

Wine, Cider, & Mead Manufacturer (LMW) Quick Reference Guide Rev. 7/25

Legal Hours of Alcohol Service

- **Monday through Friday:** Off-premises sales allowed 8:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m. On-premises alcohol sales allowed 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
- **Saturday:** Off-premises sales allowed 8:00 a.m. through 10:00 p.m. On-premises alcohol sales allowed 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.
- **Sunday:** Off-premises sales allowed 10:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. On-premises alcohol sales allowed 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 a.m.
- **Holidays:** No off-premises sales allowed on Christmas, Thanksgiving, and New Year's Day; on-premises allowed with food on Christmas. (Alcohol may be sold on the Monday after any Christmas or New Year's Day falling on a Sunday.)
- *Local town/city rules may be more restrictive; check with your town hall*

Permit Requirements

- **Yearly renewal:** You must renew your permit every year. A reminder email will be sent to your email address on file. The expiration date is printed on your permit.
- **Permit framed and hung:** Place your permit in a frame and hang in your bar area in a place visible to the public.
- **Permittee's name:** Your permittee's name must be displayed on a sign and hung next to the main entrance in a place visible from sidewalk or street.
- **Records needed on premises:** A 2-year record of all sales must be kept at your premises. You may ask for permission to keep elsewhere.
- **Alcohol storage:** An approved lockable area must be kept that is large enough to store alcohol stock.
- **Employee age:** An employee must be at least 18 years old to work at premises and to sell or serve alcohol.
- **Age statement forms:** Required to be kept on premises at all times; utilize when a person's age is in question.

Wine, Cider, & Mead Manufacturer Specific Rules

- **Products:** Limited to own wine, cider not exceeding 6% abv, mead, eau-de-vie, and apple brandy. May also sell other Connecticut-made wine, cider not exceeding 6% abv, apple wine not exceeding 15% abv, apple brandy and eau-de-vie, and brandy manufactured from fruit harvested in CT but distilled in another state.
- **Wholesaling:** You may wholesale what you manufacture to a retail permittee if you make 100,000 gallons or less per year; limited to 15 gallons/container. You may also appoint a wholesaler to sell your product.
- **Registration and price posting:** All wholesaled brands must be registered and prices posted with Liquor Control.
- **Retail sales:** You may sell alcohol you manufacture at retail to go and for on-premises consumption.
- **Tastings:** May offer tastings to customers and prospective retailers.
- **Alternating proprietorship and contract manufacturing:** Allowed in CT subject to specific rules. Contact DCP for help.
- **Donations:** May donate product to holder of a temporary noncommercial entity permit only. Report all donations through eLicense portal.
- **Tax Reports:** Maintain required federal and state records for tax purposes.
- **Delivery:** May deliver to CT buyers; may ship out of state if allowed by other state.
- **Drinks to go:** May sell securely sealed containers of alcohol to go *with food prepared on the premises* during normal legal hours. Need not be in manufacturer's original container, but cannot use a lidded

cup with sipping or straw holes. Beverage must be put in bag by employee. Limits: 196 oz. of cider; 1.5L of wine. Must follow all local

ordinances. Does not impact general off-premises retail sales.

Common Violations

- **Sales to minors:** You may not sell to or serve anyone under 21 years of age (unless with parent, guardian, or spouse). *No minor may sit or stand at a bar unless with a parent, guardian, or spouse. You have the right to refuse a sale to a suspected minor.*
- **Sales to intoxicated person:** You may not sell to or serve to anyone showing signs of intoxication. *You have the right to refuse a sale to someone who is intoxicated.*
- **Hours:** You may only sell alcohol during the hours allowed by your permit; all alcohol must be cleared by stated hour.
- **Smoking:** Smoking of all kinds is prohibited on your premises, including all electronic systems (cigarettes, cigars, vapes, pipes, hookahs, cigarillos, etc.).
- **Gambling:** No gambling on games of chance is allowed on the premises unless allowed by CT Lottery and licensed by DCP Gaming Division. Example: no dice games, sports pools, or slot machines.

Other Permits Allowed

- **Farmer's Market Permit:** You may conduct retail sales of sealed alcohol you've manufactured at farmer's markets. You must be invited to the farmer's market and limited to 10 locations a year. Tastings not allowed.
- **Craft Café Permit:** You may hold at your main premises or an alternate location. It allows you to serve Connecticut-made beer and spirits.
- **Restaurant Permit:** You may hold at your main premises or an alternate location if you have the menu, dining space, and seating required for the permit. Allows a full bar.
- **Festival Permit:** You may attend a festival at the invitation of a festival permit holder. Allowed to conduct free or paid tastings, sell at retail for consumption at the festival, and sell at retail to go.
- **Shipper Permit:** You may apply to ship from out-of-state manufacturing plants to yourself.

Update Your Information

- **Your email:** It is your responsibility to update contact information with DCP, especially email address and telephone number. We send renewals and permits via email.
- **E-License account:** Set up your eLicense account with the username provided to you by the Department. You will use your eLicense account to renew your permit, cancel your permit, update
- **Ownership changes:** Any change in ownership or stock must be reported to DCP. You cannot transfer your permit to a new owner. New business owners need their own permit.
- **Discrimination:** Promotions must apply to all patrons. "Ladies nights", etc. are prohibited if deal is based on age, gender, sexual orientation, or other protected classifications.
- **Permittee changes:** You may assign a new permittee; requires a short application.

Contact Liquor Control:

www.ct.gov/dcp/liquorcontrol ♦ dcp.liquorcontrol@ct.gov ♦ 860-713-6200

(This guide for general reference only; not a full description of all obligations; see Liquor Control Act and corresponding regulations)