



# Educational Highlights and Tips to Help Understand Regulations for Your Specific Licenses

## About Specialized Vendor Licenses:

Specialized vendor licenses are for veterans with a service-related disability. Vendors who hold the Citywide Specialized vending license (Yellow) or Midtown Core Zone vending license (Blue) can vend in certain restricted areas. Blue and Yellow specialized license holders who operate in other locations of the city must follow the regular restrictions that apply to all General Vendors or Mobile Food Vendors. To learn more, visit [nyc.gov/streetvendors](https://nyc.gov/streetvendors).

## This Document Contains Three Sections:

1. The first section (pages 1, 2) shows requirements for all vendors who hold a Blue or Yellow specialized license.
2. The second section (pages 2-5) shows requirements for vendors with a Blue specialized license operating in Midtown.
3. The third section (pages 6-8) shows requirements for vendors with Blue or Yellow specialized licenses operating on restricted streets outside of the Midtown Core Zone.

**This document DOES NOT apply to vendors who do not hold a Blue or Yellow specialized license or vendors who operate in or next to any park.**

For your convenience, each category below includes the relevant section of law and/or rule, so you can refer to it for more information. The KEY below describes the legal citations and symbols used in this document.

<b>KEY</b>	
<b>NY GBL:</b> NY General Business Law <b>NYC Code:</b> NYC Administrative Code <b>RCNY:</b> Rules of the City of New York <b>§:</b> Section <b>§§:</b> Sections	
<b>Licenses</b>	
<b>1</b>	Blue and Yellow special license holders must wear both their General Vendor License (White) and their specialized license with both licenses visible to the public and enforcement officers (e.g., Sanitation Police Officers, police officers) at all times.  <b>NY GBL §35-a(5)</b>
<b>Location</b>	
<b>Area restricted to all vending with no exceptions</b>	
<b>2</b>	No specialized license holders are permitted to vend in Manhattan in the “World Trade Center Zone” below (including the border streets): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East border: eastern side of Broadway</li> <li>• South border: south side of Liberty Street</li> <li>• West border: west side of West Street</li> <li>• North border: north side of Vesey Street</li> </ul> No specialized license holders are permitted to vend in Manhattan on the following streets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadway between Murray Street and Battery Place</li> <li>• Park Row between Ann Street and Spruce Street</li> </ul>
<b>NY GBL §§35-a(7-a)(a), 35-a(7-a)(b); NYC Code §20-465(g)(2)</b>	



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Vendors who hold the Midtown Core Zone vending license (Blue) must comply with the requirements outlined below when vending in the Midtown Core Zone.

Location	
1	<p>You must have a Blue specialized license to vend in the area below (including the border streets) in Manhattan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East border: 2nd Avenue</li> <li>• South border: 30th Street</li> <li>• West border: 9th Avenue and Columbus Avenue</li> <li>• North border: 65th Street</li> </ul> <p><b>NYC Code §20-465(g)(1); NY GBL §35-a(7)</b></p>
2	<p>In the Midtown Core Zone, you cannot vend on the following streets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2nd Avenue</li> <li>• 3rd Avenue</li> <li>• Lexington Avenue</li> <li>• Park Avenue</li> <li>• Vanderbilt Avenue</li> <li>• Madison Avenue</li> <li>• 5th Avenue</li> <li>• 6th Avenue</li> <li>• 7th Avenue</li> <li>• Broadway</li> <li>• 8th Avenue</li> <li>• Amsterdam Avenue</li> <li>• 9th Avenue</li> <li>• Columbus Avenue</li> <li>• 34th Street between Lexington Avenue and 7th Avenue</li> <li>• 42nd Street between Lexington Avenue and 8th Avenue</li> <li>• 49th Street between Lexington Avenue and 7th Avenue</li> <li>• 50th Street between Lexington Avenue and 7th Avenue</li> <li>• 57th Street between Lexington Avenue and 7th Avenue</li> </ul> <p><b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(a)</b></p>
3	<p>You must vend on a sidewalk that has at least a 10-foot-wide clear pedestrian path.</p> <p><b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(f)</b></p>
Display	
4	<p>If you are selling merchandise, you must follow these display requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your display (e.g., table, cart, stand) is no more than 8 feet long, 3 feet deep, and 5 feet tall.</li> </ul> <p><b>Tip:</b> You cannot place items for sale directly on the sidewalk or on a blanket, board, or piece of cardboard on the sidewalk.</p> <p><b>Tip:</b> You can only use the space immediately below your display to store items for sale.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> Mobile Food Vendors are not subject to this restriction</p> <p><b>NY §§GBL 35-a(7)(i), 35-a(7)(k)</b></p>



