

Alcohol Sales for Football and Men's and Women's Basketball Games 2024-2025 Seasons

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve alcohol sales for Wayne State University football and basketball games for the 2024-2025 seasons at Tom Adams Field and the Wayne State Fieldhouse. All sales will follow state requirements in which all servers will be required to have TIPS certification.

Background and Project Description

On July 19, 2023 Governor Whitmer signed the Senate Bill 247 allowing public universities to obtain licenses to sell alcoholic beverages at athletic events. Prior to this bill being signed, liquor licenses were not allowed for State-owned property, except in certain circumstances that were set forth in application legislation. Licenses must be issued to the Board of Governors and must be approved by BOGs prior to application. We must obtain a separate license for each facility in which sales will take place.

Wayne State University would like to implement alcohol sales for the 2024-2025 football and basketball seasons. This would require Wayne State University to submit a tavern license of application for Tom Adams Field and the Wayne State Fieldhouse. Once licenses are approved by the State, WSU Athletics will begin to implement the drafted operating rules that have been established. These include, first securing a vendor for supply and sales, opening sales for football and basketball games 30 minutes prior to beginning of contest and cease sales at the start of fourth quarter for women's basketball and football or ten-minute mark for men's basketball, every transaction an ID must be present with a two-drink maximum per transaction, and all sales will be served by TIPS certified employees. Wayne State Athletics will also work in conjunction with Business and Finance Office to secure an accurate POS account. It has already been established that the university's MUSIC insurance will absorb the risk, as there is liquor liability insurance that covers the sale of alcohol on campus. However, WSU Athletics will explore the possible opportunity for a third-party option for supply and sales in effort to transfer liability to a third-party.