

LICENSEE DEADLINES

SEPT. 30: NIGHTCLUBS, TAVERNS DUE TO RENEW

All nightclubs and taverns licensed with the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) are due for license renewal by Monday, Sept. 30.

ABRA is sending renewal packets to nightclubs and taverns—class C/N, D/N, C/T, and D/T licensees, respectively—on Thursday, Aug. 15. Licenses can be renewed any time before the deadline.

Payment for the license must be made at the time of renewal and may be made for the next three years or on an annual basis.

Licensees should ensure they are in good corporate standing with the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) and that all outstanding taxes and fines are paid before renewing.

SEPT. 30: CLASS B ANNUAL PAYMENTS DUE

Beer and wine retailers (class B licensees) that pay for licenses on an annual basis need to make their next payment by Monday, Sept. 30.

In early August, payment notices were sent to licensees that are due to make payments. Licensees should contact the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) if the notice is not received in the mail by Friday, Aug. 16. A late fee of \$50 per day will be assessed, not to exceed the cost of the license, for any late payments.



Check out new requirements for full-service grocery stores.

Nightclubs, Taverns Due to Renew **P.1**

Class B Annual Payments Due **P.1**

Rulemakings: What You Need to Know **P.1**

Upcoming Trainings **P.2**

Columbus Day Extended Hours **P.2**

Board Recess **P.3**

Rulemakings: What You Need to Know

New regulations effective Wednesday, Aug. 14.

Several new alcohol regulations took effect in the District on Wednesday, Aug. 14. The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) adopted the new rules in an effort to clarify alcoholic beverage laws and as a result of public comments it had received. Here are a few of the recently adopted regulations local businesses need to know.

CORKING FEES

Restaurants, taverns, hotels, and nightclubs are now able to set their own price when it comes to corking fees. A new rule adopted by the Board eliminates the \$25 cap on corking fees and allows an establishment to set their own fee as long as the cost is disclosed to a patron prior to opening the alcoholic beverage.

FULL-SERVICE GROCERY STORES

The Board has finalized

criteria for full-service grocery stores, which are one of the few retailers in the District that are still able to apply for a license to sell beer and wine for off-premises consumption. To be a full-service grocery store, a retailer must be licensed as a grocery store and sell at least six of the following categories:

- Fresh fruits and vegetables;
- Fresh and uncooked meats, poultry, and seafood;
- Dairy products;
- Canned foods;
- Frozen foods;
- Dry groceries and baked goods; and
- Non-alcoholic beverages.

The stores are required to dedicate a certain amount of square footage—or selling area—to the sale of these food products, including a minimum of either:

- Fifty percent of the store's square footage; or
- 6,000 square feet.

Stores also need to dedicate at least five percent of the selling area to each of the food categories.

In order for the square footage to be considered part of the selling area, it must be open to the public and may not include storage, preparation areas, or rest rooms.

STIPULATED LICENSES

Any retailer can now apply for a stipulated license. The license allows an establishment to operate without their permanent license as long as they have the support of their Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) and pay the \$100 fee. Previously, retailers like convenience, grocery, and liquor stores were not able to obtain stipulated licenses under District alcohol regulations. (Continued on page 3)



GET AN ABRA EDUCATION

2 P.M., SEPT. 5 NEW LICENSEE ORIENTATION

New ABC licensees and members of the public are invited to attend ABRA's orientation training on Thursday, Sept. 5 to review:

- District ABC laws and regs,
- Working with ANCs,
- Settlement agreements,
- Expectations of licensees,
- Tips for best practices, and
- Sound management.

Reservations for the class and requests for interpreters must be made by Friday, Aug. 23:

- 202-397-3971, or
- Sarah.Fashbaugh@dc.gov.

