



# ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

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## Alcohol Alert - April 15, 2022



### **Aurora mulls change in rules for alcohol sales on Sundays**

City may allow drink service for some to start as early as 7 a.m.

Aurora could soon allow alcohol service at some restaurants as early as 7 a.m. on Sundays. Aldermen on the City Council Rules, Administration and Procedures Committee recently recommended changing the city's ordinance regulating alcohol sales to allow 7 a.m. service for restaurants that serve only breakfast, brunch and lunch on Sundays.

To get the endorsement for 7 a.m. Sunday service, the restaurant must have a full kitchen, serve by the drink for on-site consumption only and close by 3 p.m. Ald. Carl Franco, 5th Ward, pointed out that the city used to allow early morning hours for some taverns — known for years as third-shift bars — for people who worked an overnight shift and wanted to stop for a drink after work. But the city outlawed those licenses because of problems, particularly downtown, with drunkenness issues. Stallings said the suggested change would not allow drinking at 7 a.m. everywhere, only for restaurants that close at 3 p.m. That would winnow out most regular taverns, and any restaurant that serves dinner. [Read](#)

### **Alcohol and the Adolescent Brain: What We've Learned and Where the Data Are Taking Us**

Youth use of alcohol remains a pervasive social and public health concern in the United States and a leading cause of disability and mortality during adolescence.<sup>1,2</sup> Alcohol use in adolescence has a distinct pattern from adult drinking, whereby adolescents may have fewer drinking occasions but consume relatively high levels per occasion,

referred to as binge or heavy episodic drinking and defined as consuming four or more standard ethanol consumption units on an occasion for females and five or more for males.<sup>3-5</sup> Highly prevalent among youth in Western countries is an intermittent pattern of heavy alcohol consumption that typically is associated with social leisure occasions on weekend nights.<sup>6</sup> Moreover, adolescent alcohol use, along with smoking and illicit drug use, has undergone changes in prevalence and patterns in recent decades. For example, alcohol use peaked in the mid-1990s, with approximately 50% of 12th graders reporting past-month alcohol use, followed by a steady long-term decline to 30% in 2018. In 2020, the downward trend reversed course, with 34% of 12th graders reporting past-month alcohol use.<sup>1</sup> Recent reports indicate that prevalence estimates for 2021 will need to account for impacts of the COVID-19 global pandemic on underage substance use behavior and availability.

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