

Guide for retailers, alcohol manufacturers, wholesalers, agency liquor stores, nonprofit/tax-exempt organizations, and the public.

A nonprofit or tax-exempt organization may hold a raffle* or auction** of alcoholic beverages at fundraising events. Alcoholic beverages raffled or auctioned must still be sealed in their original packaging*** when delivered by the organization to the raffle or auction winner.

Events where the non-profit organization wishes to sell and serve alcohol on a non-licensed premises must:

- Be catered by an on-premises alcoholic beverage licensee; or,
- Apply for a special event permit.

Alcohol may only be consumed on the premises if the event is catered or a special permit has been received. Alcohol sold at the event for consumption may not be taken home.

You must take alcohol home that you have won as a raffle or auction item; you may not consume it at the event.

Allowed:

Alcoholic beverages used for raffle or auction must be:

- Purchased by or donated to the organization from a licensed retailer (excluding a restaurant beer and wine licensed retailer).
- Purchased by the organization from an agency liquor store at not less than the posted price.
- Received by the organization as a donation at no cost to the organization from any other person except a licensed wholesaler or distributor.
- Purchased by the organization, that has been issued a special permit from ABCD, from a licensed wholesaler or distributor for not less than the ordinary price.

For an auction or raffle held at an on-premises licensed business, an alcoholic beverage that is present at a licensed business's premises solely for a fundraising event under this section does not constitute a violation by the licensee of [16-3-301\(1\)](#) or [16-6-303](#), MCA.

No more than four events per organization per calendar year are allowed at which alcoholic beverages are raffled or auctioned.

“Virtual” (Online) and In-Person Auctions:

Alcohol and alcohol type items may be auctioned at your virtual event. For example, you may auction a gift card to a brewery for three growler fills, gift baskets with alcohol in them, etc.

Attendees receiving the item(s) they have won in the auction or raffle:

- The item(s) may be delivered.
 - Both the delivery driver and the individual receiving the item(s) must be at least 21 years of age.
- The item(s) may be picked up at the address of the “event,”
 - The individual picking up the item(s) must be at least 21 years of age.

Not Allowed:

- Proceeds from the raffle or auction of alcoholic beverages going to anyone who provided the alcoholic beverages.
- Raffle tickets sold to any person under 21 years of age.
- Auction bids received from any person under 21 years of age.

* “Auction” means the sale of an item or items, which may include alcoholic beverages, whereby the item for sale is sold to the highest bidder at the bid price. An auctioned item or items may have a reserve price.

**“Raffle” means an event in which a nonprofit or tax-exempt organization sells tickets, and each ticket gives the purchaser of the ticket the chance to win a prize, which may include alcoholic beverages, with the winner determined by a random drawing.

***“Original packaging” means the sealed container in which a manufacturer packages its product for retail sale. It includes bottles, cans, kegs, and growlers, but does not include lines or piping carrying product from a manufacturer’s premises to a retailer’s premises.

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

[16-3-316](#), [16-4-111](#), [16-4-204](#), [16-4-301](#), MCA and [ARM 42.12.128](#)

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