Practices Hub, PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders and the Finding Your Way in PA app, which identifies local resources for students/families experiencing homelessness.

PDE Office for Safe Schools updates curriculum guidance for pre-kindergarten through 12th grade health and physical education (HPE) curricula. PDE, in conjunction with the Department of Health (DOH), DHS, DDAP and Pennsylvania State Police and in partnership with selected administration, certified higher education and K-12 HPE professionals, is finalizing learning outcomes, an assessment toolkit, training modules and lesson plans for educators. Areas covered include alcohol and other drugs, mental health, healthy eating and violence prevention. Topics covered in each grade are addressed in an age-appropriate manner. For example, core concepts at the pre-kindergarten level for drugs and alcohol include identification of household products that are harmful when intentionally inhaled or absorbed and identification of school and family rules about medicine use. At the 10th grade level, core concepts include defining socially appropriate ways to avoid or prevent use of alcohol and other drugs and long-term health benefits of abstaining from or discontinuing alcohol use. Each year of curriculum will build on the prior years and not only educate students on a topic, but also teach the student skills needed to make healthy decisions. This initiative will provide a variety of resources for HPE professionals.

PDE's Office for Safe Schools is the primary source of technical assistance and guidance to public and nonpublic schools on alcohol, tobacco, other drug use and violence prevention activities. PDE participates as an interagency collaborative for SAP that provides assessment and intervention for students demonstrating behaviors potentially indicative of needing additional attention and/or services. While PDE supports school entities in developing community and family partnerships, programs/initiatives are school-based.



Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT):

Reducing impaired driving has been identified as one of the 16 key emphasis areas in PennDOT's Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Strategies range from high-visibility, more-frequent DUI enforcement to higher fines and penalties for impaired driving, and from streamlining DUI case processing through the courts to counter measures addressing drinking and impaired driving by those under 21.

Programs and Strategies

Enforcement Program

An effective method of reducing crashes, injuries and highway traffic fatalities is creating general deterrence through high-visibility enforcement (HVE). As the perceived risk of being caught by law enforcement increases, the likelihood that people will engage in unsafe driving decreases.³⁵ The NHTSA asserts that HVE programs have been an effective strategy in combating impaired driving, reducing crashes involving drivers who have been drinking.

HVE programs include a strong media component, alerting the public to the dangers of impaired driving and reminding residents that police are out enforcing DUI laws. This is supported by enforcement mobilization events, including DUI checkpoints and roving patrols and publicizing the results of the enforcement efforts. Notable impaired driving enforcement efforts include two campaigns Pennsylvania State Police conduct with local police departments: the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign, which runs from mid-August through Labor Day weekend, and the "Operation Safe Holiday" campaign, which runs from the week of Thanksgiving to New Year's Day.



Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD):

PCCD's mission is to enhance the quality, coordination and planning within the criminal and juvenile justice systems, to facilitate delivery of services to victims of crime and to increase the safety of our communities. PCCD has a responsibility to the victims of crimes and to reduce the impact of crime on those victims.

Additionally, PCCD works to support and fund policies, programs and strategies

used by communities to advance early, upstream prevention to help youth and their families avoid problem behaviors such as youth substance use, violence/delinquency, school dropout and mental health concerns.

Programs and Strategies

Family-Based Programs

PCCD provides funding through its Violence and Delinquency Prevention Programs (VDPP) line item to support the implementation of evidence-based programs across the commonwealth. These programs are proven effective in addressing youth problem behaviors, including substance use and abuse.

³⁵ "Countermeasures That Work: A Highway Safety Countermeasure Guide For State Highway Safety Offices Tenth Edition", National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, July 2021, Accessed 8 February 2022 via https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.gov/files/2022-06/15100_Countermeasures10th_080621_v5_tag_0.pdf

PCCD oversees the biennial administration of the PAYS, in partnership with PDE and DDAP. PAYS data helps communities identify where to target programs that prevent experimentation by youth with substances such as alcohol (by looking at lifetime use) and abuse of substances (by looking at 30-day use rates). PAYS is offered at no cost to all school districts and other schools throughout the commonwealth. In 2021 (the most recent administration), 385 of the 500 school districts in Pennsylvania took part in this survey to learn more about what their students know, think and believe about substance use and other problem behaviors.

