BEST BAR NONE



A good night out starts here

CRITERIA CHECKLIST

REVISED FEBRUARY 2024





DrinkSense

BBN Steering Committees

Best Bar None would like to recognize and thank the following partners and stakeholders for playing an integral role to the program by participating in sitting on our Steering Committees:

- Alberta Safer Bars Council
- AGLC Inspections and Regulatory
- Airdrie Fire Department
- Airdrie RCMP
- Alberta Health Services Public Health Inspections
- Banff and Lake Louise Hospitality
 Association
- Banff Bar Watch
- Banff Fire Department
- Banff RCMP
- Calgary Fire Department
- Calgary Police Service
- Edmonton Fire Department
- Edmonton Police Service

- Edmonton Urban Planning and Economy
- Grande Prairie Fire Department
- Grande Prairie RCMP
- Lethbridge Fire and Emergency Services
- Lethbridge Police Services
- Red Deer County
- Red Deer Emergency Services
- Red Deer RCMP
- The City of Calgary
- The City of Edmonton
- The City of Grande Prairie
- The City of Lethbridge
- The City of Red Deer



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USING THIS WORKSHEET

This Criteria worksheet will help you plan and prepare for your assessment visit. Being prepared will help the assessment visit go quickly and smoothly. The BBN criteria covers such topics as: fire safety, staff training, internal policy, customer management, security, first aid, responsible service and transportation.

Every licensed establishment will be evaluated using the same criteria based on industry best practices and compliance regulations that focus on safety, sound management and customer service.

All **MANDATORY** criteria must be met to achieve accreditation. Meeting BONUS criteria will make your establishment eligible for an award.

Bonus Points

There will be several opportunities throughout the checklist to gain additional bonus points for going above and beyond to ensure a smooth assessment, such as submitting assessment materials early and booking your assessment in advance. Keep an eye out for the symbol and challenge yourself to collect them all! Look - here's one now!

Bonus points will be awarded to those establishments who take the initiative to book their assessments in advance.



The Worksheet is broken down into 4 Sections:

A: WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- As part of your application process, you will be expected to submit a copy (electronic or hard copy) of your written policies to BBN in advance of your assessment visit.
- Your policy manual(s) should cover ALL **MANDATORY** policies included in the checklist and as many of the **BONUS** policies as you deem appropriate and helpful to your establishment.
- The policy manual(s) will be reviewed and marked before your assessment.
- A deadline date to submit the policy manual(s) will be provided after application for accreditation is received.

B: OPERATIONAL FORMS AND CHECKLISTS

- A list of **MANDATORY** and **BONUS** forms and checklists is provided in the Worksheet.
- All **MANDATORY** forms and checklists will need to be provided or shown to your BBN assessors on assessment day for review and validation.
- As well, any of the BONUS forms and checklists will be reviewed and validated by your assessment team on assessment day.

C: PHYSICAL VERIFICATION

A checklist of items that will be verified and validated by the BBN assessment team is provided. Please
review the list and ensure ALL MANDATORY items are in place and ready for assessment day. And, once
again, the more BONUS items achieved increase consideration for awards.

D: QUESTIONNAIRE

- · Please review and fill out the questionnaire in advance of your assessment visit.
- Your assessor will review your responses with you during the assessment visit this will give you an opportunity to add more detail. The assessor will also ask follow-up questions where needed.

Section A: WRITTEN POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Best Bar None Criteria Checklist is a universal checklist for establishments in all categories. Please keep in mind that Bonus Policies may not be applicable to your establishment.

Policies can be submitted to your assessor via email or handed in as a hard copy during your assessment. An electronic spreadsheet version of the policy checklist will be sent to you prior to your assessment. Please feel free to contact your assessor for any required resources such as our BBN Guidelines for Writing Policy.

Use this checklist as a guide.

Bonus points will be awarded to those establishments who submit their policies and policy spreadsheet prior to their assessment date.



