

2-19-13	Nightclubs, Bars and Lounges										Other Definitions/ Conditions	Other Permits or License beyond alcohol permit
COMMUNITY	Definition for Nightclub, Bars, Lounges	Entertainment in Definition?	Alcohol in Definition?	Zoning District Type	Separation Distance?	Limit on People or Size?	Hours of Operation?	Outdoor Regulations?	Entertainment Regulations?	Alcohol %?		
Atlanta, GA	5 definitions plus Eating & Drinking Establishments Bar Bottle House Brewpub Lounge Nightclub	Music Dancing Entertainment	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighborhood Commercial Commercial Industrial Special sub-districts 	If alcohol sold: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300' to Residential use 300' to library, hospital, mental health care facility, tattoo parlor 500' to church, park 600' to schools, colleges, youth organization, recreational facility for children under 18. If located in shopping center with 30,000+ sq. ft. and in which a library is located, exempt from separation. 	Bars: 25 people min. and 100 people max. Lounges: Min 50 people Nightclubs: Min. 100 people	Yes, some districts have hour limitation: Neighborhood Commercial: Not open between 2 am to 6:30 am, varies by days of week.	No	Music Dancing Entertainment	Brewpub: Min. 50% food/meals Bar: Must have food Primary business	Entertainment – Means live music, dance performance	
Austin, TX	1 definition Cocktail lounge	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Mixed Use-Downtown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 200' parking area to Residential unless in shopping center 300' state law to churches, schools, day care 540' to Residential requires CUP for Compatibility Development Standards 	No	No	No	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Late hours permit Music permit BYOB permit CUP for Compatibility Development Standards if 540' or less to Residential
Baltimore, MD (Note: Survey is of Proposed new regulations, not existing)	1 definition (in new ZO proposal) Tavern	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Live entertainment or dancing permitted in commercial districts and some industrial districts	No	No	No specific regulations. But hours provided in a CU for Restaurants with Taverns.	No specific regulations. But, if restaurant with tavern, number of seats outdoors included in CU.	Yes – conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CUP for floor plan, type of entertainment, hours, decibels, size, occupancy load, number of entertainers, number of outdoor seats, public need and desire 	50+% daily receipts	Live Entertainment: Live music, karaoke, act, play, revue, comedy, dance, magic, DJ, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CUP for live entertainment or dancing as accessory use.
Boston, MA	1 definition Bar	Yes – Entertainment Dancing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Industrial 	No	No	No	No	No	Primary business	Yes, “Entertainment Uses” (amusement games, bar, bar with entertainment, bowling, billiards, dance hall, drive-in theater, fitness center, gym, private clubs, restaurants with live entertainment)	No

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Charlotte, NC	1 definition Nightclub	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Neighborhood Commercial Research Industrial Mixed-Use Overlay 	Yes 100' – 400' to residential in all districts	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	
Chicago, IL	1 definition besides "Eating and Drinking Establishment" Tavern	Yes Live entertainment Dancing	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Industrial (no entertainment allowed) 	No	4,000 sq. ft in Industrial	No	No	No entertainment permitted in industrial districts	Primary business	Outdoor Patio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUP for Outdoor Patio on Roof. SUP for tavern in one business district (neighborhood compatibility) 	
Cincinnati, OH	1 definition Drinking Establishment	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighborhood Commercial Mixed-Use Commercial Industrial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor Areas: >100' from Residential requires CUP 10' buffer on side/rear yard if abut Residential district By state law, schools, churches, libraries, public playgrounds, parks, can object to the sales of liquor within 500' within 30 days of notification. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breweries and wineries that are accessory to a restaurant are limited to 10,000 sq. ft. Drinking establishments limited to 15,000 sq. ft. unless have CUP approval. 	Within 100' of Residential: Operate only 7 am to midnight on Fri. & Sat. and 7am to 10 pm other days unless CUP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor Areas: >100' from Residential requires CUP Outdoor area within 500' of Residential can't exceed 50% of indoor area 	Outdoor Areas within 500' of Residential: No audio/visual equipment or amplified sound without CUP.	Primary business	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CUP for outdoor areas within 100' of Residential CUP for outdoor audio/visual equipment or amplified sound. CUP for extended hours 	
Columbia, SC	1 definition Drinking place	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Mixed Use Industrial 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 400' to another drinking establishment 600' to school or church If alcohol permit granted, State law: 300' to playground inside City. If outside City limits, then 500' separation to playground. 	No	Hours approved by ZBA if adjacent to residential district.	No	No	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SUP by ZBA in mixed use and lighter commercial districts.
Davidson, NC	No definition	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighborhood Commercial Commercial 	No sound amplification registering 60+decibels in the daytime within 300' of Residential structures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In CBD FAR between .5 and 2.5 	No	No	All uses restricted to decibel levels between 55-60 based on days of week/hours of operation.	No	No		
Ft. Worth, TX	No definition	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Industrial 	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	