PCCD also supports local coalitions in using PAYS data to select and implement programming through the Communities That Care (CTC) model, bringing together key stakeholders to better coordinate efforts to focus scarce prevention dollars in ways that can benefit the greatest number of youth and their families. CTC helps to support the use of data to identify and act upon locally defined issues of concern, rather than proposing a “one-size-fits-all” approach.

Since 2017, PCCD has supported the Cross-Systems Prevention Network (CSPN), which brings together key stakeholders at the state, county and local levels to advocate for the use of early prevention strategies and corresponding funding. The goal is to stress the important role prevention can play to help avoid much more expensive costs across all systems – juvenile and adult criminal justice, dependency, drug and alcohol abuse, mental health and school dropout – by investing today to prevent tomorrow’s problems.

Finally, PCCD partners with DDAP to help support CPA. CPA serves as an advocate for early prevention and hosts an annual conference to bring together prevention practitioners at the local, county and state levels to learn about current trends of alcohol and other substance use/misuse and improve the sharing of information/networking to help increase the use of prevention across Pennsylvania.



Municipal Police Officers' Education & Training Commission (MPOETC):

Established in 1974 and administered by the Pennsylvania State Police, MPOETC sets certification and training standards for police officers employed by municipalities in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The commission oversees certification of schools and instructors for statewide training on a variety of enforcement-related topics, as well as certification of lethal weapons agents and firearms instructors.

Programs and Strategies

Professional Trainings

MPOETC’s required basic training program includes the following relevant sections:

- *Liquor Laws* – Cadets learn about the importance of enforcing liquor laws. They can identify major provisions of the Liquor Code and describe the penalties for non-compliance. Cadets will be able to identify options that an officer has to address nuisance bars and problem areas regarding violations of the Liquor Code.
- *Juvenile Law & Justice* – Cadets will identify components of the Juvenile Act. They will be able to recognize when they can take a juvenile into custody and the unique procedural requirements that they must follow.
- *DUI Enforcement & Prosecution* – In January 2020, MPOETC began to include instruction on the NHTSA’s Driving While Impaired (DWI) Detection and Standardized Field Sobriety Testing (SFST) course. Cadets will be taught and be eligible for credentials in SFST.

Each year, officers must complete 12 hours of mandatory in-service training. In 2021, MPOETC developed and offered a three-hour in-service training course, Juvenile Justice. This course provided a review of the Juvenile Act, concepts regarding delinquency, juvenile rights versus parent/custodian rights and confidentiality issues. The course also provided resource information to assist officers when dealing with juveniles.

For 2023, MPOETC approved the following courses for continuing law enforcement education credit toward the mandatory 12 hours of in-service training each officer must receive annually. Officers are permitted to take any of the following courses once, in lieu of the elective MPOETC courses:

- Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement
- Alcohol Breath Analysis Instrument Operator Certification
- Alcohol Breath Analysis Instrument Operator Changeover
- Alcohol Breath Test Instrument Supervisor
- DUI Enforcement
- DUI Case Law
- DUI Checkpoint Basic
- Interviewing Juveniles
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Basic
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Practitioner
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Practitioner Update
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Re-Certification
- Sobriety Checkpoint/Refresher

Although much of the alcohol-related enforcement training focuses on impaired driving, some of the courses address other alcohol-fueled crimes and violations, such as criminal mischief, destruction of property, domestic violence, assaults, sexual assaults, etc.



Institute for Law Enforcement Education (ILEE):

ILEE serves the commonwealth as a research and delivery system for selected advanced law enforcement training. It is responsible for administering alcohol-related training and research programs, and about 4,000 students benefit from ILEE classes annually.

Programs and Strategies

Professional Trainings

ILEE conducts a variety of professional trainings for law enforcement personnel regarding the skills and techniques used to detect, investigate and participate in the prosecution of DUI and underage drinking offenses. Trainings address the use of SFST, the most frequently used method of collecting and describing evidence of alcohol and drug use/impairment. This training is especially significant because of the prohibition against the use of evidentiary pre-arrest breath test instruments in court. ILEE training topics are expanded to cover any new devices or techniques accepted by Pennsylvania courts as they develop.