A: Written Policies And Procedures

Page #
from your policy
manual

			manual
A1	Have a written glass collection policy (i.e., that bottles and glassware are removed from tables frequently and broken glass is cleaned up promptly).	MANDATORY	
A2	Have a written policy that staff are to monitor departing patrons to ensure that alcohol containers (bottles or glassware – full or empty) are not removed from the premises.	MANDATORY	
А3	Have a written policy on when police are to be called. The policy must include (at minimum) instructions to call police in the following situations: • a patron is found using or selling illegal drugs • assault/sexual assault • if illegal drugs are found or seized on the premises • suspected gang or organized crime activity	MANDATORY	
A 4	Have a written procedure for premises evacuation in the event of emergency (fire, power loss, etc.). The policy must include (at minimum): • identification of a 'muster point' or meeting area	MANDATORY	
A5	Have a written policy that covers fire safety procedures; such as locations and use of fire extinguishers and other emergency equipment (e.g., escape ladders, fire exits, alarms, etc.).	MANDATORY	
A 6	Have a written policy and procedure for managing patron smoking areas. The policy must cover (at minimum) the following items: • designating who is responsible for monitoring the smoking area • ensuring the smoking area is clean and tidy	MANDATORY	
A7	Have a written policy on prevention of illegal drug sales and use on the premises.	MANDATORY	
A8	Have a written policy requiring staff to call or secure a taxi or vehicle for hire service for a customer, upon their request.	MANDATORY	
A 9	Have a written policy requiring staff to request proof of age from all patrons who appear to be under the age of 25 (when minors are prohibited from the establishment).	MANDATORY	

A10	Have a written and posted policy for handling or cleaning up bodily fluids (e.g., vomit, blood, etc.) that includes "Universal Precautions." A print-out version can be found at bestbarnone.ca/resources.	MANDATORY
A11	Have a written zero tolerance policy for employees serving liquor to minors.	MANDATORY
A12	Have a written zero tolerance policy stating no staff consumption of liquor while on duty.	MANDATORY
A13	Have a written zero tolerance policy stating no staff consumption of recreational cannabis while on duty.	MANDATORY
A14	Have a written zero tolerance policy regarding the use, possession or sale of illegal drugs by staff.	MANDATORY
A15	Have a written "Respectful Workplace Policy" that covers (at minimum) the following items: • zero tolerance for sexual harassment or harassment of staff and patrons • treating others equitably and fairly	MANDATORY
A16	Have a written zero tolerance policy regarding internal theft.	MANDATORY
A17	Have a written policy in place to make staff aware of and prevent drug or alcohol facilitated sexual assault. This can include: • policies regarding unattended drinks • observation and possible intervention of patrons exiting the establishment (i.e., intoxicated patrons leaving with a stranger)	MANDATORY
A18	Have a hand-washing policy for staff that can include how to wash hands properly and when to wash hands.	MANDATORY
A19	Have a written policy and procedure for managing lineups at entrance(s) to premises. (Mandatory policy for high-volume, late-night venues)	BONUS
A20	Have a written policy regarding weapons found on the premises or removed from patrons. (Mandatory policy for high-volume, late-night venues)	BONUS

A21	Have a policy requiring staff (e.g., management or door security) to fill out incident reports if and when the following circumstances occur (one point each): • patron is ejected or refuses to leave • minor in premises or refused entry • patron refuses safe transportation • fight / assault / disturbance • police are called • sexual assault or sexual harassment	BONUS	
A22	Have a written policy on searching patrons.	BONUS	
A23	Have a written policy listing any prohibited items (e.g., types of weapons, illegal drugs, outside food and drink, any other contraband).	BONUS	
A24	Have a policy in effect for "soft closing" (i.e., lights gradually go up and music / entertainment ceases at last call).	BONUS	
A25	Have a written noise control policy.	BONUS	
A26	Have a written dispersal policy that outlines procedures taken to ensure patrons exit the facility in a safe and orderly fashion.	BONUS	
A27	Have a written policy empowering and encouraging staff to offer free, or reduced cost, non-alcoholic beverages to pregnant women.	BONUS	
A28	Have a written policy empowering and encouraging staff to offer free, or reduced cost, non-alcoholic beverages or food to designated drivers.	BONUS	
A29	Have a written policy directing front-of-house staff (and door/ security staff, when applicable) to monitor patron intoxication levels and intervene when necessary (e.g., slow down or cease liquor service, find safe transportation, etc.).	BONUS	
A30	Have a written policy requiring bar staff to "burn the well" (melt the ice well with hot water and inspect for glass shards) when glass is broken in or near the ice well.	BONUS	

