



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PLCB Now Accepting Sealed Bids for Fifth Auction of Expired Restaurant Licenses

Bids for 30 licenses in 30 counties due April 19

Harrisburg – The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) today issued an invitation for bids to award 30 expired restaurant licenses in the fifth [license auction](#) since Act 39 became effective in August 2016.

This auction includes one license in each of the following 30 counties: Allegheny, Berks, Blair, Bucks, Cambria, Cameron, Clearfield, Columbia, Dauphin, Delaware, Erie, Lackawanna, Lebanon, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Somerset, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Venango, Warren, and York.

The fifth auction will again use a sealed bid process, which has successfully awarded 165 licenses in the previous four auctions.

Bids for the 30 licenses offered in this restaurant license auction are due by noon Thursday, April 19. Bids will be opened Friday, April 27, and auction winners will be determined soon thereafter.

The minimum bid for each license is \$25,000, and each bid must be accompanied by a bid surety of \$5,000 or 5 percent of the total bid amount – whichever is higher – to avoid frivolous and underfunded bids.

The highest responsive bidder for each license will win the right to submit an application for the license to the PLCB within six months of auction award. If bid payment is not received within two weeks of auction award, the second-highest bidder will have the opportunity to apply for the license. Bids will be held in escrow by the PLCB, pending approval of the license application.

Bidders with questions regarding this invitation for bid must submit inquiries via email to RA-LBLicenseAuction@pa.gov by noon Tuesday, March 6. Questions and answers will be posted to the Department of General Services e-marketplace website by 3:00 PM Thursday, March 8.

Lists of winning bids from each of the four previous auctions are available on [the license auction page](#) of the PLCB website. Auction revenue recognized in fiscal year 2016-17 and thus far in 2017-18 totals \$14.1 million, while another \$9 million remains in escrow, pending license approvals.

The PLCB regulates the distribution of beverage alcohol in Pennsylvania, operates more than 600 wine and spirits stores statewide, and licenses 20,000 alcohol producers, retailers, and handlers. The PLCB also works to reduce and prevent dangerous and underage drinking through partnerships with schools, community groups, and licensees. Taxes and store profits – totaling \$15.8 billion since the agency’s inception – are returned to Pennsylvania’s General Fund, which finances Pennsylvania’s schools, health and human services programs, law enforcement, and public safety initiatives, among other important public services. The PLCB also provides financial support for the Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement, the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, other state agencies, and local municipalities across the state. For more information about the PLCB, visit www.lcb.pa.gov.

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