



AGCO

Alcohol and Gaming  
Commission of Ontario

# WHICH TYPE OF Special Occasion Permit DO YOU NEED?

A Special Occasion Permit (SOP) is required if you wish to serve alcohol outside of a residence, a private place or a licensed establishment or to sell alcohol anywhere outside of a licensed establishment.



## 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, will be requiring a cover charge for admission, or will be selling drink tickets at the event.

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](http://www.agco.ca/iAGCO)

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