Have a written policy ensuring any working bar area (with cash trays or tills) is not left unattended when patrons are in the premises.	BONUS
 Have a written procedure for staff to follow in the event of a violent incident or assault. The procedure must include (at minimum): instructions to remove patrons and staff from the area (during and after the incident) requirements to call appropriate authority (i.e., fire, police, ambulance) 	BONUS
Have clear written policies and procedures for determination and preservation of crime scene and witness details until police arrive.	BONUS
Have a written policy requiring surveillance camera images and data from cameras be provided to a Police Officer or AGLC Inspector immediately upon demand in order to assist in an investigation.	BONUS
Have a written policy and procedure regarding the use of metal detectors, wands or pat-downs at the entrance of the premises (intended for high-volume, late-night venues).	BONUS
Have a written policy to delegate a Fire Marshal or point person responsible in case of evacuation or emergency. The policy should also spell out the responsibilities and duties of the Fire Marshal.	BONUS
 Have written policies related to staff observation and intervention to prevent sexual violence in your establishment. This can include: observation guidelines to identify vulnerable patrons or predatory activities the "Four D's" of bystander intervention (Direct, Distract, Delegate, Delay) 	BONUS
 Have written policies related to safety for late-night staff: no staff should leave the building wearing a server apron or visible uniform any staff leaving the building after dark must be accompanied by another team member 	BONUS
Have written policies and procedures related to best practices in the event of an Active Shooter inside or near the premises.	BONUS
	tills) is not left unattended when patrons are in the premises. Have a written procedure for staff to follow in the event of a violent incident or assault. The procedure must include (at minimum): instructions to remove patrons and staff from the area (during and after the incident) requirements to call appropriate authority (i.e., fire, police, ambulance) Have clear written policies and procedures for determination and preservation of crime scene and witness details until police arrive. Have a written policy requiring surveillance camera images and data from cameras be provided to a Police Officer or AGLC Inspector immediately upon demand in order to assist in an investigation. Have a written policy and procedure regarding the use of metal detectors, wands or pat-downs at the entrance of the premises (intended for high-volume, late-night venues). Have a written policy to delegate a Fire Marshal or point person responsible in case of evacuation or emergency. The policy should also spell out the responsibilities and duties of the Fire Marshal. Have written policies related to staff observation and intervention to prevent sexual violence in your establishment. This can include: observation guidelines to identify vulnerable patrons or predatory activities the "Four D's" of bystander intervention (Direct, Distract, Delegate, Delay) Have written policies related to safety for late-night staff: no staff should leave the building wearing a server apron or visible uniform any staff leaving the building after dark must be accompanied by another team member

A40	Have a written policy on when to call Emergency Medical Services (EMS) when a patron is sick or injured. This policy could include: • identifying which staff are responsible for calling emergency services (i.e., manager on duty, security, etc.)	BONUS
A41	Have a written policy related to use of recreational cannabis by guests. This policy can include: • where recreational cannabis can be consumed • awareness of local bylaws related to cannabis use • physical signs related to use of recreational cannabis for staff to observe	BONUS
A42	 Have written policies related to allergy protocols. This could include: staff product knowledge, especially related to common allergens protocols to prevent cross-contamination communication strategies (with guests, between staff and management, between front and back of house) to ensure guest confidence and prevent errors how to handle a foodborne illness complaint 	BONUS
A43	 Have written policies related to social media. This could include: staff social media posts following AGLC regulations related to licensed premises advertising, which can be found in Section 7 of the Licensee Handbook requiring promoters, entertainers and other contractors to submit advertising and social media posts for approval 	BONUS
A44	Have a written policy related to "walk-out" or "dine and dash" situations and how staff are expected to manage them.	BONUS
A45	Have a written "Duty of Care" policy which considers the ejection or refusal of entry of patrons who may be vulnerable.	BONUS

Section B: OPERATIONAL FORMS AND CHECKLISTS

Have mandatory and applicable bonus forms ready for assessment day.