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Greenville, SC	2 definitions Bar Nightclub	Yes	Yes	• Commercial	• If alcohol permit granted, State law: 300' to protected uses (church, school playground inside City. • If outside City limits, then 500' separation to same protected uses		Yes, set by State: Sell 10 am to 2 am. Special exceptions on Saturday & Sunday. Saturday only until midnight. No sales on Sunday.		• No sound amplification on premise between midnight to 5am • Exterior doors closed midnight to 5am, except for ingress & egress.	Primary business	• Traffic directed away from abutting residential use/district between midnight to 5:00 am • No loitering	• Special exception permit for hours past midnight.
Huntersville, NC	1 definition Nightclub	Yes	Yes	• Neighborhood Commercial • Commercial	No	Taverns and Bars in TOD-R limited to 6,000 sq. ft. and min FAR of .35.	No	No	No	No	No	No
Indianapolis, IN	2 definitions Nightclub Tavern	Yes Music for dancing Live or recorded performances	Yes	• Neighborhood Commercial • Commercial	• 100' to Residential and to Protected Districts (hospital, parks university, church or school districts) • 500' to commercial amusement/recreation establishment catering to people under 21.	No	No	No outdoor tables or seats for taverns	No	Primary business	No	No
Memphis/Shelby County, TN	2 definitions Bar Nightclub	Yes Music, space for dancing, other entertainment space	Yes	• Office • Mixed Use • Commercial • Industrial	• 1500' with alcohol sales to church, school, park, library, retail liquor store within City. • 500' with alcohol sales to any church, school, park, library, retail liquor store in violation of ZO, located in City. • 500' to SF Residential outside City limits. • 300' for beer to school, residence, church, public gathering place outside City limits.	No	No	No	No	Primary business	No	SUP in Mixed use districts.
Miami/Dade County/FL	3 definitions	Yes	Yes	• Neighborhood Commercial	• 1500' from another existing business		• Cabaret Alcohol sales limited to 8 am to 3 am. No sales on Sunday	No	Any entertainment in nightclubs and cabarets	Primary business	No	Any entertainment in nightclubs and

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	Nightclub Bar or saloon Cabaret			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial 	selling alcoholic beverages (except when cocktail lounge or bar is accessory to a restaurant in any industrial or commercial district. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2,500' from churches and public schools. Cocktail lounges or bars in restaurants may be exempt from separation distances if conditions are met. Nightclubs in hotels and motels may be exempt from separation distances if conditions are met. 		except from 5 pm to 3 am <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bars. Cocktail lounge alcohol sales limited to 8am to 1 am. On Sundays, no alcohol sales except from 5 pm to 1 am, and no beer sales except from 10 am to 1 am Nightclubs: Sales between 8 am to 4:50 am on weekdays. Beer sales on Sundays from 10 am to 4:50 am. Alcohol sales on Sunday from 5 pm to 4:50 am. If alcohol sold with food at tables on Sunday, can sell 1 pm to 4:50 am. Nightclubs in unincorporated areas: Close doors no later than 5 am each day. 		must have a public hearing and be approved.			cabarets must have a public hearing and be approved.
Nashville/ Davidson County Metro, TN	1 definition After hours establishments (Uses terms bars and nightclubs, but not defined)	Yes Live or recorded music Dance floor DJ Live band	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Mixed-Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500' to Residential property 	Bars limited to 2,500 sq. ft.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The definition says open between 3 am and 6 am. No other hours set. 	No	No	No	No	No
New York, NY	No definitions Uses "Eating and Drinking Establishments" with/without alcohol and number of people to distinguish different types	No. characteristics of types include: outdoor table service or music without cover charge; entertainment but not dancing; limits on number of people.	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial Industrial 	No	Limits on people established in the specific eating and drinking establishments allowed in particular districts.	No	Limits on outdoor table service established in specific eating and drinking establishments allowed in particular districts.	No. But limits on types of entertainment established in specific eating and drinking establishments allowed in particular districts.	No	In Commercial districts, limited to location on first and second floors of buildings.	
Philadelphia, PA	1 definition Nightclubs and	Yes Dancing	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighborhood Commercial Commercial 	No	No	No	No	No	No	Special Assembly Occupancy (nightclubs, discos,	Special assembly occupancy license required.

