

CATERER’S PERMIT INFORMATION

Who May Obtain a Caterer’s Permit

Any licensee holding an on-sale beer and wine (Type 41, or 42), on-sale general (Type 47, 48 or 57), club (Type 50 or 51), veterans’ club (Type 52), on-sale general wine, food and art culture museum (Type 78), general caterer’s (Type 83), or a neighborhood restricted special on-sale general (Type 87) license may apply for a caterer’s permit. Seasonal licensees, on-sale general for boat, and on-sale general for vessel of more than 1,000 tons burden are not eligible. A caterer's permit authorizes the licensee to sell alcoholic beverages for consumption upon premises approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC).

How to Apply

Submit a completed *Correction/Application Request* (Form ABC-239) to your nearest ABC office. Each licensee may apply for only one caterer's permit. The annual fee for a caterer’s permit (not prorated) is as follows:

- (Type 41, 42, 47, 48, 57, 78, 83, 87).....\$142.00
- Under club, veterans’ club, or on-sale general license for a bona fide club (Type 50, 51 or 52):
 - In cities of 40,000 population or over.....\$976.00
 - In cities of less than 40,000 but more than 20,000.....\$717.00
 - All other localities.....\$637.00

If the investigation of your application for a catering permit is favorable, you may expect issuance of the permit from ABC Headquarters in Sacramento. A copy of your permit will be sent to your nearest ABC office.

Catering Authorization

To use your caterer’s permit you must obtain authorization from ABC for each catered event. Submit a *Catering or Event Authorization Application* (Form ABC-218) to your nearest ABC office at least three days before the event.

The fee is \$25.00 for each day that alcohol is sold, at each event, regardless of the size of the event, number of dispensing points or designated areas of consumption. Include payment with your Form ABC-218. ABC cannot refund any fees once it approves Form ABC-218. Allow enough time for mailing and processing.

When the same event is two or more consecutive days, submit a single Form ABC-218. For dates that are not consecutive, submit a separate Form ABC-218 for each date. If the event site is within the authorizing district, submit three copies of the form. If the event site is in a district other than that of the authorizing district, submit four copies.

Location of Catered Events

With ABC's approval, Type 41, 42, 47, 48, 57, 78, 83, or 87 licensees may cater alcoholic beverages anywhere in the state. Type 50, 51 and 52 licensees may only cater upon the licensed club premises, and the events shall not be open to the general public. (An exception may be made if unlimited attendance is in the public interest.)

The site of a catered event may be an unlicensed building or grounds, a licensed building, a separate room within a licensed building, or upon a boat or vessel. If the site is licensed, that license must be surrendered to ABC during the period when the catered event is being held. Use *License Action Request* (Form ABC-231) to surrender a license.

For Type 41, 42, 47, 48, 57, 78, 83, or 87 licensees, there is a limit of 24 catered events per year at any given site. There is no annual limit for Type 50, 51 or 52 licensees.

A catering authorization shall not be issued for premises which have previously been denied a license by reason of proximity to consideration points or conflict with a valid zoning ordinance unless a written waiver, signed by the person in charge of the consideration point or, in the case of a zoning conflict, the legal representative of the community involved.

A catered event may be held upon private school grounds; however, such authorization will be conditioned so that no sale or service of alcoholic beverages is permitted during hours in which any class is in session.

Other Legal Requirements

At all approved events, you may exercise only those privileges authorized by your license. You must comply with all provisions of the ABC Act. Any violation may be grounds for the suspension or revocation of your license or permit, or both, as though the violation occurred on your licensed premises.

A catering authorization authorizes you to cater alcoholic beverages. Service of food is not required at a catered event unless the site is within a specified distance of a state correctional facility, university, state college, veteran's home, or other institution operated by the state or federal government.

Persons under 21 years of age may be allowed on the premises of a catered event. However, they may not possess, purchase, or consume alcoholic beverages.

Wholesalers may deliver alcoholic beverages to the catered event site. You may not store distilled spirits at the event site. The distilled spirits must be returned to the licensed premises after the event.

References:

Section 23399 Business and Professions Code and Rule 60.5 California Code of Regulations