ILEE-trained Personnel (from 10/01/2020 to 09/30/2022)		
Course Title	Total Courses	Total Trained Personnel
Standardized Field Sobriety Testing	10	223
Evidentiary Breath Test Instrument Certification	48	382
Interviewing Juveniles	2	36



Pennsylvania Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Association:

The Pennsylvania Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Association, established in 1979, is a professional organization that is working to address the DUI problem in all its many stages — from prevention to enforcement up to and including adjudication and rehabilitation. The PA DUI Association provides information, direction, training and support with the purpose of working toward the reduction of the number of impaired drivers and the harm they cause.

Programs and Strategies

Professional Training

- *DUI Technical and Training Services Contract* – Awarded to the PA DUI Association since 1987, this contract provides training and technical support to county DUI programs, Alcohol Highway Safety School (AHHS) instructors and Court Reporting Network (CRN) evaluators. AHHS and CRN services are provided to DUI offenders.

Highway Safety Program Trainings				
	2021		2022	
Type of Training	Trainings Conducted	Students Trained	Trainings Conducted	Students Trained
AHHS Instructor/CRN Evaluator Certification	18	250	16	158
Recertification/miscellaneous Trainings	70	1,160	80	1,110

- *Statewide DUI Program Coordination Grant* – Awarded to the PA DUI Association since 2005, this grant provides administrative and technical support for state and local law enforcement participation in impaired driving enforcement. The grant supports training; on-site monitoring; review of enforcement plans, reports and claims; and coordination of the Drug Evaluation and Classification program.

Law Enforcement Trainings				
	2021		2022	
Type of Training	Classes Conducted	Students Trained	Classes Conducted	Students Trained
Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement	25	520	28	467
Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)	29	552	30	452
SFST Refresher	7	91	18	224
SFST Instructor Development	7	95	5	79
Sobriety Checkpoint (SCP)	9	197	10	193
SCP Refresher	1	44	8	102
Drug Recognition Expert	3	38	2	30

- *PA DUI Association Annual Meeting* – In addition to the many trainings and activities conducted under the above-mentioned contracts/grants, the association also provides trainings/services to members and professional partners. Workshops and general sessions are presented to a wide variety of experts in law enforcement, public information and education, and prevention fields. The 42nd annual meeting was held in Lancaster with 245 attendees in 2021; the 43rd annual meeting was held in Somerset in November 2022 with 251 attendees.

Ignition Interlock Program

Awarded to the Association since 2001, the Ignition Interlock (II) Quality Assurance and Technical Assistance program oversees all of the quality assurance aspects of ignition interlocks approved and used in Pennsylvania, providing technical assistance to manufacturers, service providers and II users. IIs are an effective behavior modification tool used to reduce alcohol-impaired driving by preventing a vehicle from starting when the driver has a breath alcohol concentration of typically 0.02% or higher.³⁶

Ignition Interlock (II)		
	2021	2022
Total number of installs	10,389	9,780
Total number of active II participants	13,501	13,059
Participants 24 years old and younger	1,072	1,047
Total number of failed tests	89,410	88,452
Total Sober Miles Driven	105,207,486	104,524,591

School-Based Initiatives

- PA Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) – The PA DUI Association has served as the affiliate agency for SADD since 1989. The PA DUI Association supports the efforts of PA SADD by funding a State Affiliate Coordinator and providing support for technical assistance and programmatic support to more than 250 registered school-based chapters in Pennsylvania. Statewide conferences were held in 2021 and 2022, with more than 600 participants total.
- Drug Impairment Training for Education Professionals (DITEP) – The Association began offering DITEP training in 2021. During the 2021 and 2022 school years, seven trainings were offered, drawing a total of 200 participants.
- Safety Programs – The Association’s Safety Program is comprised of the Safety Bug and SafetySIM, which provide the operator with the experience of what it is like to drive impaired without the real-life risk. Safety Bug and SafetySIM provided a hands-on learning experience to students in 74 shows throughout the commonwealth during 2021 and 2022.



Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD):

SADD is Pennsylvania’s premier youth health and safety organization. The PA DUI Association has served as the affiliate agency for SADD since 1989. Through a vibrant network of student-led chapters, the Pennsylvania SADD State Affiliate Coordinator provides technical assistance and programmatic support to more than 250 registered school-based chapters. Chapters, based in school and community centers across the commonwealth, host public education campaigns and activities that empower students, engage adult allies, mobilize communities and change lives around mobility safety, substance use, mental health

and leadership development. You can learn more about SADD, start a chapter or connect with PA SADD by visiting sadd.org.

