

	SOUTH DAKOTA	IOWA	WISCONSIN
What action is held criminally responsible?	It is unlawful to “knowingly permit” underage drinking, “regardless of the source of the alcoholic beverage”, on the premises of the social host.	It is unlawful to “knowingly permit” alcohol consumption or possession on the property by persons, “knowing or having reasonable cause to believe” are under age 18.	It is unlawful to “knowingly permit or fail to take action to prevent the illegal consumption of alcohol beverages by an underage person on property owned by the adult or occupied by the adult and under the adult’s control.”
Who is considered a social host?	“...anyone who hosts a social gathering and knowingly condones the illegal consumption of alcohol by underage persons on property that the host controls.”	Owner, lessee, or person who otherwise has control over a property, which is not a licensed vendor.	An “adult”. This is not further defined. <i>The law was amended in 2017 to clarify that it applies to adults in control of any premises, not just one with a liquor license.</i>
Does the social host have to be on the premises?	No. If he or she knew the underage drinking would take place, he or she is responsible.	This is not clearly defined in the law.	This is not clearly defined in the law.
Does the social host have to be of a certain age?	No.	No.	An “adult”. An age is not specifically noted.
What age does the term “underage” refer to?	20 years old and younger.	17 years old and younger.	20 years old and younger.
Are there any exceptions to this law?	Yes. A social host, or someone on his/her behalf, who takes immediate action to stop the underage drinking upon learning of the activity.	Yes. If the social host definition does not apply, the following are exceptions: (1) A landlord or manager of the property. (2) A person providing space for persons underage to consume or possess alcoholic beverages in connection with a religious observance, ceremony, or rite.	Yes. This does not apply to alcohol used exclusively as a part of a religious service.
Source	Codified Law, Title 35, Chapter 9, Section 9-13	Iowa Code, Title IV, Subtitle 1, Chapter 123.47, Section 2	Wisconsin Statutes, Section 125.07, sub.1 (a)(3)



Ask the Minnesota Prevention Resource Center

The Minnesota Prevention Resource Center (MPRC) works to enhance the capacity of substance abuse prevention professionals in Minnesota. MPRC often receives research questions and prepares in-depth answers. Many of these questions, such as the one found above, deserve to be shared widely, and are published as part of this series.

Do you have a question for MPRC? Email info@mnprc.org or call 651-646-3005.