

Chapter 314-07 WAC
HOW TO APPLY FOR AND MAINTAIN A LIQUOR LICENSE

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 05-07-012, filed 3/4/05, effective 4/4/05)

WAC 314-07-005 What is the purpose of this chapter? RCW 66.24.010 states the board will only issue licenses and permits to applicants and locations that meet certain qualifications. The purpose of this chapter is to outline the qualifications and steps necessary to receive and maintain a liquor license or permit.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-11-106, filed 5/20/15, effective 6/20/15)

WAC 314-07-010 Definitions. Following are definitions for the purpose of this title. Other definitions are in WAC 314-01-005 and RCW 66.08.010.

(1) "Applicant" or "liquor license applicant" means any person or business entity who is considered by the board as a true party of interest in a liquor license or permit application, as outlined in WAC 314-07-035.

(2) "Building" means a stationary structure with floor to ceiling solid walls and a roof. A food truck is not a "building."

(3) "Business name" or "trade name" means the name of a licensed business as used by the licensee on signs, advertising, etc.

(4) "Financier" means any person or entity who has made or will make an investment in the licensed business of more than ten (~~thousand~~ percent of the total business investment) ~~dollars~~). A "financier" can be someone who provides money as a gift, someone who loans money to the business and expects to be paid back the amount of the loan without interest, or someone who invests money into the business expecting a percentage of the profits, but accepts the risk that there may not be a full return on the investment. These persons or entities shall submit appropriate investigation level "financier" financial documents.

(5) "Licensee" or "liquor licensee" means any person or entity that holds a liquor license or permit, or any person or entity who is a true party of interest in a liquor license or permit, as outlined in WAC 314-07-035.

(6) "Public institution" means a public college or university. (See WAC 314-07-020 regarding the liquor control board notifying public institutions of liquor license applications.)

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-11-106, filed 5/20/15, effective 6/20/15)

WAC 314-07-015 General information about liquor licenses. (1) A person or entity must meet required qualifications to receive a liquor license, ~~((which are continuing))~~ and must continue to meet the qualifications in order to maintain the license.

(2) A liquor license may be approved at a personal residence under the following conditions:

(a) The proposed licensed premises is either separate from or walled off from personal living quarters.

(b) The proposed licensed premises has its own entrance separate from the entrance to the personal living quarters.

(c) Any access from the proposed licensed premises into the personal living quarters is permanently secured.

(d) Any and all items related to the operation of the proposed licensed business are contained within the licensed premises. This includes, but is not limited to, liquor inventory, business records, computers, equipment and anything else needed for the operation of the licensed business.

(3) A liquor license applicant may not exercise any of the privileges of a liquor license until the board approves the license application (see WAC 314-07-055 regarding temporary licenses).

~~((3))~~ (4) In approving a liquor license, the board reserves the right to impose special conditions as to the involvement in the operations of the licensed business of any former licensees, their former employees, or any person who does not qualify for a liquor license.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-11-106, filed 5/20/15, effective 6/20/15)

WAC 314-07-035 What persons or entities have to qualify for a liquor license? Per RCW 66.24.010(1), a liquor license must be issued in the name(s) of the true party(ies) of interest.

(1) **True parties of interest** - For purposes of this title, "true party of interest" means:

True party of interest	Persons to be qualified
Sole proprietorship	Sole proprietor and spouse.
General partnership	All partners and spouses.
Limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability limited partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All general partners and spouses;• All limited partners that have more than 10% interest in the partnership and their spouses.

True party of interest	Persons to be qualified
Limited liability company	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All members (or persons with equivalent title) with more than 10% interest in the LLC and spouses. (Note: In order for the liquor control board to identify the persons to be qualified, we will need to know all parties that have an interest in the limited liability company or have a pending interest.) • All managers (or persons with equivalent title) and their spouses.
Privately held corporation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All corporate officers (or persons with equivalent title) and their spouses. • All stockholders (or persons with equivalent title) and their spouses who hold more than 10% of the issued or outstanding stock. (Note: In order for the liquor control board to identify the persons to be qualified, we will need to know all parties who have been issued or will be issued corporate stock.)
Publicly held corporation	All corporate officers (or persons with equivalent title).
Multi-level ownership structures	The liquor control board will review each entity to determine which individuals are to qualify according to the guidelines in this rule.
Any entity	<p>Any person who is in receipt of, or has the right to receive, more than ten percent of the gross or net sales from the licensed business during any full or partial calendar or fiscal year. For the purposes of this chapter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Gross sales" includes the entire gross receipts from all sales and services made in, upon, or from the licensed business. • "Net sales" means gross sales minus cost of goods sold.

(2) For purposes of this section, "true party of interest" does not mean:

(a) A person or entity receiving reasonable payment for rent (as determined by the board) on a fixed or percentage basis under a bona fide lease or rental obligation, unless the lessor or property manager

exercises control over or participates in the management of the business.

(b) A person who receives a bonus as an employee, if: The employee is on a fixed wage or salary and the bonus is not more than twenty-five percent of the employee's prebonus annual compensation; or the bonus is based on a written incentive/bonus program that is not out of the ordinary for the services rendered.

