



Transition to Private Liquor Sales: 1183 Fact Sheet

License Title: Spirits Retail Liquor License
Effective Date: June 1, 2012
Creates a new section in RCW 66.24

Background:

1. The new section creates a license for a Spirits Retail liquor license to:
 - sell spirits in original containers to consumers for off-premises consumption;
 - sell spirits in original containers to permit holders;
 - sell spirits in original containers to on-premises spirits retailers for resale at their licensed premises (no single sale may exceed 24 liters per day); and
 - export spirits in original containers.
2. A spirits retailer licensee that intends to sell to another retailer must possess a basic permit under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act. The permits are available through the federal Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau www.ttb.gov.
 - This permit must provide for purchasing distilled spirits for resale at wholesale.
 - A copy of the federal basic permit must be submitted to the board.
 - A federal basic permit is required for each location from which the spirits retailer licensee plans to sell to another retailer.
3. The annual fee for the spirits retail license is \$166.00.
4. A spirits retail licensee must pay to the board a license issuance fee equivalent to 17 percent of all spirits sales revenues. The first payment is due October 1, 2012. The board will establish by rule the frequency of these additional license issuance fees prior to the first payment.

More information regarding paying fees to the WSLCB will be available when this license goes into effect June 1, 2012.

Requirements:

1. The requirements for a spirits retail license are as follows:

- The premises must be at least 10,000 square feet of fully enclosed retail space within a single structure, including store rooms and other interior auxiliary areas, not encumbered by a lease or rental agreement (floor plans one quarter inch to one foot scale may be required by the board).
- Submit an acknowledgment form indicating the licensee has a security plan which addresses:
 - ✓ Inventory management;
 - ✓ Employee training; and
 - ✓ Physical security of spirits product with respect to preventing sales to underage or inebriated persons and theft of product.

2. A grocery store licensee or a specialty shop licensee may add a spirits retail liquor license to their current license if they meet the requirements for the spirits retail license.

How to Apply:

Complete a Master Business Application and Liquor Control Board Addendum. Information can be found on the [Licensing Services](#) section of the WSLCB website at www.liq.wa.gov.

When the WSLCB Licensing Division receives the application:

- A liquor license investigator will be assigned to the application.
- The investigator will contact the applicant to conduct an interview and send the applicant a request for documents needed to process the application (the applicant has 15 days to return documents). The applicant will also be directed to complete a licensee briefing and to call their local liquor agent to schedule a final inspection of the premises.
- A notice will be sent to the local authority for comment (20 day period).
- A public posting notice will be sent to the local liquor enforcement office to be posted at the retail premises (must be posted for 14 days).
- When all documents are received, the licensee briefing is complete, the final inspection is complete, and the investigation is complete, the applicant will receive a letter from the WSLCB Licensing Division with either a conditional approval or approval of the liquor license.
- When the license is approved the licensee should receive a Master License from Master License Services within 14 days.

Contact Information

For specific questions, please contact Customer Service, at 360-664-1600 or www.liq.wa.gov.