Use this checklist as a guide.

For examples and templates of these operational forms and checklists, please feel free to use the "Resources" tab at bestbarnone.ca.



B: Operational Forms and Checklists

Please provide examples of the following items on assessment day. The items marked **MANDATORY must be provided** to meet the minimum BBN standard. Achieving the **BONUS** items increases your score.

MANI	DAT	TORY ITEMS
		B1 Incident reporting binder or other system to document incidents
		B2 Injury / accident reporting binder or other system to document injuries (i.e., injured person's name, injury circumstance, first aid provided, staff name, others involved, date)
		B3 Binder or electronic staff training log tracking all ProServe and (if applicable) ProTect or Reel Facts expiry dates
BONL	JS I	TEMS
		B4 Premises Checklist used for opening and closing
		B5 Cleaning and sanitation schedule
		B6 Banned or barred patron list or system to track banned patrons
		B7 "Liquor Liability" forms, in which the staff members agree to abide by principles of responsible liquor service, signed by all staff directly involved in the sale and service of liquor (i.e., servers and bartenders). This would be a stand-alone document, separate from general policies.
		B8 Patron Head Count log or binder or other system to track occupant loads
		B9 Refusal of Entry/ Ejection Log to track instances where patrons are refused entry or ejected from the premises, with reasons for refusal or ejection (i.e., intoxicated at door, unable to produce proof of age, belligerent behaviour, etc.)
	The	e following items can be submitted electronically or handed in at the assessment:
	ass	Bonus points will be awarded to those establishments who submit B10, B11 and B12 prior to their essment date.
		B10 Provide a list highlighting recent charitable donations or fundraisers organized or hosted over the past 12 months. This can also include community initiatives or activities to demonstrate your commitment to your neighbourhood (i.e., snow shoveling, neighbourhood cleanup, etc.)
		B11 Provide a list of all industry partnerships, crime prevention groups or associations or suitable community initiatives in which the establishment holds a membership or supports (e.g., Better Business Bureau, Chamber of Commerce, Restaurants Canada, Responsible Hospitality Industry Association, Banff and Lake Louise Hospitality Association, Banff Bar Watch, etc.)
		B12 Provide a copy of most recent Alberta Health Inspection report. Points will be awarded based on results
		B13 FOR CURRENTLY ACCREDITED BARS ONLY; NOT APPLICABLE TO NEW APPLICANTS Provide samples (e.g., printouts, screenshots) of promotion of your BBN accreditation status to the public. This could include social media posts, digital ads, menus, tent cards, posters, etc. As well, please show examples of efforts to promote other AGLC Social Responsibility programs such as DrinkSense, Dry9 or GameSense (for vlt retailers and casinos).

Section C: PHYSICAL VERIFICATION

Will be validated by assessors on assessment day.
Use this checklist as a guide.



Yes/No

C1	Maximum Occupant Load card posted, ideally at main entrance.	MANDATORY
C2	Current liquor licence is posted.	MANDATORY
C3	Current business licence posted.	MANDATORY
C4	Current Food Handling Permit posted.	MANDATORY
C 5	Have signage posted at premises entrance stating "Minors Prohibited" – if this applies to your liquor licence.	MANDATORY
C6	Have non-combustible cigarette disposal container(s) in designated smoking area(s).	MANDATORY
C 7	Have an emergency phone list in view of staff (near phone behind bar or in staff area), which includes (at minimum): • Police • Fire • premises street address	MANDATORY
C 8	Have at least one appropriately stocked first aid kit within the venue. (Must include vinyl / latex gloves).	MANDATORY
C 9	A list of staff who have valid and current first aid training is posted and visible for all staff to see (preferably posted on or near the first aid kit).	MANDATORY
C10	Broken glass is stored separately from regular garbage and away from patron areas.	MANDATORY
C11	Fire exits are free from obstruction and well-lit at all times and all fire exit signs are in working order (visible and lit).	MANDATORY
C12	Provide evidence of fire equipment being inspected / serviced annually or as required.	MANDATORY
C13	Use wet floor sign(s) to help prevent slips and falls.	MANDATORY
C14	Empty bottles are stored behind the bar or away from patron areas.	MANDATORY
C15	All bar glass washers are fully equipped and in working order. Have glass washer sanitizer strips on hand and explain who is responsible for testing sanitizer levels.	MANDATORY
		·