(c) A person or entity contracting with the applicant(s) to sell the property, unless the contract holder exercises control over or participates in the management of the licensed business.

(d) A person or entity receiving payment of franchise fees on a fixed or percentage basis under a bona fide franchise agreement, unless the person or entity receiving payment of franchise fees exercises control over or participates in the management of the licensed business.

(3) **Financiers** - The board may conduct a financial investigation of financiers.

(4) **Persons who exercise control of business** - The board may conduct an investigation of any person or entity who exercises any control over the applicant's business operations.

In cases where there is an entity who is in control of the day-to-day business operation (other than the owner) because of an agreement between the owner and the operator, the operating party becomes a true party of interest. The operator must meet all the qualifications of any other true party of interest and if approved, must be the licensee. The owner may be required to be named on the license as a party of interest based on the terms of the agreement, but will not normally be required to meet all the qualifications of a true party of interest.

(5) The board reserves the right to investigate any person or entity in a liquor license application or current liquor license where hidden ownership or misrepresentation of fact is suspected.

(6) For purposes of this section, a person or entity who takes more than ten percent of the profits and/or exercises control over the licensed business in a given agreement may be named on the license as a party of interest per this rule. Examples of this are lease, operating plan, concession or management agreement.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-11-106, filed 5/20/15, effective 6/20/15)

WAC 314-07-040 What criminal history might prevent a liquor license applicant or licensee from receiving or keeping a liquor license?

(1) When the board processes a criminal history check on ((an applicant)) a true party of interest, it uses a point system to determine if the person qualifies for a license. The board will not normally issue a liquor license to an applicant who has accumulated eight or more points as indicated below:

Description	Time period during which points will be assigned	Points assigned
Felony conviction	Ten years	12 points

Description	Time period during which points will be assigned	Points assigned
Gross misdemeanor conviction	Three years	5 points
Misdemeanor conviction	Three years	4 points
Currently under federal or state supervision for a felony conviction	n/a	8 points
Nondisclosure of any of the above	n/a	4 points each

(2) If a case is pending for an alleged offense that would earn eight or more points, the board will hold the application for the disposition of the case. If the disposition is not settled within ninety days, the board may administratively close the application.

(3) The board will not normally issue a liquor license to any person who has demonstrated a pattern of disregard for laws and rules.

(4) Current liquor licensees are required to notify the board within thirty days of any arrests or criminal convictions. Failure to do so may result in revocation of the liquor license.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-11-106, filed 5/20/15, effective 6/20/15)

WAC 314-07-060 Reasons for denial or (~~cancellation~~) revocation of a temporary license. Following is a list of reasons a temporary permit may not be issued or can be revoked. Per RCW 66.24.010, the board has broad discretionary authority to approve or deny a liquor license or permit application. Refusal by the board to issue or extend a temporary license shall not entitle the applicant to request a hearing.

(1) An applicant who has received a temporary license and their application is later administratively closed, and they reapply for a liquor license at the same location.

(2) The local authority objects for any reason.

(3) The applicant affirmatively refuses to submit documents requested by the board to conduct the application investigation.

(4) The applicant accrues or is involved in an administrative violation committed while operating under a temporary license.

(5) The investigator is unable to determine the true party of interest.

(6) The applicant fails to meet the basic requirements of the license.

(7) An objection is received from a privately or publicly funded elementary or secondary school within five hundred feet of the proposed location.

(8) Violation history of the applicant is found to be sufficient to raise the application to threshold decision.

(9) Upon denial of the permanent license, the temporary license will be immediately revoked.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-11-106, filed 5/20/15, effective 6/20/15)

WAC 314-07-065 Reasons the board may deny a liquor license application. Following is a list of reasons the board may deny a liquor license application. Per RCW 66.24.010, the board has broad discretionary authority to approve or deny a liquor license or permit application.

(1) Failure to meet qualifications or requirements for the specific liquor license or privilege, as outlined in this Title 314 WAC and Title 66 RCW.

(2) Failure by any (~~applicant or financier~~) person or entity associated with the application to submit information or documentation requested by the board.

(3) Refusal by any (~~applicant or financier~~) person or entity associated with the application to submit information or documentation requested by the board.

(4) Misrepresentation of fact by any (~~applicant or financier~~) person or entity associated with the application.

(5) Failure to meet the criminal history standards outlined in WAC 314-07-040.

(6) Failure to meet the liquor law or rule violation history standards outlined in WAC 314-07-045.

(7) Source of funds used for the acquisition, startup and operation of the business is questionable or unverified.

(8) Objection from the local authority or from the public (see WAC 314-09-010 and RCW 66.24.010(8)).

(9) Objection from the following entities if they are within five hundred feet of the proposed business: A public school, a private school that meets the requirements of chapter 28A.195 RCW, a church, or a public college or university. See WAC 314-09-010 and RCW 66.24.010(9) for more information. Note: Per RCW 66.24.010(9), the board may not issue a new liquor license if the board receives objection from a public school within five hundred feet of the proposed licensed business.

(10) The board determines that the issuance of the liquor license will not be in the best interest of the welfare, health, or safety of the people of the state.