Programs and Strategies

School-Based Initiatives

- *President’s Volunteer Service Award:* SADD National is a sponsoring/certifying agency for the President’s Volunteer Service Award. This award is presented to students from the current U.S. President. In 2022, 15 Pennsylvania students earned the award by contributing more than 1,500 hours of volunteer service among them to organizations in Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania has the highest number of students earning this prestigious award.

³⁶Ibid

- *SADD National Conference:* During the summer of 2022, three schools from Pennsylvania fundraised and attended the SADD National Conference, representing Pennsylvania with a contingent of 30 students and advisors. Students participated in the Mobilization Station competitive event and the Empower Hour Competitive Event. Participating Pennsylvania groups were mentioned as Empower Hour Certified Schools and received Honorable Mentions in the Mobilization Station Competition.
- *National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) Webinar:* During National Teen Safe Driving Week, Oct. 17-21, 2022, the PA SADD Student of the Year Emeritus presented materials, case studies and applications of grassroots advocacy specific to teen engagement in safe driving programs and legislative approaches during the NTSB webinar.
- *National Organization for Youth Safety (NOYS) Engagement Board:* In 2022, two PA SADD Student Leadership Council (SLC) members were named NOYS Engagement members. Their acceptance and role in this opportunity is directly correlated to their membership on the PA SADD SLC.
- *Text Less Live More Student Engagement Board:* In 2022, one SLC member was named to the nationally recognized Text Less Live More Student Engagement Board, serving in a leadership and advisory capacity role for the organization.
- *2022 Statewide Conference:* In November 2022, more than 400 students representing 32 school districts from across Pennsylvania gathered for the SADD statewide conference. Students were engaged in leadership development and attended trainings focused on mental health, drug and alcohol prevention and methods to engage their communities.



Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education (PASSHE):

The PASSHE Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Coalition has been providing leadership to its 14 State System member universities since 2003. The coalition's vision is that state system students achieve collegiate success by making healthy and informed choices about alcohol and drugs through wellness foundations. It provides coordination and leadership to State System campuses to promote evidence-informed and impactful strategies within a comprehensive, wellness-oriented, engaging and locally relevant framework.

Programs and Strategies

On a state level, the Coalition Coordinator represents collegiate prevention as a board member of the Commonwealth Prevention Alliance (CPA). On the national level, the Coalition Coordinator represents the state on the National Consortium of State Coalition Leaders. Along with leaders from more than 30 other states, PA's representative shares emerging best practices and support toward prevention outcomes.

The PASSHE AOD Coalition collaboratively developed its new three-year strategic plan in 2022, answering the recent call to action targeting college presidents by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni entitled "Addressing College Drinking and Drug Use." The plan spells out how alcohol and drug use can affect student achievement, revealing that a coordinated substance use prevention strategy will not only work to make the campus a safer and healthier environment, but also help students maximize their potential. It recommends a statewide approach of collaborating to magnify the impact.

The five main goals of the newly developed coalition plan, which will guide its work from 2023 to 2026, are:

- Facilitate professional engagement and sharing across the state system
- Promote student-focused strategies, processes and messaging
- Promote the implementation of a wide range of grounded and high-quality policies, programs and services
- Document and assess impacts and processes regarding prevention strategies
- Develop strategic approaches that document and promote efficiencies associated with collaborative statewide efforts

In addition to the strategic plan developed to guide the work of the coalition, university-based AOD strategic plans are a part of the State System culture. Individual universities regularly develop new strategic plans reflecting the differing constituent and resource bases and structural designs of each university. To facilitate this, the PASSHE AOD Coalition provides consultation starting with models such as SAMHSA's Strategic Prevention Framework to guide their process and arrive at a comprehensive approach including appropriate choices among a variety of prevention and intervention activities.

