

ORDINANCE NO. ____

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BLOOMFIELD, IOWA, BY REGULATING THE PRESENCE OF MINORS IN BARS AND TAVERNS AFTER 10 P.M., ESTABLISHING A PENALTY AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

The purpose of this ordinance is to promote public safety, reduce late-night juvenile exposure to alcohol-related environments, and support responsible business operations within the City of Bloomfield, Iowa. This ordinance is adopted pursuant to the City's home-rule authority under Iowa Code section 364.1 and is consistent with Iowa Code Chapter 123.

BE IT ENACTED, by the City Council for the City of Bloomfield, Iowa, that:

Section One. Chapter 41 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Bloomfield is amended by adding the following new provisions:

41.16 PERSONS UNDER THE LEGAL AGE IN LICENSED OR PERMITTED ESTABLISHMENTS.

A. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this ordinance:

1. "Minor" means any unemancipated person below the age of eighteen (18) years.
2. "Bar or Tavern" means any premises licensed under Iowa Code chapter 123 to sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption and deriving less than fifty percent (50%) of gross receipts from the sale of prepared food.
3. "Bar Area" means any area of a licensed premises where alcoholic beverages are served or consumed, including, but not limited to, service counters, drink rails, lounge areas, and any designated drinking area.
4. "Parent or Guardian" means a biological parent, adoptive parent, legal guardian or custodian recognized under Iowa law.
5. "Restaurant" means a premises licensed under Iowa Code Chapter 123 that derives fifty percent (50%) or more of gross annual receipts from the sale of prepared food.

B. PROHIBITION. A minor shall not be present in any bar or tavern, or in any bar area of a licensed premises, between the hours of 10 p.m. and closing.

C. EXCEPTIONS. The prohibition in section B does not apply to:

1. Parent or Guardian Accompaniment. A minor accompanied by their parent or guardian.
2. Employment. A minor lawfully employed on the premises in accordance with Iowa Code section 123.49(2)(f).
3. Restaurants. A minor present in a restaurant, provided the minor remains outside the bar area.
4. Private Events. A minor attending a private event not open to the general public, provided alcohol service complies with Iowa law.

5. Performers. A minor participating in a scheduled performance, show or competition provided the minor remains in areas designated for performers and is not served or permitted to consume alcohol.

D. DUTIES OF LICENSE HOLDERS. A license holder shall:

1. Take reasonable steps to ensure compliance with this ordinance.
2. Post signage at all public entrances stating: “Minors under 18 not permitted after 10 p.m.”
3. Require a minor present after 10 p.m. under an exception to remain in permitted areas only.

E. ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES.

1. Municipal Infraction. A violation of this ordinance constitutes a municipal infraction punishable by civil penalty of ____ for the first offense, ____ for the second offense and ____ for each subsequent offense. Violations of restrictions imposed by this chapter may be charged upon a simple notice of a fine payable to and handled by the Bloomfield Police Department Administrative Assistant. Failure to pay the simple notice of a fine shall be grounds for the filing of a complaint in District Court.
2. License Review. Repeated violations may be grounds for city-level administrative action, including suspension or revocation of entertainment or business licenses issued by the City, consistent with applicable ordinances.
3. Separate Offenses. Each minor present in violation of this ordinance constitutes a separate offense.

Section Two. This Amendment shall become effective on September 1, 2026.

Passed this ____ day of _____, 2026.

CITY OF BLOOMFIELD

Chris Miller, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kyle McClure, City Clerk