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	Private clubs	Live or recorded music									taverns, bars, restaurants, private clubs, banquet halls, etc.) Social Entertainment (dancing, live music or DJ, theatrical or other performance) Does not include TV, speakers, lecturers, watching or participating in athletic events.	
Phoenix, AZ	2 definitions in Euclidean ZO: • Bar • Cocktail lounge 2 definitions in Form-Based Downtown Code • Bar, Lounge, Nightclub • Restaurant/ Brew Pub	No	Yes	• Commercial	• Outdoor recreation uses, outdoor dining, and outdoor alcohol : 500' to Residential district • Bars over 5,000 sq. ft.: 300' to Residential district. • Outdoor prep and cooking: 300' to Residential district. • Bars and Cocktail lounges in shopping center districts: 300' to Residential district. • Bar, tavern, lounge in downtown core: 300' to Residential district	• Bars, cocktail lounges over 5,000 sq. ft. require use permit.	Regulated in form-based “character districts”.	Outdoor food prep and cooking requires a permit, and has conditions	Commercial districts: • stage limited to 80 -200 sq. ft. unless a use permit is obtained • Noise decibels shall not exceed 55 • Patron dancing permitted with permit • Outdoor recreation uses needs a permit • Different regulations for form-based “character districts” including whether amplified music or loudspeakers are permitted, decibel levels, days of operation, outdoor entertainment, etc.	Main use	Outdoor Entertainment: open to the public, visual art, music, theater, performance art, science, design , cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patron dancing permit • Music or entertainment permit • Outdoor dining permit • Outdoor alcohol consumption permit • Outdoor recreation uses permit • Bars, cocktail lounges within 300' of Residential require a use permit • Outdoor food prep and cooking permit • Larger stage permit
Raleigh, NC	No definitions	No	No	• Neighborhood Commercial, • Commercial	•	•			• Amplified entertainment permit required. No outside amplification permitted outside of	No	Amplified music permit sets conditions including lighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amplified music permit • Outdoor music

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				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial 					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> building. Entertainment districts can be created, with public hearing, to allow outdoor music. Outdoor music MAY be permitted along corridor 300' of any Major/Minor Thoroughfare, Interstate or Federal Aid Primary Highway 		of parking areas, cleaning of parking areas daily, and lighting levels, security guards for building and parking area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entertainment district can be created that allows outdoor music.
San Francisco, CA	2 definitions Bar Nighttime entertainment uses	Yes	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighborhood Commercial Mixed Use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No opening except fixed windows and exits within 50' of Residential districts Responsibility of establishment to adhere to Noise Ordinance when 100' from Residential during 10pm to 6 am 	No	No	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted completely within enclosed building Soundproofing building. Noise Ordinance enforced 	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bars in Mixed-Use districts: Concentration can't exceed 25% of total commercial frontage within 300' and in same zoning district. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bar Good Neighbor Policy Conditions in Mixed-Use districts: Quiet, safe, clean premises. Noise contained within premise so as not to be a nuisance Nightclub Good Neighbor Policy in Mixed Use districts: Quiet, safe, clean premises. Employees posted at door to keep patrons waiting quiet and patrons walking to cars quiet. Outside lighting and trash pickup nightly.
Seattle, WA	1 definition Drinking establishment	No	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighborhood Commercial Commercial Industrial 	No	10,000 – 25,000 sq. ft. in neighborhood commercial	No	No	No	No	No	No
Washington D.C	1 definition Cabaret Uses terms bars, cocktail lounge and nightclub, but no definitions;.	Yes	No	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commercial 	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No