There is a high level of recognition within PASSHE that underage and excessive drinking among college students is a problem that adversely influences student health, safety and functioning. The problem is a complex one that can only be reduced by simultaneously implementing efforts to change individual behavior with strategies to modify the campus and community environments that heavily influence student decisions regarding drinking. The following gives an overview of many collegiate alcohol prevention efforts that are a part of State System universities' strategic plans:

Campus Strategies

- Campus task force
- Campus-community coalition
- Partnering with off-campus clinical healthcare providers and substance treatment providers
- Creation and/or maintenance of a campus website regarding alcohol prevention and intervention
- Offering training opportunities to campus partners, clinical professionals and community partners

Individual Levels of Intervention

Educational approaches

- Educating students about the risks of excessive drinking and related problems
- Using computer-facilitated educational approaches
- Using peer education

Screenings

- Both an electronic version (ScreenU) and an in-person piloting of SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment) have been implemented by the coalition
- Counseling centers and graduate assistants conduct screenings and discussions

Interventions

- Using cognitive behavioral approaches within BASICS (Brief Alcohol Screening and Intervention for College Students), CASICS (Cannabis Screening and Intervention for College Students) and Wellness Coaching
- Using motivational interviewing
- Challenging expectancies
- Challenging norms

Environmental Levels of Intervention

Advocate for effective on-campus strategies

- Prohibit alcohol use on campus
- Restrict alcohol use at specific places or events
- Ban alcohol sales at specific places or events
- Establish a medical amnesty policy
- Use mass media campaigns to reduce drinking and driving
- Schedule Friday morning classes around key degree requirements
- Initiate social norms campaigns
- Provide alcohol-free activities

Advocate for effective off-campus strategies (some are involved with these through a task force)

- Host Project Sticker Shock events, sometimes in conjunction with local high schools
- Restrict price promotions and discounts
- Restrict alcohol marketing
- Participate in multi-component interventions with community mobilization
- Support sobriety checkpoint programs
- Regulate free alcohol, samplings and tastings
- Enforce laws prohibiting the possession and/or manufacturing of false IDs
- Draft social hosting laws and ordinances
- Restrict adults from supplying alcohol to underage youth
- Include noise/nuisance conditions in landlord leases
- Use mass media campaigns to reduce drinking and driving
- Support designated driver programs and safe ride programs
- Implement good neighbor programs



Commonwealth Prevention Alliance (CPA):

CPA is a statewide nonprofit organization established in 1976 to support prevention professionals in eliminating substance misuse and risk-related behaviors. CPA works to reimagine prevention, advocate for equity and critical resources and share best and

promising practices. CPA is committed to facilitating thoughtful, diverse and innovative spaces through which communities, programs and individuals redefine and implement prevention using public health frameworks. Working collaboratively, CPA strengthens the local capacity to promote healthy relationships, nurture emotional well-being, prevent substance misuse and lessen interpersonal violence.

Programs and Strategies

Higher Education Alcohol Needs Assessment

CPA contracted with the PLCB to conduct a preliminary survey assessment of Pennsylvania higher education institutions to collect data about current alcohol-related issues on campus and efforts to mitigate the negative effects of student alcohol use. Key findings include:

- 62% of respondents expressed some level of concern about student alcohol use relative to other problem behaviors experienced on campus.
- 81% of administrators report alcohol use contributes to other problems experienced by students, at least some of the time.
- A majority of the student affairs administrators (73%) agreed that “most student alcohol use occurs in off-campus settings.”
- Approximately one-third of responding colleges reported they do not have full-time staff dedicated to campus alcohol prevention.

The overarching goal of this project is to establish a statewide collaborative that provides technical assistance support to institutions of higher education to address their alcohol issues and to identify state and national resources that can assist with prevention and intervention efforts. To help support all students and assist in combating college drinking, forming a statewide collaborative is of utmost importance. Locally, prevention professionals, community coalitions and families can work with college staff to provide education to students about the risks associated with alcohol use and offer access to support services for those who misuse alcohol or struggle with mental health issues.

Other Programs and Strategies

- Collaborating with the PLCB and NABCA to create the infrastructure of the PA Collaborative.
- Advocating against the deregulation of alcohol policies and efforts to expand the number of outlets that can sell spirits.
- Hosting Pennsylvania’s Prevention Week celebration, in coordination with SAMHSA’s National Prevention Week initiative dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, mental health and/or substance use disorders.

