

## Acceptable IDs for Purchasing Alcoholic Beverages in Montana

The purpose of asking a customer for an ID when they are purchasing alcoholic beverages is to verify that the person is at least 21 years old.

### **NEW!!! Montana-Issued Mobile Driver's Licenses and IDs are acceptable:**

- Mobile driver's licenses and state IDs
- Effective 9/1/2025 Montana's Mobile Driver's Licenses (Click [here](#) to visit MVD's website for more information)
- Basics
  - Download a free reader app for your phone
  - Purchase or rent an ISO 18013-5 compliant reader from an approved 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor

### **Acceptable forms of ID are any government-issued ID that meets the following criteria:**

- Contain a photograph
- Contain a date of birth
- Are not altered or manipulated

### **If the above criteria are met, here are some examples of conventional IDs:**

#### **Common**

- Montana driver's licenses
- US Passports
- Military ID
- Montana Tribal ID

#### **Less common but acceptable**

- Driver's licenses, including those from other states and foreign countries
- Other forms of Government and foreign countries' IDs
- Passports issued from countries other than the United States of America

## Unconventional IDs that are also acceptable (if they meet the criteria above):

- State (not private) college and university IDs
- Medical Marijuana ID Cards

Remember: the purpose of asking for an ID is to ensure the purchaser is of legal age. Underaged people will try all different tactics to obtain alcoholic beverages. If in doubt, ask for a second form of ID or deny the sale.

*Please remember that sales to underage and any person who is actually, apparently, or obviously intoxicated is against the law.*

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All licensees must comply with all Federal and Montana alcoholic beverage laws and rules.

[8.2025](#) Please note that the information in department communications may have been modified, superseded, or made obsolete by changes in federal or state law or the Administrative Rules of Montana. If you need to verify the current validity of this fact sheet or have any questions, please contact us at [DORABCD-O&E@mt.gov](mailto:DORABCD-O&E@mt.gov).

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## **Guidance regarding Montana's Mobile ID used for age verification**

Montana Licensees,

Starting September 1, 2025, the Montana Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) will join other states in issuing Mobile IDs.

This will let residents conveniently use their Montana-issued driver's licenses and state IDs digitally through a digital wallet on their mobile devices.

To help businesses verify the consumer's age for certain items or activities—such as alcoholic beverages, cannabis, gambling, and tobacco—the MVD will launch Mobile ID Acceptance on iPhone with the MT Verifier app - Montana Mobile ID Check (MT MID Check). The Montana Department of Revenue's (DOR) division that regulates alcoholic beverages supports the use of MT MID Check or another ISO 18013-5 compliant reader.

Businesses will be able to verify Mobile IDs:

- Using just an iPhone and the MT Verifier app
- No extra hardware or physical readers needed
- Licensed establishments may also select another ISO 18013-5 compliant reader.

Licensees may confirm that a customer's mobile ID is issued by the state and valid by simply using MT MID Check.

It is each licensee's responsibility to choose the method(s) they use to verify age to remain compliant with relevant laws. Licensees are not obligated to accept Mobile IDs or use the MT MID Check app or other mobile verification tools; they are merely options as Mobile ID usage continues to expand.

The MT Mobile ID Check app for both iOS and Android will be available for download directly on the Apple or Google Play Store. Other options to verify a Mobile ID include:

- Credence ID- Tap2 ID Mobile for more information, click [here](#).
- IDScan.net- Veriscan for more information, click [here](#).
- Zebra Bar Code Scanning Devices

Immediately after mobile ID launches on iOS and Android, the MVD website, <https://www.mvdmont.gov/>, will provide more information, including consumer FAQs.

Additional questions about:

- Mobile wallets and verification apps - send to [mvd@mt.gov](mailto:mvd@mt.gov); and
- Legal requirements regarding the acceptance of Mobile IDs – send to [DORABCD-O&E@mt.gov](mailto:DORABCD-O&E@mt.gov)

Thank you,

Montana Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control