Hemp-Derived Consumable CBD Retailer Business Checklist

Those businesses that are currently selling or intend to sell hemp-derived consumable CBD products at retail must be licensed to do so by the Office of Cannabis Regulation (“OCR”). OCR is here to help you through the licensing process. The application for licensure is available on our website. If you have questions, please reach out to OCR by email to DBR.HempCompliance@dbr.ri.gov, or by phone at 401-889-5607.

Do I need a hemp-derived consumable CBD retail license?
If you are currently selling or intend to sell any hemp-derived consumable CBD products intended for human or animal consumption directly to a consumer in Rhode Island, you need a CBD Retailers License.

What are hemp-derived consumable CBD products?
Products made from hemp or hemp distillate that contain CBD and are intended to be:
- Contain CBD and
- Intended to be ingested orally

Hemp-derived consumable CBD product types include but are not limited to:
- Capsules, tinctures, pre-packaged food/beverages, and gummies.

What if I sell products that don’t contain CBD and are made from exempt parts of a plant such as certain lotion, hemp milk, and/or clothing/textiles?
- So long as all products (and their ingredients) offered for sale are made from exempt parts of the plant and do not contain CBD and/or are not marketed to claim they contain CBD, your business would not need a license from the OCR.

What if I sell products that contain CBD but are intended to be applied to topically?
So long as all products offered for sale are not marketed or intended to be ingested by a person or animal, your business would not need a hemp-derived consumable CBD license from the OCR at this time.

What information should I have before I apply?
1. The name and address of the applicant who will supervise, manage, and direct the sale of hemp-derived consumable CBD products at your facility.
   - Please note, this person will need a National Background Check and must be 21+ years old.
2. The names and addresses of any person or entity partnering or providing consulting services regarding the sale of hemp-derived CBD products.
3. The location of the facility as to where the sale of hemp-derived consumable CBD products will occur.
4. Documentation that the applicant and/or its agents have entered into a purchase agreement with a hemp handler and/or distributor.
   - Where will your hemp-derived CBD products be supplied from?
5. A description of how the applicant will track hemp-derived CBD from purchase to sale, including the policies and procedures for handling voluntary and mandatory recalls of all hemp-derived consumable CBD products.
   - Such procedures shall be adequate to deal with recalls due to any action initiated at the request or order of DBR, and any voluntary action by a hemp-derived CBD distributor and/or retailer to remove defective or potentially defective hemp derivatives or hemp-derived consumable CBD products from the market, as well as any action undertaken to promote public health and safety.
6. Documentation demonstrating that the applicant’s retailer activities will comply with the city/town’s applicable zoning ordinances.

How much does it cost to apply?
There is no fee to apply for this license.

How much is the licensing fee?
The annual license fee is five-hundred dollars ($500.00).
Where can I find the application?
The application is located on the Office of Cannabis Regulation’s website.

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