APPENDIX — ACT 85 OF 2006

LIQUOR CODE - BUREAU OF ALCOHOL EDUCATION REPORTS TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND SPECIAL OCCASION PERMITS

Act of Jul. 7, 2006, P.L. 591, No. 85

CL. 47

Session of 2006

No. 2006-85

HB 2383

AN ACT

Amending the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), entitled, as reenacted, "An act relating to alcoholic liquors, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the laws relating thereto; regulating and restricting the manufacture, purchase, sale, possession, consumption, importation, transportation, furnishing, holding in bond, holding in storage, traffic in and use of alcoholic liquors, alcohol and malt and brewed beverages and the persons engaged or employed therein; defining the powers and duties of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board; providing for the establishment and operation of State liquor stores, for the payment of certain license fees to the respective municipalities and townships, for the abatement of certain nuisances and, in certain cases, for search and seizure without warrant; prescribing penalties and forfeitures; providing for local option, and repealing existing laws," further providing for definitions; requiring the Bureau of Alcohol Education to make certain reports to the General Assembly; and further providing for special occasion permits and for limiting the number of special occasion permits.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Section 102 of the act of April 12, 1951 (P.L.90, No.21), known as the Liquor Code, reenacted and amended June 29, 1987 (P.L.32, No.14), is amended by adding definitions to read:

Section 102. Definitions.--The following words or phrases, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

* * *

"Public hearing" shall mean a hearing held pursuant to public notice.

"Public notice" shall mean notice published once each week for two successive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality. Such notice shall state the time and the place of the hearing and the particular matter to be considered at the hearing. The first publication shall not be more than 30 days, and the second publication shall not be less than seven days, from the date of the hearing.

* * *

Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

Section 217. Biennial Reports.--(a) The board's Bureau of Alcohol Education shall prepare a report on underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking in this Commonwealth.

(b) A report shall be prepared biennially and shall address the following:

(1) Current levels and trends of underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking in this Commonwealth.

(2) Current programs conducted by State agencies to prevent underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking.

(3) Current science that better defines and suggests proven prevention strategies for underage alcohol drinking and high-risk college alcohol drinking.

(c) The first report to the General Assembly shall be presented prior to February 1, 2007. Additional reports shall be presented every two years thereafter. A copy of the report shall be sent to the chairman and the minority chairman of the Law and Justice Committee of the Senate and the chairman and the minority chairman of the Liquor Control Committee of the House of Representatives.

Section 3. Section 408.4 of the act is amended by adding a subsection to read:

Section 408.4. Special Occasion Permits.--

* * *

(q) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board may issue a special occasion permit to an eligible entity located in a dry municipality if the board is provided with a copy of a resolution adopted by the municipality's governing body confirming support for the issuance of the special occasion permit. This subsection shall expire on January 1, 2007.

Section 4. Section 461(b.1) and (b.3) of the act, amended February 21, 2002 (P.L.103, No.10) and December 8, 2004 (P.L.1810, No.239), are amended to read:

Section 461. Limiting Number of Retail Licenses To Be Issued In Each County.--* * *

(b.1) The board may issue restaurant and eating place retail dispenser licenses and renew licenses issued under this subsection without regard to the quota restrictions set forth in subsection (a) for the purpose of economic development in a municipality under the following conditions:

(1) A license may only be issued under this subsection if the applicant has exhausted reasonable means for obtaining a suitable license within the county.

(2) The proposed licensed premises must be located within either of the following:

(i) A keystone opportunity zone established under the authority of the act of October 6, 1998 (P.L.705, No.92), known as the "Keystone Opportunity Zone and Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone Act," or an area designated as an enterprise zone by the Department of Community and Economic Development.

(ii) A municipality in which the issuance of a restaurant or eating place retail dispenser license has been approved by the governing body of the municipality for the purpose of local economic development. Upon request for approval of an economic development license by an applicant, at least one public hearing shall be held by the municipal governing body for the purpose of receiving comments and recommendations of interested individuals residing within the municipality concerning the applicant's intent to acquire an economic development license from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. The governing body shall, within forty-five days of a request for approval, render a decision by ordinance or resolution to approve or disapprove the applicant's request for an economic development license. If the municipality finds that the issuance of the license would promote economic development, it may approve the request; however, it must refuse the request if it finds that approval of the request would adversely affect the welfare, health,

peace and morals of the municipality or its residents. A decision by the governing body of the municipality to deny the request may be appealed to the court of common pleas in the county in which the municipality is located. A copy of the approval must be submitted with the license application. Failure by the governing body of the municipality to render a decision within forty-five days of the applicant's request for approval shall be deemed an approval of the application in terms as presented unless the governing body has notified the applicant in writing of their election for an extension of time not to exceed sixty days. Failure by the governing body of the municipality to render a decision within the extended time period shall be deemed an approval of the application in terms as presented.

