



# News Release

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## Graduation season calls for alcohol awareness

**PORTLAND, Ore.** – The Oregon Liquor Control Commission reminds parents and students to celebrate graduation safely.

Graduation is an important milestone in a young adult's life. Many families commemorate graduation with parties, outings, and other celebrations. Here are a few tips for parents and guardians to help keep their teens safe during graduation season.

- Set clear expectations about not drinking alcohol. Establish rules and follow through with the consequences.
- Talk about drinking and drug use with your teen as well as other parents.
- Talk about how making bad choices, like using drugs or alcohol, could change their lives forever.
- Organize fun alternatives such as an alcohol and drug-free graduation party.
- Be involved - ask who they will be with, how you can reach them, where they will be and at what times.
- Lead by example. Teens learn by watching, interacting, and listening to you – live a healthy lifestyle for you and your kids.

“Parental disapproval is still a leading reason why kids choose not to drink,” said Rudy Williams, OLCC Deputy Director. “Talk to your children about how one bad choice could quickly lead to tragedy. A few moments now could save a lifetime.”

Parents planning a party for their child's friends should make sure the festivities are alcohol-free. Not only is furnishing alcohol a crime, but you could also be held liable for any damages, injuries or deaths caused by the minor(s) you gave alcohol.

For more information and resources on alcohol and minors:  
[http://www.oregon.gov/OLCC/alcohol\\_and\\_minors.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OLCC/alcohol_and_minors.shtml)

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*Promoting the public interest through responsible alcohol sales and service.*