C16	Ice well or ice machine shows evidence of being cleaned and maintained on a regular basis. Explain who is responsible for ice well/machine cleanliness and maintenance.	MANDATORY
C17	Have a working hand-wash station (sink, soap dispenser and paper towels) at every working bar.	MANDATORY
C18	Have radios to allow staff, management and security to communicate effectively.	BONUS
C19	At least one working flashlight is available and accessible to staff.	BONUS
C20	Signage is posted within the premises, identifying behavioural expectations for patrons.	BONUS
C21	FOR CURRENTLY ACCREDITED BARS ONLY; NOT APPLICABLE TO NEW APPLICANTS BBN accreditation plaque and door stickers are posted and visible to guests	BONUS
C22	A floor plan of the establishment with identified emergency exits, evacuation route(s) and muster point is posted prominently in a public area, in view of patrons, ideally near main entrance.	BONUS
C23	Support a Designated Driver transportation program with posters displayed in view of patrons and/or business cards available to the public.	BONUS
C24	At least two (2) responsible liquor service posters are displayed in view of patrons. Examples are: "Under 25", "It's the Law and My Job", etc. Responsible gaming posters (where vlts are present) are also applicable.	BONUS
C25	Signs/advertisements are posted that offer free, or reduced cost, non-alcoholic beverages to pregnant women.	BONUS
C26	Signs/advertisements are posted that offer free, or reduced cost, non-alcoholic beverages to designated drivers.	BONUS
C27	Have a mechanical counting device used to accurately count or spotcheck the number of patrons on premises.	BONUS
C28	Have a "panic button" or other system in place available to staff in order to discreetly alert police and/or authorities immediately in the case of an emergency situation.	BONUS

C29	Additional Bonus points if surveillance / camera system records images and data and is readily accessible for at least 15 days	BONUS	Records +15 days
C30	Have a security/surveillance camera system in operation, recording the exterior of the premises • Additional Bonus points if surveillance / camera system records images and data and is readily accessible for at least 15 days	BONUS	Have exterior camera Records +15 days
C31	Acrylic or plastic glasses are used in place of some glassware. Additional Bonus points if all beverages are served in acrylic / plastic containers, including bottles.	BONUS	Some glass No glass used at all
C32	Use a scanning system that records name, age and photo (in compliance with legislation) of patrons as they enter.	BONUS	
C33	Have an automated external defibrillator (AED) on premises and at least two (2) staff with valid training in its use. Partial points will be granted if there is a neighbouring business with an accessible AED and permissions and arrangements have been made with the business to access the AED in emergency.	BONUS	
C34	Have washrooms that are accessible to all persons, including persons with disabilities, such as those who use a wheelchair (this may include but is not limited to hand rails, lowered mirrors and sinks, raised toilets, etc.).	BONUS	
C35	Post a "height strip" by main exit door(s).	BONUS	
C 36	Show evidence of pest control equipment and monitoring.	BONUS	
C37	Have a naloxone kit on premises, and staff trained to properly use it.	BONUS	
C38	Have a list of non-alcoholic drink options featured on the menu, with more options than simply pop and juices (i.e., non-alcoholic or low-alcohol beers, mocktails, etc.).	BONUS	
C39	Have a probe thermometer on site for validating food temperatures, to ensure safe food handling.	BONUS	

Section D: QUESTIONNAIRE

Answers can be submitted to your assessor via email or handed in as a hard copy during your assessment. An electronic Word document version of the Questionnaire will be sent to you prior to your assessment.

