

*Alcohol Gaming Fuel &
Tobacco Division (AGFT),
Service Nova Scotia*

Special Occasion Liquor Licenses

Who can apply for a Special Occasion license?

A license may be issued to

- an individual for a private event - like a wedding or family reunion
- a business for a private event - like a staff function or grand opening
- a registered charity or organization for a community, religious, or charitable fundraising purpose

How long does it take to get a license?

Up to 10 business days. Plan to submit your application at least two weeks before the event. You need the license number when buying the alcohol for the event.

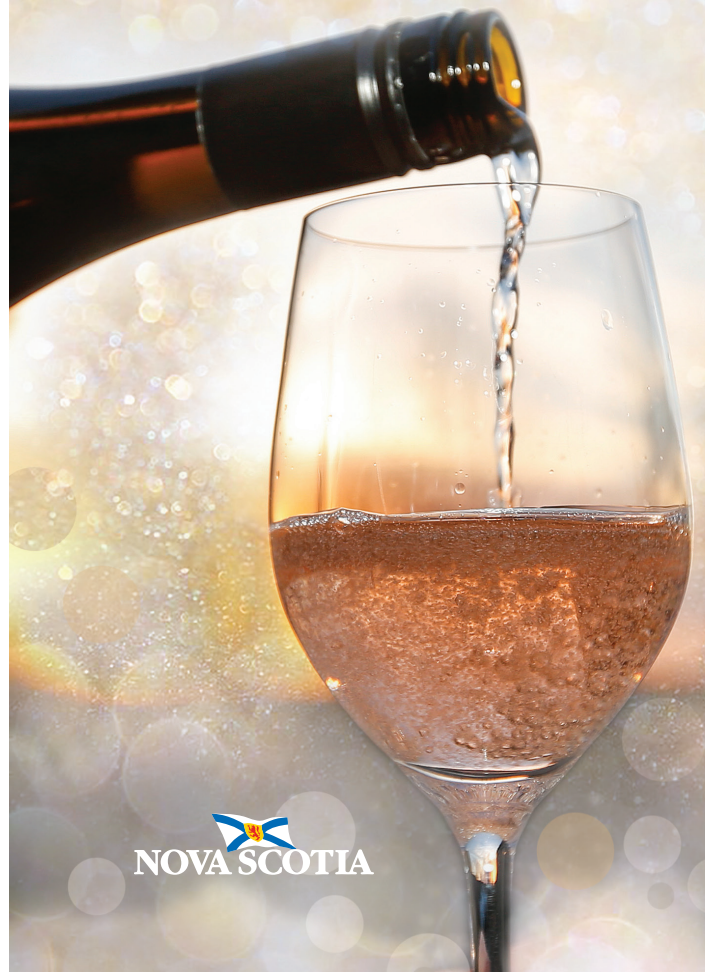


For information, including the application form:

**[http://novascotia.ca/sns/access/
alcohol-gaming/liquor.asp](http://novascotia.ca/sns/access/alcohol-gaming/liquor.asp)**

AGDLicense@novascotia.ca

AGFT issues Special Occasion licenses for private events and for community-based fundraising events.



When do I need a Special Occasion liquor license?

When you host a private event away from a private residence AND you will serve or sell alcohol:

- You need a **class 1 license** to serve alcohol.
- You need a **class 2 license** to sell alcohol.
- Your “private event” must be for invited guests only – for family and friends. If your event will be large, we may require a guest list to ensure that the event is a private event, and not open to the public.
No advertising allowed.

When your group or organization hosts a community-based fundraising event that will sell alcohol:

- You need a **class 3 license**.
- Your event must intend to raise funds for a community, charitable, or religious purpose – and that purpose must be set out in your application.
- Your event is open to the public – anyone may attend or buy a ticket to attend.
- You must adhere to the minimum drink price regulations.
- You may need a letter of support from the municipality/ police.
- You may need to submit a security plan.
- Advertising is allowed.

Types of Special Occasion Liquor licenses

TYPE OF LICENSE	TYPE OF EVENT	USES	ADVERTISING ALLOWED?
CLASS 1 alcohol is served, but not sold	private event open to invited guests only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • away from a private residence • where alcohol is served, but not sold and • entirely free of charge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wedding • anniversary • shower • staff party • birthday party • graduation party • reunion • other family function 	no
CLASS 2 alcohol is sold	private event open to invited guests only: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • away from a private residence • where alcohol is sold 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wedding • anniversary • shower • staff party • birthday party • graduation party • reunion • other family function 	no
CLASS 3	public event <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to raise funds for a community purpose • where alcohol is sold 	community, religious, or charitable organization that wants to sell alcohol at a public event to raise funds for community purposes	yes
CLASS 4	special event by a permanent liquor license holder	business extends their license to a space that is not otherwise licensed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parking lot • other outside space 	yes