

Liquor License

How to Obtain a Special Event Permit in BC

If you plan to serve alcohol at your event, you are legally required to obtain a **Special Event Permit** (SEP) through the BC Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch.

1. Who Needs the Permit?

- Any event serving or selling alcohol (including weddings).
- The permit holder must be 19 years or older.

2. How to Apply

- Applications are submitted online at: https://justice.gov.bc.ca/special-event-permit
- You will need to:
 - Create an online account
 - Provide details about your event (date, location, number of guests, type of alcohol service)
 - o Pay the application fee (varies by event size; typically, \$25-\$100).

3. Required Training

- Before applying, you must complete the **Responsible Beverage Service training (Serving It Right or Special Event Server)**.
 - o Serving It Right is the most common option.
 - o Cost: \$35 online, valid for 5 years.

4. Alcohol Service Requirements

- Alcohol must be served by either:
 - A licensed professional bartending service, or
 - Our Hitchin Post bartender
- The permit holder must be present for the duration of alcohol service.
- The permit must:
 - o Be posted at your event in a visible location

- \circ List the approved times of alcohol service
- You bartender is responsible for ensuring no underage drinking and safe service of alcohol.

5. Deadline

- Apply at least 2-4 weeks before your event.
- Keep in mind that last-minute permits may be approved but are not guaranteed.

6. Proof of Permit

- A copy of your Special Event Permit must be **emailed to hitchinpostweddings@outlook.com** at least **2 weeks prior to your event**.
- No alcohol service is permitted without this permit.