



AGCO

Alcohol and Gaming
Commission of Ontario

WHICH TYPE OF Special Occasion Permit DO YOU NEED?

A Special Occasion Permit (SOP) is required any time you wish to serve or sell alcohol anywhere **other than** in a licensed establishment (such as a bar or restaurant) or a private place (such as a home or a private office).



PRIVATE EVENT SOP

- Your event is for invited guests only
- The event cannot be advertised

EXAMPLES

Weddings, birthdays, bridal showers, “Stag & Doe” / “Jack & Jill” parties



PUBLIC EVENTS

- Your event is open to the public
- The event can be advertised
- You may sell alcohol to fundraise or to make a profit

Public Event SOPs are **only** issued to registered charities, non-profit organizations whose object is to promote charitable, educational, religious or community objects, or to events designated as being of municipal, provincial, national or international significance.



INDUSTRY PROMOTIONAL EVENTS

- Your event is held to promote a liquor manufacturer’s product(s) through sampling
- There can be no intent to gain or profit from the sale of alcohol at the event.

Regardless of the type of SOP you need, you may apply for either a **“Sale”** or **“No Sale”** permit, depending on how you plan to serve alcohol at your event:

“Sale” PERMITS

- You are planning to have a cash bar at your event
- You are planning to sell tickets to your event where alcohol will be served, or will be requiring a cover charge for admission.

vs

“No Sale” PERMITS

- You are **not** charging your guests for alcoholic drinks (e.g. you are not selling drink tickets or having a cash bar)
- You are **not** charging guests to attend the event (e.g. you are not selling tickets or requiring a cover charge.)

Apply online for your SOP at www.agco.ca/iAGCO

For more information, visit us online www.agco.ca or call (416) 326-8700 or toll free 1 (800) 522-2876