

Wyoming Alcohol Importer Information

October 2023

The following information is not all-inclusive and shall not be considered as legal advice.

Statute (law) and policy references were current as of the date of this document.

This information should be used in conjunction with all current applicable State, local and Federal law, especially Wyoming Statutes Title 12, Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws.

Importer License Key Information

- Importer licenses are issued by the Wyoming Department of Revenue, Liquor Division (WLD)
- The Importer license allows the license holder to import only alcoholic liquors (spirits and wines) into the state of Wyoming.
- The license is issued on an annual basis with a license term length of one year (12 months)
- A term length can be shorter than one year for the initial license term
- The annual license fee is \$250.00 and may be prorated accordingly for an initial license term shorter than one year
- A licensed Importer must operate a warehouse facility in Wyoming where products are stored and shipped from
- An Importer shall sell its imported products only to the WLD for sales within the State of Wyoming
- Sales outside of the State of Wyoming are not prohibited
- The license cannot be transferred to a new license holder
- Importer facilities are subject to inspection from the WLD and other state agencies
- Importer facilities may be subject to inspection by local, state and Federal authorities

Primary Wyoming Title 12, Alcoholic Beverage Control Laws

12-1-101. Definitions.

(a) As used in this title:

(i) "Alcoholic liquor" means any spirituous or fermented fluid, substance or compound other than malt beverage intended for beverage purposes which contains at least one-half of one percent (.5%) of alcohol by volume. As used in this paragraph, "beverage" does not include liquid filled candies containing less than six and one-quarter percent (6.25%) of alcohol by volume;

(x) "Malt beverage" means any fluid, substance or compound intended for beverage purposes manufactured from malt, wholly or in part, or from any substitute therefor, containing at least one-half of one percent (.5%) of alcohol by volume;

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12-2-203. Manufacturing and rectifying; importing and industry representatives; licensing; fees.

(a) The division shall grant a manufacturer's license authorizing the manufacture or rectification of alcoholic liquor or malt beverages or an importer's license authorizing the importation of alcoholic liquor to a qualified resident within this state who submits an application to the division on forms provided by the division and pays an annual license fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) for each license. A person may be issued both a manufacturer's license and an importer's license.

Wyoming Department of Revenue Rules and Regulations, Liquor Division Methodology, Chapter 20

Section 11. Commercial Importation And Storage Of Alcoholic Beverages.

(a.) License Required. No person, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation shall be allowed to import alcoholic beverages, other than malt beverages, into Wyoming and store them within the state unless a license shall have first been issued, except as otherwise provided by W.S. 12-3-101(d).

(b.) License May be Granted. A license may be granted by the Division for the commercial importation and storage of alcoholic beverages in Wyoming to any qualified person, partnership, limited liability company, or corporation of this state. The alcoholic beverages, other than malt beverages, shall be sold by the licensee exclusively to the Division, and to no other person, firm, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability partnership or corporation within this state; nor shall any retail sales or deliveries be made by a licensee.

(c.) Annual License Fee. The annual fee for the license is set by statute with the privilege of renewal from year to year unless otherwise revoked or suspended for cause.

Each applicant for a license shall submit to the Division a statement under oath stating that the applicant will maintain a warehouse within Wyoming and identifying all products which the applicant proposes to import and store within Wyoming.

(d.) Applicant to Comply with Applicable Federal and State Requirements. Applicants shall comply with all applicable federal statutes and regulations as well as the Wyoming Alcoholic Beverage Statutes, Rules and Regulations.

(e.) Duration of License. A license for the commercial importation and storage of alcoholic beverages in Wyoming shall be a personal privilege, good for one (1) year from date of approval by the Division unless sooner suspended or revoked.

All applications and fees for renewal shall be filed with the Division forty-five (45) days prior to the date of expiration.

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(f.) Conditions of License. Upon issuance of a license, the licensee shall comply with the following terms and conditions:

Any alcoholic beverages being stored by the licensee in Wyoming shall not be stored in any place other than that designated upon the application for license, unless written notification has been given to the administrator of the Division.

Any alcoholic beverages being stored by the licensee shall not be removed from storage except for transfer to the Division or for interstate shipment upon twenty-four (24) hours advance written notification to the Division.

The Division shall have the right to order the licensee to provide any purchase, shipping, or inventory information, and the right to enter and inspect any premises in which alcoholic beverages are being stored.

No licensee shall furnish, rent, give, or lend any money or anything of value to any owner, proprietor, licensee, agent, or employee of any retail liquor or malt beverage establishment.

No licensee shall furnish, rent, give, lend, or sell to any retailer at cost or below cost any equipment, fixtures, or supplies.

The licensee shall at all times maintain accurate and current records concerning purchases, receipts, and shipments, and shall within forty-eight (48) hours prior to importation of any alcoholic beverages into Wyoming, submit to the Division copies of all original invoices, shipping manifests, and bills of lading.

Additional Requirements

Importers in Wyoming will also need to adhere to additional requirements as outlined below.

TTB / Federal Permit

The Importer will be required to have an Importer's permit issued by the Federal Government via the TTB.

Please contact the TTB for details on the federal requirements.

Here is a link to the TTB website: <https://www.ttb.gov/>

Note: A copy of the approved TTB permit must be submitted with the Importer license application to the Wyoming Liquor Division.

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Business Registration in Wyoming

The business entity may need to be registered with the Wyoming Secretary of State's office.

Please confirm with that office.

Here is a link to their website: <https://soswy.state.wy.us/ContactUs.aspx>

Food Service Permit

The Importer warehouse will also need to be licensed with an applicable Food Service Permit.

Please contact the Wyoming Department of Agriculture for details.

Here is a link to their website: <https://wyagric.state.wy.us/divisions/chs/contacts>

Sales Tax Licensing

The Importer may also need to acquire a Wyoming Sales Tax License.

Please contact the Wyoming Department of Revenue, Excise Tax Division for details.

Here is a link to their website: <http://revenue.wyo.gov/home/contact-information>

Local Requirements

There may be additional local requirements, including local licensing, at the jurisdictional government level where the Importer warehouse is located.

Please contact the Town, City or County Clerk's office(s) in the location for local details.

Industry Representative Licensing / Sales to the Wyoming Liquor Division (WLD)

Importers may sell only the WLD in the state of Wyoming. If importers wish to sell to the WLD, the following basic requirements apply.

In order to sell products to the WLD that we will list in our Wholesale Price list, vendors must appoint a licensed Class A Industry Representative to work with the WLD.

The WLD only purchases from the "Vendor of Record," so the Importer would need to be designated as the Vendor of Record by the TTB for the products being sold to the WLD.

Vendor relationships have additional requirements.

For additional information regarding vendor relationships with the WLD, please Contact the WLD Purchasing department Manager at: (307) 777-6451 or dor-liq-purchasing@wyo.gov

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Licensing and Liquor Regulations

For more information regarding licensing requirements, liquor laws and regulations, contact the Wyoming Liquor Division, Compliance section.

Email: dor-liq-compliance@wyo.gov

Phone

Compliance Agents:

(307) 777-7233

(307) 777-6449

(307) 777-5708

Compliance Manager:

(307) 777-6453