

# On-premises (Meals) Licences



## On-premises licences

Various categories of on-premises licences are available, each for a different primary purpose:

- functions
- meals
- cabaret
- tourist
- transport
- sporting, cultural, theatrical presentations
- educational institution
- other activities approved by the chief executive.

If the primary purpose of a business changes, a new licence will be required.

### Primary purpose

The primary purpose for an on-premises (meals) licence is the provision of meals prepared and served to be eaten on the premises.

The preparation of meals must involve value-adding to the food that the meal comprises and not merely reheating a purchased product.

### Trading hours

Liquor may be served at any time from Monday to Sunday, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 12 midnight while trading complies with the primary purpose. If extended trading hours are required a separate application must be lodged, detailing how the extended hours are in the public interest.

Note that on Good Friday and Christmas Day, liquor may only be served during ordinary (not extended) hours, and only in conjunction with a meal, in an area ordinarily set apart for dining. On Anzac Day, this provision applies until 1 p.m.

### Trading conditions

- Meals must be prepared and served to be eaten on the premises.
- The menu and liquor list must be prominently displayed so they are visible from outside the premises.
- A dining patron may take away one opened bottle of wine served with the meal and one sealed bottle of wine.
- Patrons may BYO their liquor on to the premises, but this is **solely at the discretion of the licensee**.
- Liquor may be sold to non-diners as long as the primary purpose of providing meals continues to be met.

### Definition of 'meals'

Under the Liquor Act, a meal means food that 'is eaten by a person sitting at a table, or fixed structure used as a table, with cutlery provided for the purpose of eating the food and is of sufficient substance as to be ordinarily considered as a meal'.

### Additional privileges

The chief executive may also approve any of the following privileges, for an on-premises (meals) licence. Separate applications are required in each instance:

- approval for extended hours before 10 a.m. or after 12 midnight
- approval to cater for functions away from the premises, where the licensee is supplying catering services, including food (note: catering for public functions will require a separate permit)
- approval to serve liquor to guests attending a function on the premises, e.g. convention or cocktail party.

## Applications for new licences

A completed [application form](#) and personal details schedules must be lodged, and accompanied by all minimum requirements stipulated in the form. The application fee must also accompany the form.

If all attachments are not included, or the form is incomplete, the application will be returned to the applicant.

### After applications are received:

1. An advertising period of 28 days will generally be required.
2. A conference may be held to hear any objections to the application.
3. The applicant will be required to attend a Responsible Management of Licensed Venues course if they:
  - have not completed the course in the last three years; or
  - have not held the same type of licence within Queensland in the last three years.

For a list of approved trainers and scheduled courses visit the Liquor Licensing Division website at [www.liquor.qld.gov.au](http://www.liquor.qld.gov.au)

Applications for new licences take **at least** 3–5 months to process. Applicants should be aware that lodgement of the application is no guarantee that the licence will be granted.