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INDUSTRY NOTICE: TABC Approves Amendment Extension To Continue Helping Businesses Reopen Safely

 ARTICLE

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The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission today took the following actions related to TABC's Food and Beverage (FB) Certificate rule:

- **Adopted an [extension of emergency amendments to Rule 33.5](#)**, which remain effective **until Feb. 20, 2021**. This extension ensures that retailers who sell alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption may continue to more easily qualify for an FB Certificate in order to better handle the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The [rule amendments](#):
 - Remove the requirement to invest in expensive equipment.
 - Remove the requirement that food be prepared at the location (food service is enough).
 - Require FB Certificate holders and applicants to comply with all of the governor's applicable executive orders and all minimum standard health protocols.

Read [extension of emergency amendments](#).

- **The commission took the first step toward making these changes permanent**, beyond the Feb. 20 expiration date, by [voting to publish the Rule 33.5 emergency amendments in the Texas Register](#) to receive public comment.

Important note: Any establishment that is opened as a restaurant must follow the checklist from the Governor's Strike Force to Open Texas. [You can find that checklist here](#).

Many establishments that would have otherwise remained shuttered have been able to reopen and operate in a safe manner due to these amendments, and now they can continue doing so. Read the Qualifying as a Restaurant Under Executive Orders section on our [Coronavirus Information page to learn more](#).

[Read Guidance: Qualifying as a Restaurant Under Executive Orders](#).

