

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
LUMPKIN COUNTY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES & LICENSING**

This material is designed for general informational purposes only. For detailed and accurate information concerning these matters refer to the alcoholic beverage ordinance.

- 1. Do I have to be a citizen of the United States to obtain a license?**
The licensee must be a citizen of the United States or an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence.
- 2. I own the business but I am not a Lumpkin County resident. Can I be the licensee?**
All licensed establishments must maintain a registered agent who is a Lumpkin County resident. The registered agent can also be the owner and license holder.
- 3. We are a corporation, not a sole proprietorship or partnership. Can we obtain a license in the corporation's name?**
A license for a corporation is issued depending on the percentage of ownership. Please refer to Sec. 9 of the current ordinance.
- 4. Once I obtain a license, if I want to relocate my business do I have to get a new license?**
Licenses are specific to a location. If you relocate your business you must obtain a new license for that location.
- 5. My business is close to a school. Can I still obtain an alcoholic beverage license?**
No person may sell or offer to sell any alcoholic beverage in or within 100 yards of a church building or within 100 yards of any school building or building housing an alcohol treatment center. Please refer to Sec. 5 Distance Requirements (in the ordinance).
- 6. I already have an alcoholic beverage license but they are building a church nearby. Will I be able to renew my license?**
If the distance requirements are met at the time of issuance of any license, the subsequent opening and operating of a church or school within the prohibited distance will not prevent the renewal of a license at your location, or the issuance of a new license to any subsequent owner at your location.
- 7. I am purchasing two businesses at two locations in the county. Do I have to obtain a separate license for each?**
Separate applications must be made for each location and separate licenses must be issued.
- 8. Part of this year is gone already. Do I have to pay the full license fee?**
The full license fee must be paid for any license application filed prior to July 1 of the license year. One-half of a full license fee must be paid for a license application filed after July 1 of the license year.
- 9. How much does a license cost?**
There are numerous categories of licenses available. Please see our fee schedule. In addition a \$350.00 investigation fee will be charged to a new license which includes the cost of fingerprinting.
- 10. Do I have to be fingerprinted again?**
If you are applying for a new license you must be fingerprinted even if you have recently been fingerprinted for another purpose. The Lumpkin County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance does not currently require that you be re-fingerprinted once you have received a license.
- 11. I submitted an application but I have decided that I do not wish to have a license. Will my money be refunded?**

If the retraction request is made before the license is issued, any sums deposited as license fees will be refunded. No refunds will be made after issuance of the license. No refunds of the investigative fee will be made in either instance.

12. Once I obtain my county alcoholic beverage license do I need to do anything else before I begin sale of alcoholic beverages?

You are required to apply for and obtain an alcoholic beverage license from the state before any sales commence. Additionally, county licensees are required to abide by all applicable state regulations and laws. Contact the Lumpkin County Planning Department and Lumpkin County Board of Health for further information.

13. I do not have an alcoholic beverage license for my facility. If a customer wants to have a wedding reception can they bring their own bottles of alcohol?

The Lumpkin County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance does not address “Bring Your Own Bottle”. Contact the State of Georgia regarding this matter or consult an attorney knowledgeable about Georgia Alcoholic Beverage laws.

14. I currently have an alcoholic beverage license and I know I want to renew for next year. When and how is this done?

All current licensees must have their complete, approved renewal packets with payment in the Board of Commissioners Office by the last county business day **prior** to November 15. The renewal application packet is available on the web site. If you have questions about renewal please call Kathleen Walker at 706-482-2565 or Melissa Rich at 706-482-2566.

15. My organization is planning a special event where we would like to sell alcoholic beverages. Is it possible to obtain a temporary license for the event?

A Special Event Beverage Application Packet must be obtained to apply for a temporary license for a special event. This is issued only to Nonprofit Civic Organizations for \$50.00 per day for a maximum of ten days per year. A minimum of two months lead time prior to the event is necessary. The State of Georgia requires 10 business days to process their permit which can only be requested after the county permit is issued. The county application is available on the web site or may be obtained by contacting Kathleen Walker at 706-482-2565 or Melissa Rich at 706-482-2566.