

Restaurant Beverage Program

The Restaurant Beverage Program (RBP) is a streamlined administrative process that allows eligible restaurants to sell and serve alcoholic beverages without having to obtain a Conditional Use Permit (“CUB”), as would otherwise be required. The RBP is available only in RBP-eligible areas, as designated by the City Council.

RBP-eligible areas will be designated as either **General** (denoted as **RBPA** in the case number) or **Alcohol Sensitive Use Zone** (denoted as **RBPB** in the case number). Both require restaurants to be in conformance with the same basic eligibility criteria, operating and security standards, and monitoring provisions described below; however, restaurants in the Alcohol Sensitive Use Zone are subject to additional criteria (described in the last paragraph).

To qualify for RBP (**either General-RBPA or Alcohol Sensitive Use Zone-RBPB**), restaurants situated within an RBP-eligible area must apply for authorization through the [online application portal](#) and be in compliance with 50+ provisions that include eligibility criteria, operating and security standards, and monitoring requirements. This [RBP application](#) is for reference only; a fillable/interactive RBP application is available through the online application portal.

The administrative process includes City Planning review of the application and required materials, all submitted through the online application portal. Once a restaurant’s eligibility and compliance is confirmed, an applicant pays associated application fees and records a Covenant and Agreement against the property to ensure conformance with RBP criteria, standards and provisions. This streamlined administrative clearance process is typically completed within approximately 4 weeks.

All RBP-authorized restaurants are issued a placard to be displayed within view of passers-by, which includes pertinent information about the authorization and information on how to report a violation. Authorized restaurants are subject to ongoing monitoring and inspections by the City, which includes two City-initiated inspections, as well as to City enforcement actions as a result of complaints. Complaints are submitted through the [complaint portal](#) managed by the Department of Building and Safety. If there are three violations and/or citations within two years, the RBP authorization will be terminated and the restaurant will not be eligible to participate in the Program for five years. To continue to sell and serve alcoholic beverages, the restaurant operator(s) would be required to obtain a CUB.

While areas designated as **General (RBPA)** allow either type of restaurant license - beer and wine, only, or a full line - areas designated as **Alcohol Sensitive Use Zone (RBPB)** may be limited by the City Council to restaurant licenses for beer and wine, only. In addition, restaurants in **Alcohol Sensitive Use Zones (RBPBs)** require outreach prior to application; alcohol sales are limited to 45 percent of total sales; and the authorization is subject to a one-year provisional period, at the end of which the authorization is terminated if there are five or more valid complaints. To continue to sell and serve alcoholic beverages, the restaurant operator(s) would be required to obtain a CUB.