

BAR/BILLARD ROOM/DRINKING (ALCOHOL) PLACE/NIGHTCLUB/CABARET/SMOKING LOUNGE/HOOKAH BAR

(This checklist is for businesses such as bars and taverns that will primarily serve alcoholic beverages.)

Checklist

- A **cabaret** is a nightclub, bar, restaurant, etc. “in which persons appear in a state of nudity in the performance of their duties” (Ohio Revised Code Section 503.51). For complete information about Ohio’s cabaret laws, read **Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Sections 503.51-503.59**. The ORC is available at your local library or on-line at <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc>
- Billiard rooms are regulated by local (city or municipality) authorities.
- Cabarets are also regulated locally (by the city or municipality). Contact your local authorities.
- Contact the **Ohio Department of Liquor Control** at (614) 644-2360 for liquor permit information. Information is also on-line at <http://www.com.state.oh.us/liqr/>.
- If you will serve food, you must have a **Food Service Operation License**. Contact **your local health department** for license and inspection information.
- You must charge sales tax on **food eaten on the premises of your business and beverages**. You need a **VENDOR’S LICENSE**. If you have questions about what or when food and beverage sales are taxable, contact the **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION**.
- If you have questions about a smoking ban exemption, contact the **Ohio Department of Health, the Indoor Environments Section** Information is also on-line at <http://www.ohiosmokelaw.gov/>.
- For more information for Smoking Lounge, consult the **Ohio Revised Code (ORC) Section 3794 Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 3701:5201 through 3701:5209**. The ORC can be found at your local library or on-line at <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc>
- Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products** must be purchased from a licensed **distributor**. All invoices should be kept for your records and/or for future inventory audits.
- If you will sell any **tobacco products**, contact **YOUR COUNTY AUDITOR’S OFFICE** and the **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TAXATION** at (888) 405-4039 for **Business Tax Assistance**; 888-405-4089 for **Tax Registration**; or (800) 282-1782 for the **Forms Request Line**. Information is also on-line at <http://www.tax.ohio.gov/>.

*For more help, contact your local Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at www.ohiosbdc.net
Also, remember to check Federal, State and local government agencies. This checklist is about state requirements.
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- If you will sell **lottery tickets**, contact your regional Lottery Commission Office. Information is available on-line at www.ohiolottery.com
- If you will feature recorded or live **music**, you must have permission from the owner of the copyrighted material. You can do this by contacting **ASCAP** or **BMI**. For more information, contact **ASCAP** at **(212) 621-6000** (www.ascap.com) or **BMI** at **(212) 220-3000** at (www.bmi.com).
- Also governed by the **U.S. Department of the Treasury, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau (TTB)** for **federal information**, contact the office in your area. The TTB is on-line at <http://www.ttb.gov/tobacco/index.shtml> **(877) 882-3277** or the **regional office (513)-684-3334**.
- Contact the **Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** for information about the proper disposal of hazardous and solid waste. The Ohio EPA can be reached at **(614) 644-3020 for General Inquiries** or **(800) 329-7518 for the Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention**. Information is also on-line at <https://epa.ohio.gov/>

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