Use this checklist as a guide.

Bonus points will be awarded to those establishments who submit their completed questionnaire document prior to their assessment date.



D: Questionnaire



D8	Does at least one front-of-house staff member have current and approved Food Safety (safe food handling) certification? If YES, how many front-of-house staff have safe food handling training?
D 9	How often does your establishment hold general staff meetings to review policy? When was the most recent staff meeting?
D10	How do you prevent and respond to incidents of sexual assault, harassment or sexual violence in your establishment?
D11	Does your establishment hold formal staff performance reviews on a regular basis with results documented? If YES, how often are they held?
D12	Does your establishment hold mock evacuation training exercises? If YES, how are these exercises conducted? How often?
D13	How do you ensure you have a "good neighbour policy" with nearby businesses or residential areas? How do you deal with issues that can affect your neighbours such as noise, litter, parking, etc.? Also, please provide a quick summary list of neighbours (residential and/or commercial) that could be affected by your operation.
D14	Is your establishment accessible to patrons with disabilities? Have you made any adjustments for guests with disabilities (e.g., large print menus and signage, glassware for those with limited hand functions, room for wheelchairs or walkers, etc.)?
D15	Does your establishment conduct any "secret shopper" or integrity testing to ensure customer service standards are met? Bonus points awarded if "secret shoppers" also evaluate responsible liquor service (e.g., proof of age under 25, overservice).

D16

Please list any specialized training or credentials held by staff members or management. These could include safety-related training (e.g., WHMIS, Verbal Judo, Bystander Intervention/sexual assault prevention, etc.), customer service or industry training (e.g., Cicerone education, product knowledge, sensitivity training) or other education or training (e.g., Hospitality Management Diploma).

D17

Please list and environmental initiatives taken on by your establishment that are above and beyond standard practices to address your environmental footprint. This can include food waste management, energy-efficient equipment, recycling programs, etc.

FOR ESTABLISHMENTS THAT EMPLOY DOOR / SECURITY STAFF ONLY.

D18

- If your establishment uses door / security staff, please answer the following questions:
- On which nights do you normally schedule door / security staff?
- How many door / security staff are scheduled at peak / busiest nights? Do you have a target ratio of security staff to number of guests (i.e., 1 per 50, 1 per 75, etc.)?
- D19

Describe the systems and/or strategies used by your establishment in order to prevent and reduce the risk of drink spiking occurrences.

D20

Describe your systems used for liquor inventory control and theft/loss prevention (e.g., regular liquor counts, blind cashouts, third party audits, etc.).

D21

Provide one recent example of when staff went 'above and beyond' to ensure customer safety. If possible, show assessor sample of accompanying incident report to validate.

