

City of Tempe | Drink Spiking Ordinance & Safe Bar Program

Key Takeaways

- The **only operating requirement** placed on businesses is to have testing kits available for purchase.
- Businesses can be in full ordinance compliance at **NO COST**. Tempe secured commitments from organizations to pay for the first-year supply of kits & covers.
- Selling test kits (provided for free) at a profit ensures additional kits **remain cost-neutral** for businesses.
- **Kits may be sold** or provided for free. Businesses can even **make a small profit**. Test kits cost about \$5 each, with a maximum markup of 20% over purchase cost.
- A Tempe survey indicates young people are **more likely to visit Tempe bars** because of the ordinance, with similar programs seeing higher patron traffic due to young people feeling safer.

The only provisions the proposed ordinance requires:

- Bars/nightclubs must provide drink-spiking test devices available to patrons, with **no mandatory number of kits**. Each business can decide what number suits its needs.
- **Establishments are not liable** for the ordinance's drink spiking prevention measures.
- Kits must not be expired, and a sign outlining a patron's right to purchase a kit must be available (signage approved by Tempe PD).

NOT required, but encouraged through Tempe's Safe Bar Program:

- Venues may offer drink lids/covers (free or for sale).
- Venues providing free kits/drink covers will receive a **25% reduction in annual liquor license fees**.

Benefits for Businesses with Tempe's proposed ordinance & Safe Bar Program:

- Businesses qualifying for the rebate will be **featured on Tempe's social media** and website to highlight their dedication to patron safety.
- Tempe's rates of drink spiking are no higher than other cities, but this proactive, victim-centered measure demonstrates that local businesses care about their patrons' safety.
- No similar program currently exists in Arizona. Tempe bars and nightclubs could see a boost in their nightlife reputation and competitiveness. Where women feel safer, men then follow.

Please note that NO ordinance is finalized. All provisions are subject to change based on stakeholder, staff, and subcommittee input.