9 A.M./2 P.M., SEPT. 12 HOTEL & RESTAURANT RECORD KEEPING 101

The Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) is hosting two compliance training sessions for restaurant and hotel licensees on Thursday, Sept. 12:

- 9-11 a.m. (Spanish interpreter available), or
- 2-4 p.m. (Korean interpreter available.)

Licensees will learn about:

- Food sales requirements,
- Food sales reporting,
- Quarterly statement filings, and
- Books and records tracking.

Reserve your spot by Friday, Aug. 23 to attend:

- 202-442-4438, or
- Monica.Clark@dc.gov.

Trainings are free of charge.

TRAINING LOCATION

2000 14th St NW,
Suite 400 S., 4th Floor,
Washington, D.C.

Columbus Day Deadline

Apply for extended hours by Friday, Sept. 13.

Restaurants, taverns, hotels, nightclubs, and multipurpose facilities can register with the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) to sell and serve alcohol until 4 a.m. on the morning of Columbus Day, Oct. 14. Businesses must register with the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) by Friday, Sept. 13 to be eligible.

The extended hours program allows on-premises retailers to remain open until 4 a.m. and operate 24 hours a day on applicable holidays and certain three-day holiday weekends.

In order to enroll in the extended hours program, a licensee must provide written notification and a public safety plan to ABRA at least 30 days prior to the holiday they want to participate. Postmarks do not count as received.

Once a licensee is registered and approved for extended hours for any holiday in 2013, the registration is valid for all remaining applicable holidays in the year. A new application would need to be submitted to participate in 2014.

There is no fee to apply. Complete details, registration forms, and requirements are available at www.abra.dc.gov or ABRA's office: 2000 14th St. NW, Suite 400 S., 4th Floor, Washington, D.C.

On-premises retailers with settlement agreements that restrict closing hours are not eligible to register.

Contact ABRA at 202-442-4423 or abra@dc.gov with questions. ☎

GRADE YOUR GOVERNMENT!

Instantaneously provide
feedback on the

**ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE
REGULATION ADMINISTRATION**

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Help the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration
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Text: 202-499-2642 • Tweet: @DCGov_ABRA

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District of Columbia
Vincent C. Gray, Mayor



Last Call
August 2013



Rulemakings: What You Need to Know

(Continued from page 1)


WINE AND BREW PUBS

A host of new rules were set for wine pubs. Licensees that have wine pub endorsements can now sell wine in sealed bottles or other closed containers to patrons for off-premises consumption. A wine pub can also expand its business by applying for a wine and beer purchasing permit. Regulations were also clarified for brew pubs, which can now sell beer in growlers for off-premises consumption. Both licensees are permitted to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption between 7 a.m.-midnight.

PUBLIC SAFETY PLANS

Businesses that want to participate in extended hours on applicable holidays are required to submit public safety plans. Regulations set by the Board require public safety plans to include the following:

- Names and contact information for individuals designated by the licensee to respond to any public safety issues that arise;
- Whether the establishment will have any security cameras in operation;
- Number and location of cameras used by the establishment and length of time video recordings will be kept;
- Whether the establishment will have any security working during the extended hours of operation;
- Number of security personnel to be present for extended hours and type of security training they have received;
- Whether the establishment will maintain an incident log; and
- Establishment's procedures for ensuring that intoxicated people and minors are not served alcoholic beverages.

Plans need to be submitted to the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) on the form ABRA provides at least 30 days before the first holiday a licensee participates. A security plan already on file with ABRA can be used to satisfy the requirement. A business only needs to submit a plan once for the calendar year to participate in the program. 

ABC Board Summer Recess

The Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (Board) is on recess during the following dates:

- Wednesday, Aug. 21,
- Wednesday, Aug. 28, and
- Wednesday, Sept. 4.

ABRA's office will remain open and operate during regular business hours:

- 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Monday-Friday, and
- 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (license processing hours.)

ABRA OFFICE LOCATION

2000 14th St. NW,
Suite 400 S., 4th Floor
Washington, D.C.



Last Call
August 2013