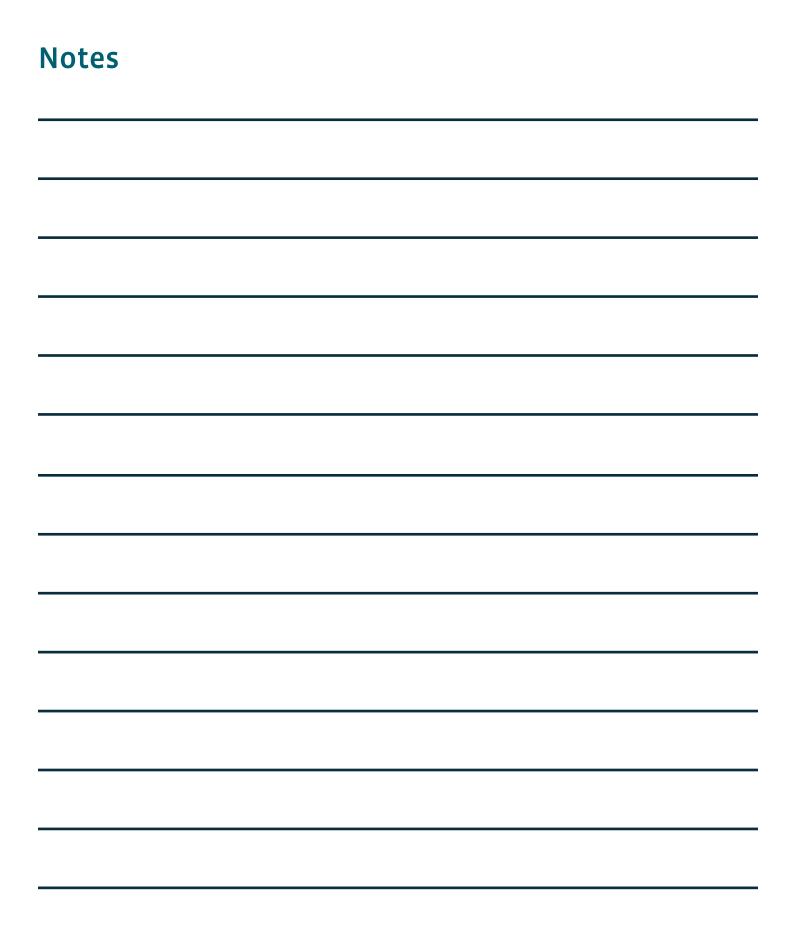
D22

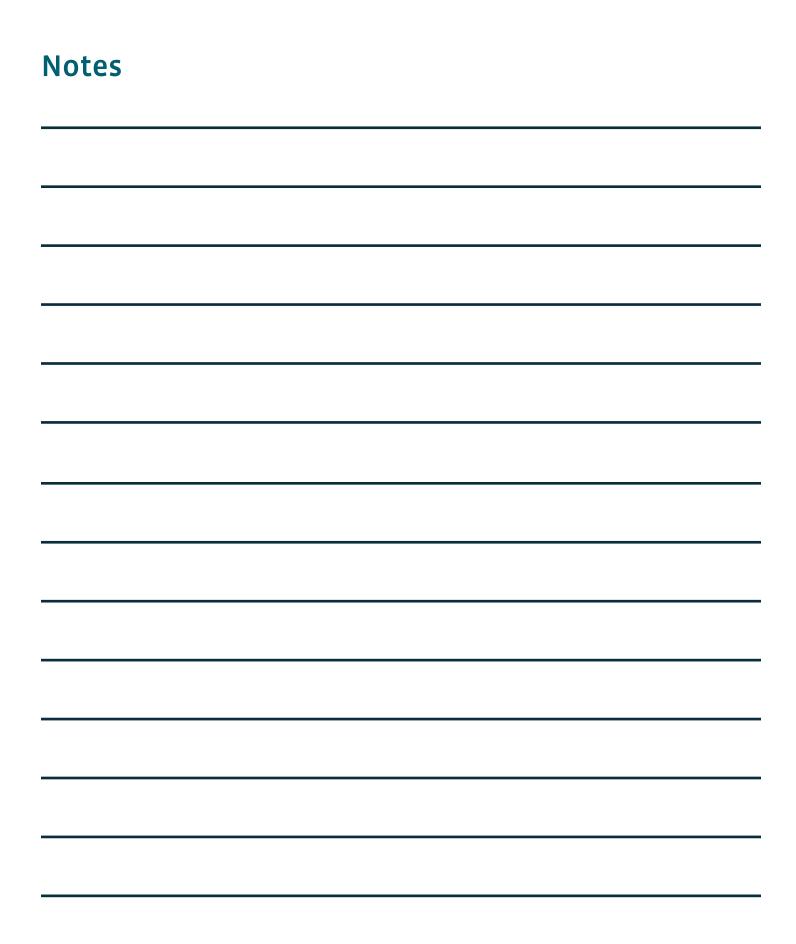
List – in point form – the strengths that make your bar safer for staff and patrons.

Hint! This question is a fantastic opportunity to score more bonus points while also exhibiting the qualities that set your establishment above and beyond other establishments.

D23

List – in point form – the challenges your bar faces to provide a safer experience for staff and patrons. If desired, give examples of how your bar works to overcome these challenges.







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