



August 2021

TABC UPDATES AND IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Regarding Permit, Fee, and Technological Changes

1. **Effective September 1st.** Alcohol Industry Management System (AIMS). AIMS is the online hub for conducting TABC. Make sure you create your account, identify your onboarding dates, register for online training, get help, and read FAQs [here](#).
 - a. *NOTE: TWGGA has learned that upon your registration in the AIMS system for each permitted site, you will receive a NEW permit number!*
2. TWGGA actively engaged with TABC and advocated for the Texas Wine industry about the proposed permit and fee changes. TWGGA’s recommendations were formally presented to the TABC and can be found [here](#).
 - i. As a result of TWGGA’s lobbying and outreach efforts, we effectively communicated to the TABC that the significant permit fee increases were burdensome and more specifically, penalized emerging, small, and medium sized wineries. As such:
 1. TWGGA recommended tiered permit fees as a more beneficial way to grow to the Texas Wine industry.
 - a. TWGGA was asked by the TABC to be an active participant in future discussions about ‘tiered’ winery permit fee structure.
 2. TWGGA suggested a reduction in the new permit fee structure. As such, a 12% reduction (\$400 savings) from the original permitting fee was implemented. Two-year winery permits were \$3,400 and now are \$3,000. (*excludes any local fees*). Both [License](#) and [permitting fee](#) changes go into effect September 1, 2021

HOW DO I APPLY FOR A WINERY FESTIVAL/FARMER’S MARKET PERMIT?

As of September 1st, the TABC has indicated that events held by two-year license holders will fall into one of two categories, and you won’t pay additional fees.

Q: What is the difference between a private and public event?

A: Private events are not open to the public. See definition below and approval process.

File and Use Notifications (FUN): FUNs allow license holders to submit information about their temporary event to TABC and hold the event without our pre-approval. You can submit a FUN anytime, and it’s not subject to late filing fees if your event meets the following criteria:

- Event will be private (not open to the public).
- Estimated attendance is limited to 500 people maximum.
- Estimated wholesale value of alcohol provided or sold is less than \$10,000.
- Event is not sponsored by a member of the manufacturing or wholesale tiers.
- Property owner has authorized the event.



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Private events can be submitted thru AIMS once you register or you may use the new L-FUN form [L-FUN – File and Use Notification](#)

[Public events](#) are open to the public. See definition below and approval process.

Temporary Event Approvals (TEA): You must submit a TEA request for all to be approved for all other events that don't meet the aforementioned FUN criteria. These events are limited to four-day increments, but you can submit back-to-back requests for longer events. Submit all requests at least 10 business days before the start date of the event, or your request will be subject to late filing fees.

Use these forms for temporary events occurring September 1, 2021, or later. Learn more about when to use these forms below.

- [L-TEA – Temporary Event Approval](#)
- [L-NT – Nonprofit Entity Temporary Event](#)
- [L-NT-AUC – Nonprofit Entity Temporary Event Auctions](#)

Q: Can I use the new TABC AIMS system to apply for a winery festival or farmer's market permit?

A: According to the TABC, for temporary events occurring on or after September 1st, 1, all TABC license holders and nonprofits without a license may use AIMS to submit temporary event authorizations to TABC only after they've onboarded into AIMS.

All others should submit completed forms through the traditional email process or by appointment in a local TABC office. Once you've onboarded into AIMS, you aren't required to submit temporary event authorizations through AIMS but doing so will ensure its processed quicker.

Q: What's the difference between Winery Festival permit (L-GF) and Festival Certificate Request and [Temporary Event Approval \(TEA\)](#)

A: On and after September 1st, permits for 'public' events, formerly known as a winery festival or Festival Certificate request (L-GF), will be called a TEA, and must be sought using one of the forms mentioned above.

Q: The new forms state, "*A Temporary Event Approval is effective for a minimum of two consecutive days and no more than four consecutive days for each temporary event.*" Does this mean I have to have a 2-day event when I only want to a 1-day event? If I only participate for 1 day, am I doing anything illegal?

A: This new requirement does not require you to 'host' or 'participate' in an event that you only want for one day. The new 2-day date range is intended to "cover the period in which alcoholic beverages will be delivered or stored in addition to the event itself." ([RULE §33.72 Term of Authorization; Annual Limitation on Authorizations](#))

TWGGGA is seeking additional information from TABC about the intent of this language to assist our members.



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- Q:** The new forms state, *"The holder of a Temporary Event Approval may only serve or sell alcoholic beverages for consumption at the location for which this approval was granted"*. Does this mean wineries cannot sell bottles to go at any festivals or farmers markets?
- A:** The statute allows wineries to sell for on and off premises consumption at a festival. TABC cannot prohibit bottles sales in the instructions on a form.
- Q:** Where can I read the new rule about the FUN and L-TEA requirements?
- A:** The new rule about the FUN and L-TEA requirements can be found [here](#).

