



Outdoor Alcohol Service: Barriers

Barriers are used to define alcohol service areas and prevent minors from obtaining alcohol.

- Outside service areas must be enclosed with a permanent or movable barrier.
- Barriers must be a minimum of 42 inches in height.
- The barriers can not be used for patrons to place drinks on.
- Barriers must be in place at all times during service, however permanent barriers are not required and can be moved to facilitate operations when the area is not used for alcohol service.
- Acceptable moveable barriers may include a rope and stanchion or may be decorative in nature, like a planter, as long as they are 42 inches in height.
- Must have leasehold or ownership rights to the outside service area.
- Openings into and out of the outside area cannot exceed 10 feet. If there is more than one opening along one side, the total combined opening may not exceed 10 feet.

Moveable 42 Inch Barriers (Examples)



Alcohol Service Areas on Public Property

Some local jurisdictions allow for permanent demarcations on the ground instead of 42 inch barriers.

Ground demarcations are only allowed for outside services areas located on public property owned by the city or county, such as a sidewalk. These markers are only allowed in conjunction with a local permit, all other areas are required to use 42 inch barriers.

Resources:

- [WSLCB Website: Outdoor Alcohol Service](#)
- [Temporary Outside Service Rules WAC 314-03-205 | Effective Until July 2023](#)