

Event Venue Fact Sheet

1. How do I know I am an event venue?

- An event venue means:
 - i. any nongovernmental location, property, premises, building or buildings, or other site that offers to the public for rent, lease, reservation, or other contractual use for the hosting of a function, occasion, or event – public or private
 - ii. EXCEPTION: property owned by a 501(c)(3) organization is not included in the definition of event venue

2. I am event venue. If someone hosts an event at our location and desires to bring alcohol, who is responsible for hiring an event bartender?

- Depending on the contractual agreement, the host or the venue must ensure the presence of a licensed event bartender during the event.

3. I am an event venue. Do I have to require an event bartender to be present at private events where there will be alcohol?

- There is nothing in the law that requires the event venue to verify or require that an ABLE-licensed bartender is serving at your venue; however, the serving of alcoholic beverages by anyone other than “an ABLE-licensed mixed beverage licensee, a caterer, or an event bartender licensee” would violate the law. Best practices would dictate that an event venue would do everything it could to comply with the law by requiring or verifying a properly-licensed person is serving alcohol at the event venue.

4. What licenses are required for a venue where guests may bring or serve their own alcohol?

- If alcohol is available for consumption at an event venue, it must be served by an event bartender. No specific license is required for the venue premises.

5. Is BYOB allowed at private events? What are the rules around BYOB?

- If alcohol is available for consumption at an event venue, it must be served by an event bartender.

6. Do legal hours to sell or serve alcohol apply to event venues?

- Yes, alcohol must not be served after 2 am or before 8 am.

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7. Do private events need to be reported to the ABLE Commission?

- The only private events that must be reported to the ABLE Commission are those that are held on an already licensed premises at a time that the business is normally open and operating but will be closed for such an event or events where a licensed Caterer provides alcohol service. Please see 37A O.S. 6-105(5)(a), 37A O.S. 2-113(A)(4).