TWGGA wants to know your questions and concerns about the new FUN and Temporary Event Approval (L-TEA). We are compiling all the questions into a single document and asking our TWGGA TABC Attorney, Kimberly Frost to address.

Please complete this [simple form](#). Kimberly Frost will be addressing these questions on Tuesday, August 31st, @ 12 noon at the Regional Meeting [ZOOM meeting](#).

See TABC about [Temporary Events and Permits](#) for regular updates as to how to apply for temporary event permits.

Watch the latest [TABC Talks](#) anytime on our YouTube channel! At our last webinar, we provided important guidance for TABC license holders on how to get TABC approval to conduct alcohol sales at temporary events.

2021 LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED AND FUNDED BY TWGGA TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE TEXAS WINE INDUSTRY

TWGGA Legislative Committee Wraps Up 86th Legislative Session

Upon entering this legislative session, TWGGA had three main goals:

1. Actively engage in developing language and passage of legislation representing the compromise reached on the labeling issue.
2. Repeal of the 35K gallon cap in current law for sales direct to consumer
3. Continuing to protect the privileges and abilities that holders of G permits currently enjoy.

TWGGA was successful on two of those three items.

1. The Governor signed HB 1957 which represents the label agreement reached by the various segments of the wine and grape growing industry.
2. We continue to be stymied in our efforts to repeal the 35K gallon cap.
3. Thankfully there was no legislation which passed that would negatively impact the wine or grape growing segments of our industry.



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Of the over 250 alcohol related bills that TWGGA tracked during this past legislative session 14 bills passed both houses of the legislature. Of those, nine were have already been signed leaving five awaiting his signature, allowed to become law without his signature or vetoed.

A full review of TWGGA Legislative Actions can be reviewed [here](#).

What's Happening in this 2nd Special Session?!

Review [here](#) the observations from Kyle Frazier, TWGGA's Lobbyist.

TABC NOTICES

We strongly encourage everyone in the Texas Wine Industry to sign up for all the options that TABC offers to be notified of all their activities. You can sign up for the following:

[Sign Up for Emails](#)

- [TABC Talks](#): Learn more about upcoming editions of TABC's online education series.
- [Industry Brief](#): Get monthly updates about activities and issues directly impacting the alcoholic beverage industry.
- [Industry Notifications](#): Sign up for industry notifications to be among the first to receive announcements and meeting information.

IS YOUR WINERY OR VINEYARD IN A LOW INCOME AREA? YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A GRANT!

Are Targeted (low income) EIDL grants still available?

- [SBA EIDL COVER PAGE](#):
- Targeted EIDL Advances – See note made under “FORGIVEABLE” on Cover Page above. This indicates that no advance money is still available (unless Congress votes in more); however, per the press 1 month ago, there was still plenty of money in this Targeted Advance program that had not been distributed. See if you qualify based on [situation and geography](#)

The [Texas Wine and Grape Growers Association](#) is the State's oldest and largest Association primarily focused on betterment of the Texas Wine industry. TWGGA's Mission is to promote the production and appreciation of premium grapes and fine wines from Texas and to represent a unified state industry with common marketing, governmental and educational goals.

Questions or concerns about the content therein, please contact Sabrina Houser Amaya sabrina@twgga.org



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UPCOMING EVENTS – SAVE THE DATES

Call For Entries – Open NOW!
[LONE STAR INTERNATIONAL WINE COMPETITION](#)

Sponsorships Available

Contact Sabrina Houser Amaya, sabrina@twgga.org or 830/456-2787

We've revamped the scoring to the widely accepted [100-point scoring system](#)

We've totally revised the Wine Label Design Competition

Read All About the Changes in the [Competition Handbook](#)

2021 Grape Camp & Expo

November 9- 10, 2021

NEW LOCATION

[Dripping Springs Ranch Park and Event Center](#)

1042 Event Center Dr.

Dripping Springs, Texas 78620

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[Hotel Room Block](#)

[Sleep Inn Dripping Springs](#)

2720 US-290

Dripping Springs, TX 78620

Must call in to reserve. Reference TWGGA

[Phone: \(512\) 858-2400](#)

[Exhibitor Booths and Sponsorships Available](#)

Sabrina Houser Amaya, sabrina@twgga.org or 830/456-2787

2022 Annual Conference and Trade Show

February 17 – 19, 2022

[Embassy Suites by Hilton Denton Convention Center](#)

3100 Town Center Dr, Denton, TX 76201

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Exhibitor and Sponsor Information Available October 1st.
