

Responsible supervision

Responsible supervision involves many things, including:

- the adult should directly supervise the teenager while they are drinking
- the adult should not be intoxicated
- the teenager should not be intoxicated.

Parents should take a common sense approach when choosing the age at which they give their teen a drink. It is important to understand the risks associated with teenage drinking, including the setting where drinking will occur, transport options, and the quantity and type of alcohol being consumed.

For teenagers aged 15 to 17 years, the safest option is to delay drinking for as long as possible.

Penalties

An adult who supplies alcohol illegally is liable:

- \$10,000 maximum penalty
- \$500 on-the-spot fine

If you're under 18 and are caught with alcohol illegally you are liable:

- \$2,500 maximum penalty
- \$210 on-the-spot fine

Consumer and Business Services

91 Grenfell St, Adelaide SA 5000

Phone: 131 882

Website: cbs.sa.gov.au

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Government of South Australia, Attorney-General's Department

STOP THE SUPPLY OF ALCOHOL TO MINORS

Illegally supplying alcohol at an underage party can cost you up to \$10,000



Government of South Australia
Attorney-General's Department

Keep teens safe. Stop the supply.

The law is changing from 18 December 2017, with stronger penalties for people who illegally supply alcohol to anyone under 18.

Big parties and events will be targeted, where large groups of teenagers are supplied with alcohol.

Laws at a glance

Organised underage parties	You must not give alcohol to someone who is under 18 years old at an organised event. This means any organised event in a public place that has an entry fee, such as a paid ticket or cover charge. Examples could include warehouse parties and after formal parties.
Homes	Parents and caregivers can allow their underage teenager to drink alcohol at home or other people's homes, so long as there is responsible supervision. In the case of other people's homes, the parent or caregiver must provide permission.
House parties	You must not give alcohol to teens attending a party at somebody's house, unless their parent or caregiver has provided permission. There must also be responsible supervision at the party.
Private property	You must not give alcohol to teenagers at any private property that is not residential. This includes industrial sheds, out-buildings and warehouses.

Picnics and outdoor places	Teens can be given alcohol in public spaces, so long as their parent or caregiver has provided permission and there is responsible supervision. If the location is a declared dry zone, nobody can drink alcohol in the area.
Restaurants, pubs, shops, bars and clubs	These businesses cannot sell or give alcohol to anyone who is under 18.

Parental control

Parents play an important role in encouraging healthy attitudes in teenagers towards alcohol, and have the power to decide how they do this.

Parents and caregivers can still allow their underage teen to drink at a range of locations, so long as they provide responsible supervision. They can also give permission to another adult to supply alcohol to their teenager, so long as that adult provides responsible supervision.