



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
Office of Cannabis Regulation
560 Jefferson Blvd. Ste. 204
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

Guidance for Hemp Retailer Licensees

Issued pursuant to 230-RICR-80-10-1

Rhode Island Industrial Hemp Program

Updated: March 14th, 2025

On August 14th, 2024, updates to Rhode Island's Industrial Hemp Program regulations came into effect and, as a result, revised the privileges, requirements, and prohibitions for all hemp licensees.

The purpose of this guidance document is to provide an overview of these updated conditions for current and future licensees. This is *not* a substitution for licensees thoroughly reviewing and understanding the regulations which are available [here](#).

Hemp Retailer Licensees must:

- Apply for and receive a license issued by the Rhode Island Department of Business Regulation in the [State Licensing Portal](#) prior to selling hemp for commercial purposes;
- Apply for and receive Registry Identification Cards for all applicable individuals prior to beginning operations;
- Maintain testing records for all hemp and hemp products evidencing they are at or under the Acceptable Hemp THC Level of:
 - o 1 mg of Total THC per serving,
 - o 5 mg of Total THC per package (100mg for tinctures), and
 - o No more than 1% Total THC on a dry weight basis (flower);
- Place/store all edible hemp products separate from all other products sold in the retailer and in a manner consistent with applicable state and local food safety regulations;
- Submit an annual report of licensed activities on a form prescribed by DBR;
- Provide samples of hemp products to DBR for testing, upon request;
- Submit required End of Year Reporting for all sales; and
- Implement inventory management, emergency, recall, and record keeping protocols;

Hemp Retailer Licensees may:

- Also hold a Hemp Grower, Handler, and/or Distributor License;
- Purchase hemp and hemp products from licensed Rhode Island Distributors and/or sources outside of Rhode Island provided those products comply with all applicable regulations; and
- Only sell hemp products to members of the public if those products are packaged and labeled in accordance with applicable State regulations;

Hemp Retailer Licensees may not:

- Cultivate, extract, concentrate, or otherwise grow or process hemp plants without holding a Hemp Grower or Handler license, respectively;
- Acquire or sell any hemp product over the Acceptable Hemp THC Level;
- Sell any hemp product that is in a prohibited form or contains prohibited ingredients;
- Distribute batch of hemp or hemp product that has not undergone testing as required by the State of Rhode Island; or

- Sell hemp-derived consumable CBD products without verifying the purchaser is over twenty-one (21) years of age.