

Exemptions for premises licences and club premises certificates

As a result of deregulatory changes that have amended the Licensing Act 2003*, no licence is required for the following activities:

Plays: no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.

Dance: no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 500*.

Films: no licence is required for 'not-for-profit' film exhibition held in community premises between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day provided that the audience does not exceed 500 and the organiser; (a) gets consent to the screening from a person who is responsible for the premises; and (b) ensures that each such screening abides by age classification ratings.

Indoor sporting events: no licence is required for performances between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 1000.

Boxing or wrestling entertainment: From 22 June 2013 no licence is required for Greco-Roman wrestling or freestyle wrestling between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, provided that the audience does not exceed 1000 and takes place in a building.

Live music: no licence permission is required for:

- a performance of unamplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, on any premises.
- A performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500*.
- A performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, in a workplace* that is not licensed to sell alcohol on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500.
- A performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, in a church hall, village hall, community hall, or other similar community premises, that is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol, provided that; (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and; (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance from a person who is responsible for the premises.
- A performance of amplified live music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, at the non-residential premises of (i) a local authority, or (ii) a school, or (iii) a hospital, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance on the relevant premises from: (i) the local authority concerned, or (ii) the school or (iii) the health care provider for the hospital.



Recorded music: no licence permission required for:

- any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day on premises authorised to sell alcohol for consumption on those premises, provided that the audience does not exceed 500*.
- any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, in a church, hall, village hall, community hall, or other similar community premises, that is not licensed by a premises licence to sell alcohol, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance from a person who is responsible for the premises.
- any playing of recorded music between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, at the non-residential premises of (i) a local authority, or (ii) a school, or (iii) a hospital, provided that (a) the audience does not exceed 500, and (b) the organiser gets consent for the performance on the relevant premises from the local authority concerned, or (ii) the school proprietor or (iii) the health care provider for the hospital.

Cross activity exemptions: no licence is required between 08.00 and 23.00 on any day, with no limit on audience size for:

- any entertainment taking place on the premises of the local authority where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the local authority;
- any entertainment taking place on the hospital premises of the health care provider where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the health care provider;
- any entertainment taking place on the premises of the school where the entertainment is provided by or on behalf of the school proprietor; and
- any entertainment (excluding films and a boxing or wrestling entertainment) taking place at a travelling circus, provided that (a) it takes place with a moveable structure that accommodates the audience, and (b) that the travelling circus has not been located on the same site for more than 28 consecutive days.

*for further information see the Home Office Revised Guidance issued under section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