(3) The board may issue no more than two licenses total in each county of the first through fourth class and no more than one license total in each county of the fifth through eighth class per calendar year.

(4) An applicant under this subsection shall be required to sell food and nonalcoholic beverages equal to seventy per centum (70%) or more of its combined gross sales of food and alcoholic beverages.

(5) In addition to renewal and license fees provided under existing law for the type of license issued, an applicant shall be required to pay an initial application surcharge as follows:

(i) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) if the licensed premises is located in a county of the first through fourth class.

(ii) Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) if the licensed premises is located in a county of the fifth through eighth class.

(iii) The initial application surcharge minus a seven hundred dollar (\$700) processing fee shall be refunded to the applicant if the board refuses to issue a provisional license under subsection (b.2). Otherwise, the initial application surcharge minus a seven hundred dollar (\$700) processing fee shall be credited to The State Stores Fund. The processing fee shall be treated as an application filing fee as prescribed in section 614-A(1)(i) of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175), known as "The Administrative Code of 1929."

(6) A license issued under this subsection and a provisional license issued under subsection (b.2) shall be nontransferable with regard to ownership or location.

(7) An appeal of the board's decision refusing to grant or renew a license under this subsection shall not act as a supersedeas of the decision of the board if the decision is based, in whole or in part, on the licensee's failure to demonstrate that its food and nonalcoholic beverages were at least seventy per centum (70%) of its combined gross sales of food and alcoholic beverages.

(8) A license issued under this subsection may not be validated or renewed unless the licensee can establish that its sale of food and nonalcoholic beverages during the license year immediately preceding application for validation or renewal is equal to seventy per centum (70%) or more of its food and alcoholic beverage sales.

* * *

(b.3) An intermunicipal transfer of a license or issuance of a license for economic development under subsection (b.1)(2)(i) must first be approved by the governing body of the receiving municipality when the total number of existing restaurant liquor licenses and eating place retail dispenser licenses in the receiving municipality exceed one license per three thousand inhabitants. Upon request for approval of an intermunicipal transfer of a license or issuance of an economic development license by an applicant, at

least one public hearing shall be held by the municipal governing body for the purpose of receiving comments and recommendations of interested individuals residing within the municipality concerning the applicant's intent to transfer a license into the municipality or acquire an economic development license from the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board. The governing body shall, within forty-five days of a request for approval, render a decision by ordinance or resolution to approve or disapprove the applicant's request for an intermunicipal transfer of a license or issuance of an economic development license. The municipality must approve the request unless it finds that doing so would adversely affect the welfare, health, peace and morals of the municipality or its residents. A decision by the governing body of the municipality to deny the request may be appealed to the court of common pleas in the county in which the municipality is located. A copy of the approval must be submitted with the license application. The approval requirement shall not apply to licenses transferred into a tax increment district created pursuant to the act of July 11, 1990 (P.L.465, No.113), known as the "Tax Increment Financing Act," located in a township of the second class that is located within a county of the second class if the district was created prior to December 31, 2002, and the governing body of the township has adopted an agreement at a public meeting that consents to the transfer of licenses into the tax increment district. Failure by the governing body of the municipality to render a decision within forty-five days of the applicant's request for approval shall be deemed an approval of the application in terms as presented unless the governing body has notified the applicant in writing of their election for an extension of time not to exceed sixty days. Failure by the governing body of the municipality to render a decision within the extended time period shall be deemed an approval of the application in terms as presented.

* * *

Section 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED--The 7th day of July, A. D. 2006.

EDWARD G. RENDELL



In order to be fiscally and environmentally responsible, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board limits the printing of this document. This report can be accessed online at lcb.pa.gov.