



**New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department  
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL**

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October 13, 2020

**Michelle Lujan Grisham**  
Governor

**Marguerite Salazar**  
Superintendent

**Andrew Vallejos**  
Director

Dear Licensees,

Earlier this year, in response to COVID-19 restrictions regarding indoor dining, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division (ABC) offered licensees the ability to temporarily expand their outdoor patio dining space.

Many licensees took advantage of this program and worked closely with their Local Option Districts (LODs) to expand their licensed premises for outdoor dining. This license was temporary and was due to expire automatically on October 31, 2020.

ABC will be extending this program for another six months until April 30, 2021. As before, there is no additional fee for this extension from ABC, nor will you have to submit a new application with our office. ABC is aware of many municipalities and counties that want to extend their ordinances or resolutions relating to use of outdoor spaces. Your individual LOD retains jurisdiction for extensions and waivers to local ordinances, fire code compliance, and local land use concerns. This ABC extension is effective so long as it complies with your individual LOD requirements.

We will work with all LODs to coordinate this extension as seamlessly as possible. Of course, this extension is subject to the Public Health Orders and does not supersede any restrictions that the New Mexico Department of Health may address in future health orders. Please also remember through the winter months that an enclosed tent is considered indoor dining. This program is designed for accommodation for open air, outdoor dining.

Thank you for your cooperation and patience through these difficult times. Let's all be safe for each other, and take all the measures possible to stop the spread of this dangerous virus.

If you have specific questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact Marlene Romero at [marlene.romero1@state.nm.us](mailto:marlene.romero1@state.nm.us) or at (505) 476-4556.

All the best,

Andrew Vallejos  
Director, ABC