



Offender Solutions® Rethink-a-Drink™ MIP Alcohol Awareness Class Course Approval Information

To Whom It May Concern:

This document is designed to show an attorney, judge, probation officer, school official or other referral source how the Offender Solutions® Online class learning model works and what is required to receive a certificate of completion from Offender Solutions®.

Offender Solutions® Inc. staff began researching and working with underage drinking clients in 1975. At the onset as juvenile probation officers it became clear that imposing fines and license or school suspensions did little to have a meaningful impact on young people, their behavior or their attitudes toward underage alcohol use. Now, Offender Solutions® is a nationwide leader in providing underage alcohol education classes. Offender Solutions® was developed to be the highest quality online underage drinking class available. We use an evidence based, cognitive restructuring and psycho-educational model and focus on the student's "attitudes, values and beliefs".

Curriculum

1. Introduction – Outlines class use and expectations.
2. History of Alcohol – Reviews historical values about alcohol use.
3. What's the Big Deal – Explains problems associated with alcohol use.
4. Levels of Use – Shows the "levels of use" and conducts a level of use screening.
5. Who is At Risk – Summarizes risk issues and student gets a risk screening.
6. Our Values – Defines "values" and how they impact the path of our life.
7. The Choices We Make – Outlines a template for making life choices.
8. Making Up Your Own Mind – Poses questions about our attitudes, values and beliefs.
9. Summary and Final Exam – Puts the pieces of the class into context.

The primary goal of the Offender Solutions® Rethink-a-Drink™ underage drinking alcohol awareness class is for the student to seriously explore his/her own attitudes, values and beliefs about underage drinking . Rethink-a-Drink is a distance learning program that has five key objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1: Empowerment: To assist the client in developing a sense of personal responsibility for each decision made. Prior to completing our alcohol awareness course each student will be aware that his/her "level of use" and "level of risk" is mostly impacted by themselves and their attitudes, values and beliefs about alcohol use.

OBJECTIVE 2: Education: To inform each student of the long and short term problems associated with alcohol use.

OBJECTIVE 3: Skills: To facilitate the development of an alcohol refusal strategy and expose the student to a variety of “in the moment” techniques. The need to identify specific strategies and techniques and practice is encouraged and emphasized.

OBJECTIVE 4: Victim Awareness: Special attention is paid to identify the impact that alcohol use has on strangers, friends, family, fellow students and work colleagues. Prior to the completion of the Rethink-a-Drink underage drinking class, the student will be aware that any one incident or abuse of alcohol increases the likelihood that there is a victim(s).

OBJECTIVE 5: Values Development: The student is exposed to the notion of “values”. This objective entails having the student look into him/herself, introspectively, and weigh their values regarding underage drinking.

This is a 4 hour curriculum and contains hundreds pages of information. The Rethink-a-Drink™ class is delivered in the form of an online classroom, where videos, content, quizzes and multi-media presentations are utilized. This course is considered interactive and comprehensive.

Offender Solutions® was founded through the combined 43 years of experience of a master’s level Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor (CADAC), parole officer, a juvenile probation officer, two college instructors and a justice system policy analyst. Each of these roles contributed greatly to the style, delivery and content of the work we do.

We don't make ridiculous claims like a 95% success rate but we do know that we use best practices and evidence based principles. Offender Solutions® addresses victim issues, accountability and personal responsibility. Our approach is the most effective intervention - cognitive restructuring.

Students in the Rethink-a-Drink™ class have certain responsibilities:

1. All students are required to participate in class sessions. These sessions have content, multi-media and quizzes within those sessions. In order for a student to progress to the next section of material, they must pass the prior chapter’s quiz. This ensures that each student learns the necessary information and is ready to review a new set of materials.
2. All sessions are timed. Students cannot simply click through pages and take the quizzes without comprehending the material. The program is set up for the average reader (150 words per minute) and written to the 5th grade level. Students are required to complete each session which mimics a live in person session.
3. To receive a certificate of completion, all students must pass each chapter as well as a final exam with a passing score of 80% or better. Unlike most live classes, we require competency of materials and believe that a final exam is a fair way to achieve this goal.

4. All students can print out a Certificate of Completion upon passing the Final Exam. Each certificate is provided with a verification number for authenticity.

Why is Offender Solutions® Inc. a superior way of completing an underage drinking (MIP) alcohol awareness class requirement?

1. Online education has become one of the most acceptable ways of completing educational requirements as evidenced through almost all major universities offering online classes.
2. There are several advantages to taking our online MIP class vs. a face to face class. Some of these advantages to the client include:
 - Reduced Cost: A reduction of cost to the client vs. a face to face program. Our program is about ½ the cost of a live program.
 - Self-Paced: Our program is self-paced and can be taken from any internet based computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 - Available: Participants do not have the argument that they couldn't find a class close to work or home.
 - Convenient: Participants will not lose wages from work because the classes can be worked on during lunch hours or during breaks, evenings, or weekends. Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
 - Individual Support: Interaction with the client is much easier because it is not in a group setting; therefore individual questions and requests can be answered on a one/one basis. Our support services are available seven (7) days a week.
 - Transportation Barriers: The Rethink-a-Drink™ class avoids the transportation barrier and is a very "green" alternative to driving somewhere to complete a class.

We will allow any court official who wishes to view our program to call our office and we will set up a guest user registration at no charge.

Offender Solutions® Inc. can be reached in person by calling 541-598-4577 or by email at info@offendersolutions.com