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5	<p>You must be at least 20 feet from the entrance or exit of any building.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> If doorways on the property line are within 40 feet of each other, then you must be an equal distance from the center of the doorway of each business or store.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(h)</b>	
6	<p>You cannot vend within 10 feet of any street corners, subway entrances and exits, or driveways.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(i)</b>	
7	<p>You cannot vend within 5 feet of bus shelters, newsstands, public phone or WiFi kiosks, or disabled access ramps.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(viii)</b>	
8	<p>You cannot vend within 20 feet of licensed sidewalk cafés.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(vii)</b>	
9	<p>You cannot vend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within a bus stop or taxi stand</li> <li>• On a median unless the median is a pedestrian mall or plaza (has space for pedestrians to walk)</li> <li>• Over any ventilation grills, subway gratings, cellar doors, transformer vaults, or manholes</li> </ul>
<b>NY GBL §§35-a(7)(l)(i), 35-a(7)(l)(ii), 35-a(7)(l)(viii)</b>	
10	<p>You cannot vend within 10 feet of an entrance or exit to a building that is exclusively residential at the street level.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(l)(ix)</b>	
11	<p>Your pushcart, stand, goods, or any item used to operate your vending business cannot touch, lean against, or be affixed permanently or temporarily to a building or structure.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(g)</b>	
12	<p>You must be more than 65 feet away from the entrance to any theater, movie house, indoor sports arena, place of worship, or school.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(h)</b>	
13	<p>If you are selling merchandise, you may not sell or offer for sale any item from a parked or double-parked motor vehicle.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> Mobile Food Vendors are not subject to this restriction.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(iv)</b>	
14	<p>If you are selling merchandise, you cannot use electricity or oil or gas-powered equipment or machinery of any kind.</p> <p><b>Tip:</b> You can use self-contained battery packs not exceeding 16 volts to provide lighting for the vending business.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> Mobile Food Vendors are not subject to this restriction.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(v)</b>	



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15	You cannot vend within 30 feet of an entrance to a park or within a park.  <b>Exception:</b> If you are a Mobile Food Vendor, you may vend in and around parks with the appropriate permits from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and NYC Department of Parks and Recreation.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(vi)</b>
16	Only one vendor with a Blue specialized license can vend per block face within the Midtown Core Zone.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(b)</b>

Vendors who hold the Citywide Specialized vending license (Yellow) or Midtown Core Zone vending license (Blue) must comply with the requirements outlined below. These requirements apply to vending on a restricted street outside of the Midtown Core Zone.

**Note: Restricted streets are streets where vending is prohibited during certain times and days of the week (6 RCNY §2-314; NYC Administrative Code §17-315, NYC Administrative Code §20-465).**

Location	
1	You must vend on a sidewalk that has at least a 10-foot-wide clear pedestrian path.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(3)</b>
Display	
2	If you are selling merchandise, you must follow these display requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Your display (e.g., table, cart, stand) is no more than 8 feet long, 3 feet deep, and 5 feet tall.</li> </ul> <b>Tip:</b> You cannot place items for sale directly on the sidewalk or on a blanket, board, or piece of cardboard on the sidewalk.  <b>Tip:</b> You can only use the space immediately below your display to store items for sale.  <b>Exception:</b> Mobile Food Vendors are not subject to this restriction.
	<b>NY GBL §§35-a(7)(i), 35-a(7)(k)</b>
3	You must be at least 20 feet from the entrance or exit of any building.  <b>Exception:</b> If doorways on the property line are within 40 feet of each other, then you must be an equal distance from the center of the doorway of each business or store.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(h)</b>
4	You cannot vend within 10 feet of any street corners, subway entrances and exits, or driveways.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(i)</b>
5	You cannot vend within 5 feet of bus shelters, newsstands, public phone or WiFi kiosks, or disabled access ramps.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(viii)</b>
6	You cannot vend within 20 feet of licensed sidewalk cafés.
	<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(vii)</b>



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7	<p>You cannot vend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Within a bus stop or taxi stand</li> <li>• On a median unless the median is a pedestrian mall or plaza (has space for pedestrians to walk)</li> <li>• Over any ventilation grills, subway gratings, cellar doors, transformer vaults, or manholes</li> </ul>
<b>NY GBL §§35-a(7)(l)(i), 35-a(7)(l)(ii), 35-a(7)(l)(viii)</b>	
8	<p>You cannot vend within 10 feet of an entrance or exit to a building that is exclusively residential at the street level.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(l)(ix)</b>	
9	<p>Your pushcart, stand, goods, or any item used to operate your vending business cannot touch, lean against, or be affixed permanently or temporarily to a building or structure.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(g)</b>	
10	<p>You must be more than 65 feet away from the entrance to any theater, movie house, indoor sports arena, place of worship, or school.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(h)</b>	
11	<p>If you are selling merchandise, you may not sell or offer for sale any item from a parked or double-parked motor vehicle.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> Mobile Food Vendors are not subject to this restriction.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(iv)</b>	
12	<p>If you are selling merchandise, you cannot use electricity or oil or gas-powered equipment or machinery of any kind.</p> <p><b>Tip:</b> You can use self-contained battery packs not exceeding 16 volts to provide lighting for the vending business.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> Mobile Food Vendors are not subject to this restriction.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(v)</b>	
13	<p>You cannot vend within 30 feet of an entrance to a park or within a park.</p> <p><b>Exception:</b> If you are a Mobile Food Vendor, you may vend in and around parks with the appropriate permits from the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and NYC Department of Parks and Recreation.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(7)(l)(vi)</b>	
	<p>No more than two vendors with specialized licensees can vend per block face on restricted streets outside of the Midtown Core Zone.</p>
<b>NY GBL §35-a(3)</b>	

For more information: **Visit** [nyc.gov/BusinessToolbox](https://nyc.gov/BusinessToolbox) | **Contact 311** (212) NEW-YORK (Outside NYC)

*This document is provided for informational purposes only, is not exhaustive, and does not constitute legal advice. New York City businesses must comply with all relevant federal, State, and City laws and rules. Businesses are responsible for knowing and complying with current regulations that affect their business.*