



**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL ADMINISTRATION**

900 Pennsylvania Ave., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Charleston, West Virginia 25302

**FREDRIC L. WOOTON**  
COMMISSIONER

**DAVE HARDY**  
CABINET SECRETARY

Effective only per Governor Declaring Week 2 may proceed on Monday, May 4, 2020

**WVABCA LIMITED OUTDOOR DINING AREA ADVISORY**

Per West Virginia Governor Jim Justice and the Executive Orders related to COVID-19 issued to date, the Governor has been working with WVABCA Commissioner Fred Wooton to permit outdoor dining at licensed businesses and restaurants who must serve “freshly prepared food and meals” (not bars with limited food service, such as a bag of chips or frozen tv dinner/meal) and who must follow the Governor’s Guide to Safely Opening our Restaurants Through Takeaway Service & Outdoor Dining as well as any health department requirements (See <https://coronavirus.wvgovstatus.com/2020.04.28%20Restaurant%20Guidelines.pdf>).

A current licensee meeting the fresh food requirements and in good standing who also has a deck or patio already on its licensed floorplan or has a locally authorized/approved sidewalk dining area on its licensed floorplan may resume providing food and alcohol on the deck, patio or sidewalk area as authorized, subject to the outdoor dining area advisory, 10:00 PM closure requirement and other requirements noted herein. No further action is necessary for this licensee.

A current licensee without an approved outdoor dining area who meets the freshly prepared food requirement and who is in good standing will be permitted to apply for a new or expanded area to conduct limited outdoor dining with the sale of freshly prepared food and meals, and the sale, service and consumption of alcoholic beverages, including nonintoxicating beer, wine and liquor, as applicable. Such current licensees, who are in good standing with the WVABCA, may apply for a 30-day permit, which is renewable, during the State of Emergency (and which would expire at the end the State of Emergency or 30 days).

Note, approved outdoor dining areas may be periodically closed as needed when COVID-19 circumstances dictate closure by the State, WVABCA or state and local health departments.

Current licensees may apply for new or expanded area for limited outdoor dining as follows:

(a) a **Tavern licensee** may obtain, upon application and approval (on a form provided by the WVABCA Commissioner at [www.abca.wv.gov](http://www.abca.wv.gov)), a nonintoxicating beer floor plan extension (W. Va. Code §11-16-3(14) and §11-16-9(g)) to conduct nonintoxicating beer sales for on-premises consumption only in a contiguous outdoor dining area to the licensee’s licensed premises, as determined by the Commissioner, for no additional fee, where all sales, service and consumption of food and alcohol shall cease on or before 10:00 PM;

(b) a **Private Wine Restaurant (including a Private Wine Bed And Breakfast or Private Wine Spa) (wine only) or a Private Wine Restaurant with beer licensee** may obtain, upon application and approval (on a form provided by the WVABCA Commissioner at [www.abca.wv.gov](http://www.abca.wv.gov)), a Class

S special fair and festival event beer and wine license (W. Va. Code § 60-8-3(h)), to conduct wine only or nonintoxicating beer and wine sales for on-premises consumption only in a contiguous outdoor dining area to the licensee's licensed premises, as determined by the Commissioner, for no additional fee, where all food and alcohol sales, service and consumption shall cease on or before 10:00 PM; and

(c) a **Private club (including a Private Resort Hotel, Private Hotel, Private Golf Club or Private 9-Hole Golf Course)** licensee may obtain, upon application and approval (on a form provided by the WVABCA Commissioner at [www.abca.wv.gov](http://www.abca.wv.gov)), a Class S2 private fair and festival license (W. Va. Code §60-7-8a) to conduct nonintoxicating beer, wine and liquor sales for on-premises consumption only in a contiguous outdoor dining area to the licensee's licensed premises, as determined by the Commissioner, for no additional fee, where all food and alcohol sales, service and consumption shall cease on or before 10:00 PM.

**Requirements:** (a) A current licensee must submit an outdoor dining area application and be approved prior to food and alcohol operations in any new or expanded outdoor dining area.

(b) The WVABCA expects the licensee to verify that the age of the person purchasing alcohol is 21 years of age or over and that the person is not intoxicated.

(c) Further, the parties should complete the verifications noted above, comply with the Governor's Guide to Safely Opening our Restaurants Through Takeaway Service & Outdoor Dining, eliminate the use of lemons, limes and other such garnishing items for beverages and further attempt contactless payment and service when possible.

(d) Follow all requirements in the Governor's Guide to Safely Opening our Restaurants Through Takeaway Service & Outdoor Dining in the licensed outdoor dining area.

(e) Follow all state and local health department guidelines.

**Restrictions:** (a) The outdoor dining area must be cleared of all patrons and service items **on or before 10:00 PM**. All approved licensees may continue food and sealed alcohol take-away orders and or limited home delivery during normal hours of operation.

(b) No live entertainment may occur in the outdoor dining area or on the licensee's licensed premises. For example, no live band, karaoke or entertainers. Recorded Music played over a speaker within local noise ordinances would be permitted.

(c) If a licensee is not following guidelines or who is abusing this privilege in a manner inconsistent with proper operation of the licensee, the Commissioner may fine, immediately suspend the licensee for the remainder of the State of Emergency or pursue a revocation of a licensee's license.