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This fact sheet outlines the requirements when applying for a liquor licence for a public entertainment venue. It also outlines the key trading entitlements that apply to a public entertainment venue.

The most appropriate liquor licence for a public entertainment venue is an on-premises licence. An on-premises licence can be obtained for a range of business activities where liquor is sold for consumption on the premises and where the primary purpose of the business is not the sale of liquor.

## What is a public entertainment venue?

A public entertainment venue is:

- a cinema
- a theatre
- other premises where the primary business or activity is the provision of entertainment by a person to the public. This can include venues such as a nightclub or premises holding concerts, sporting and cultural events.

Under an on-premises licence, liquor can only be sold or supplied with another product or service – such as entertainment or meals. The sale and supply of liquor cannot be the primary purpose of the business.

The business or activity or kind of venue that operates under an on-premises licence will be specified in the liquor licence issued by the Casino, Liquor & Gaming Control Authority.

Where an on-premises licence applies to a public entertainment venue, the premises must be open to the public.

## Applying for an on-premises licence

Before applying for an on-premises licence, the applicant must prepare a community impact statement (CIS). The applicant must then lodge the CIS with the application. A CIS helps the Authority to consider the likely impact on the community of the proposed venue and gauge the level of community support for the proposal.

A CIS is not required where the proposed public entertainment venue is a cinema or theatre.

The application fee for an on-premises licence is \$500. The application form can be downloaded at [www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/liquor\\_forms.asp](http://www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/liquor_forms.asp)

The Casino, Liquor & Gaming Control Authority will consider any submissions received in relation to a licence application from stakeholders including police, the local council and residents.

People who were consulted as part of the CIS process can also make submissions directly to the Authority on the same licensing proposal.

As part of the application process, the Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing will provide a report to the Authority based on the social profile data it maintains for the local government area where the proposed venue is located. This data will be compiled in the second half of 2008.

The application is also referred to the Director of Liquor and Gaming who must report on any matters requested by the Authority including the compliance history, if any, of those associated with the application and on the existence and effectiveness of a local liquor accord.



NSW Office of  
Liquor, Gaming & Racing



Department of the Arts, Sport and Recreation

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## Important things to know

Trading	Monday - Saturday	Sunday	Good Friday	Christmas Day
Standard hours	5am - midnight	10am - 10pm	12 noon - 10pm	12 noon - 10pm
Extended hours (if allowed)	Midnight - 5am	5am - 10am 10pm - 5am	Not permitted	Not permitted

Note: On New Year's Eve trading hours are automatically extended until 2am the next day.

### Trading hours

Trading hours for an on-premises licence are shown in the table above.

### Primary service authorisation

A primary service authorisation can be obtained from the Authority to allow liquor to be sold when entertainment is not being provided. This can be obtained as part of a new licence application or as an additional trading entitlement.

A \$50 application fee applies to this authorisation.

A CIS is required to be prepared for this application. Where the authorisation is sought as part of an application for the on-premises licence, only one CIS is needed for both the primary service authorisation and the liquor licence.

A primary service authorisation does not allow the primary purpose of the business or activity carried out on the premises to be the sale or supply of liquor.

### Food and drinking water

Food of a nature and quantity consistent with the responsible sale, supply and service of alcohol must be available. Free drinking water must also be available.

### Restrictions for an on-premises licence

- Conditions can be imposed on the licence, either under the liquor laws, or by the Casino, Liquor & Gaming Control Authority or the Director of Liquor and Gaming.
- A sign must be displayed at the front of the premises that shows the name of the premises, the type of liquor licence held, the business or activity carried out on the premises or the kind of premises, and the name of the licensee.
- An incident register must be maintained where the premises regularly trades past midnight.

### Signage

An on-premises licence must display the following:



This notice must be displayed wherever alcohol is sold.

### RSA training for staff

The licensee and all staff who serve liquor must have completed an approved responsible service of alcohol course. The licensee must keep a copy of each RSA course certificate in a register on the premises.

### Need more information?

Our website is constantly updated with information about the new liquor laws. Go to [www.olgr.nsw.gov.au](http://www.olgr.nsw.gov.au) to access this information. Subscriptions to our e-news service are also available from this site.

Access to the liquor laws – the *Liquor Act 2007* and the *Liquor Regulation 2008* – is available from [www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/legislation\\_liquor\\_reform.asp](http://www.olgr.nsw.gov.au/legislation_liquor_reform.asp)

For more information, call us on 02 9995 0894 or email us at [info@olgr.nsw.gov.au](mailto:info@olgr.nsw.gov.au)

## FAQs

### **I am interested in operating a nightclub. Is an on-premises licence relating to a public entertainment venue the most appropriate licensing option?**

Yes. If your venue will focus on providing entertainment to the public, and the sale of alcohol will not be the primary purpose. If entertainment will be ancillary to alcohol, an application should be made for a general bar hotel licence.

### **I operate a cinema. Can liquor be served to patrons before and after a movie is screened?**

Yes, provided it is within the hours permitted by the liquor laws.

### **Can an on-premises licence be granted where a nightclub is part of a motel complex?**

Yes. In this scenario, an on-premises licence would be endorsed to relate to a public entertainment venue and accommodation premises.

### **Can an on-premises licence be granted for premises such as an amusement centre that comprises video games, pinball machines and the like?**

No. The liquor laws prohibit an on-premises licence from being granted for this type of facility.

### **Where can I lodge my liquor licence application?**

All licence applications are lodged with the Casino, Liquor & Gaming Control Authority:

- by post at GPO Box 7060 Sydney 2001
- by email to [liquorapplications@olgr.nsw.gov.au](mailto:liquorapplications@olgr.nsw.gov.au)
- by facsimile to 02 9995 0819
- or in person at level 6, 323 Castlereagh Street, Haymarket.