



The City of



Special Events and Filming

FACT SHEET

Special Events Mixed Ages Pilot Program

Updated 5/23/22

Description

The City of San Diego has implemented a pilot program that allows event organizers to apply for mixed ages to be present where alcohol is purchased and consumed within an outdoor, fenced special event venue following certain criteria. Allowing mixed ages to participate in outdoor events where alcohol is served would provide families the opportunity to safely enjoy an event or activity together similar to sporting events, concerts and restaurants. The pilot program will be in place from Jan. 1, 2022 through Jan. 30, 2023, with review of the pilot and program recommendations to be completed by Jan. 30, 2023.

The pilot program is available only to those events that are completely fenced and contained. Unfenced venues would not be eligible to participate in the pilot.

Agency and Department Review

Development and review of the pilot program was conducted in consultation with Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC), City Attorney's Office, San Diego Police Department (SDPD) and San Diego Fire-Rescue Department (SDFD). The City will continue to require Responsible Beverage Service training provided by an Alcohol Beverage Control certified trainer as a condition of the mixed ages pilot at special events where alcohol is sold and consumed. Additional information is available at the [California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control](#) and the [City of San Diego's Special Event Planning Guide](#).

- ABC may provide a team to attend the first few or larger piloted events for observation and evaluation.
- Fencing will be required around the **entire event** if mixed ages alcohol is permitted. Fencing materials and design must meet police department requirements.
- Security must be located at each Point-of-Sale location and must be differentiated from catering or other event staff.

Evaluation Criteria

SDPD Special Events Unit and SDFD Emergency Medical Services will review the overall program and incidents to determine if it is feasible and sustainable for the pilot to transition to a permanent option. If the event occurs annually, comparisons of After-Action Reports will be utilized. Staffing increases for future events may be required based on impacts to operations, incidents and complaints. Event staffing will be based in part on a plan provided by the Event Organizer to address such items as EMS transport system, command and control oversight, code enforcement, ID checks, additional security, special serving cups for alcohol, wristbands, etc. and will be based on availability.



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Pilot Authorization

Any exceptions to current Beer Gardens policy will be subject to proposed pilot guidelines and SDPD/SDFD ability to staff accordingly. The Chief of Police of the City of San Diego is the only person authorized to allow participation in the pilot and exceptions to the current Beer Gardens guidelines.

Application Process

Applicants can apply to participate in the pilot program when they submit an event application through the City's [Special Event Application Portal](#). If an application was already under draft form or utilizing a previous event application, and an applicant wishes to now apply for the pilot program, the applicant will need to contact Special Events & Filming for assistance to access the pilot application.

This [additional form for pilot consideration](#) must be uploaded at time of application submission and will be reviewed and conditionally approved by the City of San Diego Chief of Police within ten (10) business days after application has been put under review. Conditional approval is based on SDPD planner approval of fencing requirements and other standard requirements for events with an ABC temporary license.