

Banned Drinkers Register Bill/Law FAQs

What is the Banned Drinkers Register Law?

The new laws support what you and your staff have been doing voluntarily since the trial started in 2022/23, but now makes participation in the BDR mandatory.

The laws also introduce potential penalties for not doing the right thing and also give police new powers to issue a Banned Drinker Order (BDO) to someone for offences that are alcohol related.

The laws do not replace the ability for people to apply for a voluntarily BDO to be put on the BDR.

How will the Banned Drinkers Register affect my customers/business?

You have already been supporting the BDR process, so your regular customers and community members are more than likely used to the process.

You just need to continue to ask your customers for photo ID to be scanned with every new purchase.

Remember, **No photo ID, no service. No exceptions.**

What is different with the law compared to what is now in place?

As a licence holder for takeaway alcohol, not much changes for you. You need to continue scanning approved photo ID before purchases and declining sales when the scanners identify a banned drinker or if the person doesn't have any photo ID.

What is new for you and your staff is that there are now penalties for not obeying the laws, especially for not scanning ID and for selling alcohol to someone who is on the BDR.

There are now new laws and penalties targeting anyone who buys alcohol to give to someone on the BDR. This law supports you or your staff rejecting a sale if you think the alcohol is intended for someone on the BDR.

You will also need to keep a register of any time that the scanners were not used and the reason why.

Who must provide photo ID to buy takeaway alcohol in a Banned Drinker Area?

If they are buying takeaway alcohol, they will need photo ID. There are no exceptions to this law.

From Prime Ministers to pensioners, it doesn't matter who they are, they must show approved photo ID if they want to buy takeaway alcohol.

Even if you went to high school with them, or they're on their way home from a long shift, or just passing through town, they need to produce photo ID for you to scan.

What if a person says they're not on the BDR but the scan says they are?

If they are scanned and identified as being on the BDR then you cannot serve them takeaway alcohol no matter what their protest is. The BDR laws supports you in denying service to the individual.

If the person continues to protest or wants to contest that they were declined, then they can request clarification about why they were declined by emailing the BDR team at BDR@dlqsc.wa.gov.au

However, they still can't buy takeaway alcohol until the scanning machine approves their photo ID.

So, the laws are about punishment and fines?

No. The BDR is designed to reduce alcohol related harm by acting as a circuit breaker to drinking habits that impact the health and safety of individuals, families and the community.

That's why the health support services in each banned drinker area are listed online at www.bdr.wa.gov.au and printed on flyers that are available to help anyone wishing to take control of their drinking habits.

What's with all the abbreviations? (Glossary)

New laws mean new abbreviations so for a clearer understanding for you and your customers we have crated the following guide.

Banned Drinker Area (BDA) – A **BDA** is an area designated by the Minister for Racing and Gaming where the BDR laws apply and must be followed by everyone in that area. A BDA can be a town, region, electorate or even a postcode as decided by the Minister.

Banned Drinker Order (BDO) – A **BDO** is an order that places a person on the BDR. A BDA can be made voluntarily or by police for alcohol related offences or in some circumstances applied for by medical practitioners to the Director of Liquor Licencing.

Banned Drinkers Register (BDR) – The **BDR** is a register of people who have been banned from purchasing or possessing takeaway alcohol for a set period.

Where does the data go?

Every time a photo ID is scanned on one of the devices the information is encrypted and securely managed and purged after 24 hours.

The scanner compares the information on the approved ID with information on the BDR. If the purchaser is a banned drinker, the scanner notifies the retail staff, who will then stop the sale.

No personal information is maintained in the system after the 24-hour period lapses and the new laws impose significant fines for improper use or disclosure of information or details related to the BDR.