

Catering endorsement

A catering endorsement on a license allows the catering and sale of alcohol to people attending a catered event at a place not already licensed to sell alcohol.

Who can get one?

- Beer and Restaurant Beer and Wine (RBW) Licensees
[16-4-111, MCA](#) Beer and Wine
- All-Beverage Licensees
[16-4-204, MCA](#) All-Alcoholic Beverages

What can licensees do with a catering endorsement?

All-Beverage Licensees

- May sell and serve alcoholic beverages to persons attending a catered event.

Beer Licensees and Beer Licensees with a Wine Amendment

- Must be primarily in the business of providing meals with table service.
- May sell and serve beer or beer and wine (with the wine amendment) to persons attending a catered event.

RBW aka “Cabaret” Licensees

- Must be primarily in the business of providing meals with table service.
- Food sales at the event must equal in cost to 65% of the total gross revenue from the catering contract.
- May sell and serve beer and wine to people attending a catered event.

You may cater a catered event if it is:

- Within 100 miles of your licensed premises.
- Not held at a location already licensed for alcohol sales.
- Not being held by you, the licensee.
- Sponsored by someone with a written agreement.

Alcohol may be stored at the event:

- One day prior to the event.
- During the event.
- One day following the conclusion of the event.

Note: Only the licensee and their employees can have access to the alcohol storage and in a secured location that prevents access by anyone other than the licensee or licensee's employees.

Who can serve at a catered event?

Employees of the licensee.

- Volunteers of the licensee.
- Alcoholic beverage manufacturers or vendors, their employees, or registered vendor representatives if:
 - The licensee allows them.
 - They have a current license, registration, or permit from the department.
 - They have server training prior to the commencement of the catered event.

Reporting:

- Notify local law enforcement using the ABCD form and pay \$35 before the event.
- Report the event to the department by the 15th of the following month through our TransAction Portal (TAP) at <https://tap.dor.mt.gov>.

Allowed:

- Catering an event within 600 feet of, and on the same street, as a church or school, as long as the church or school gives the written approval for the on-premises sale of alcohol where the event is to be held.
- Sharing revenue with the following sponsors:
 - the State of Montana,
 - a political subdivision of the state,
 - a nonprofit business qualified under section 501(c), or
 - a Montana university when you have catered at a sporting event held at a Montana university.

Not Allowed:

- Alcohol in the event area that was purchased somewhere else.
- Sharing revenue with others not listed above.
- Selling alcohol to go.
- Catering an event if you are a concessionaire.
- Catering an event when your license is on non-use status.
- Catering an event on a premises where an alcoholic beverage license is on non-use status.

All licensees must comply with all Montana alcoholic beverage laws and rules.

Catering: [16-4-111](#), [16-4-204](#), NEW CODE, MCA and [ARM 42.12.128](#)

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