

Chapter 397

(House Bill 666)

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages – Nonprofit Beer, Wine, and Liquor Festival Permit – Retail Off-Site Permit

FOR the purpose of altering a nonprofit beer festival permit to be a nonprofit beer, wine, and liquor festival permit; altering the scope of authorization, fee, and various requirements to establish the nonprofit beer, wine, and liquor festival permit; repealing a certain wine festival permit and a liquor festival permit; altering a farmers’ market off-site permit to be a retail off-site permit; altering the scope of authorization, fee, and various requirements to establish the retail off-site permit; making conforming changes; defining a certain term; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages festivals and permits.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 2–130(g), 2–131, 2–132.2(e), 2–133(e) and (f), 2–136, and 11–1304(g)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2016 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 2–132.3 and 2–134

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2016 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

Section 11–102

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2016 Volume and 2018 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

2–130.

(g) A person that holds a brewing company off-site permit may use the permit at a nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival that:

(1) has as its primary purpose the promotion of Maryland beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR**; and

(2) is authorized by a local licensing board under § 2–131 of this subtitle.
2–131.

(a) **IN THIS SECTION, “OFF–SITE PERMIT” INCLUDES:**

(1) **A BREWING COMPANY OFF–SITE PERMIT;**

(2) **A DISTILLERY OFF–SITE PERMIT;**

(3) **A RETAIL OFF–SITE PERMIT; AND**

(4) **A WINERY OFF–SITE PERMIT.**

(B) There is a nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival permit.

[(b)] (C) The Comptroller may issue the permit to a nonprofit organization, as defined by § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, that meets the requirements of this section.

[(c)] (D) (1) The permit authorizes the permit holder to:

(i) conduct a nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival for at least 1 day and not more than 3 consecutive days; [and]

(ii) purchase beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** at wholesale to:

1. provide to a consumer a sample that may not exceed:

A. FOR BEER, 4 fluid ounces for each offering; [and]

B. FOR WINE, 1 FLUID OUNCE FOR EACH OFFERING; AND

C. FOR LIQUOR, FOUR SAMPLES OF ONE–QUARTER OF 1 FLUID OUNCE FOR EACH OFFERING; AND

2. sell to a consumer beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** for on– and off–premises consumption; **AND**

(III) CONTRACT WITH A HOLDER OF A RETAIL OFF–SITE PERMIT TO OPERATE A SAMPLING AND SALES AREA.

(2) The permit holder shall provide space at a nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival for holders of [brewing company] off-site permits.

(3) A holder of [a brewing company] AN off-site permit that attends a nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival may provide beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** to a consumer in the same manner as the holder of the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival permit.

(4) The permit holder may provide or sell at the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival only alcoholic beverages provided by the permit holder or a holder of [a brewing company] AN off-site permit that is in attendance.

[(d)] (E) At all times during the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival, the permit holder shall have present at least two agents, one of whom may be the permit holder, who are certified by an approved alcohol awareness program.

[(e)] (F) (1) Not less than 30 days before the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival, a person shall submit an application to the Comptroller.

(2) The application shall:

(i) be on a form that the Comptroller provides;

(ii) state that the primary purpose of the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival is to promote Maryland beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR**;

(iii) provide details of the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival, including the location, dates, and times of operation; and

(iv) include appropriate evidence that the applicant has been given permission by the owner of the property where the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival is to be held.

[(f)] (G) Not less than 15 days before the nonprofit beer, **WINE, AND LIQUOR** festival, the permit holder shall provide the Comptroller with a list of [brewing company] off-site permit holders that will attend.

[(g)] (H) The permit fee is:

(1) \$100, TO PROMOTE A SINGLE PRODUCT CATEGORY;

(2) \$150, TO PROMOTE TWO PRODUCT CATEGORIES; AND

(3) \$200, TO PROMOTE THREE PRODUCT CATEGORIES.

2-132.2.

(e) The permit may be used at the following events:

- (1) the Frederick County Agricultural Fair;
- (2) the Maryland State Agricultural Fair;
- (3) the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair;

(4) the North Beach Friday Night Farmers' Market and four other farmers' markets that are listed on the farmers' market directory of the Maryland Department of Agriculture;

(5) a **NONPROFIT BEER, WINE, AND** liquor festival under § [2-132.3] **2-131** of this subtitle; and

(6) not more than six other events in a year that have as the major purpose of the event an activity:

(i) that is other than the sale and promotion of alcoholic beverages; and

(ii) for which the participation of a distillery is a subordinate activity.

[2-132.3.

(a) There is a liquor festival permit.

(b) The Comptroller may grant the permit to a nonprofit organization, as defined by § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, that meets the requirements of this section.

(c) (1) The permit authorizes the permit holder to:

(i) conduct a liquor festival for at least 1 day but not more than 3 consecutive days; and

(ii) purchase liquor at wholesale to:

1. provide to a consumer at no cost or for a fee not more than four samples that do not exceed one-quarter of 1 fluid ounce for each offering; and

2. sell to a consumer liquor for off-premises consumption.

(2) The permit holder shall provide space at a liquor festival for holders of distillery off-site permits.

(3) A holder of a distillery off-site permit that attends a liquor festival may provide liquor to a consumer in the same manner as the holder of the liquor festival permit.

(4) (i) The permit holder may provide or sell at the liquor festival only alcoholic beverages provided by the permit holder or a holder of a distillery off-site permit who is in attendance.

(ii) A sample may be served that is blended with products manufactured by a holder of a distillery off-site permit and nonalcoholic ingredients.

(d) At all times during the liquor festival, the permit holder shall have present at least two individuals, one of whom may be the permit holder, who are certified by an approved alcohol awareness program.

(e) (1) Not less than 30 days before the day the liquor festival is scheduled to begin, an applicant for the permit shall submit a completed application to the Comptroller.

(2) The application shall:

(i) be on a form that the Comptroller provides;

(ii) state that the primary purpose of the liquor festival is to promote Maryland liquor;

(iii) provide details of the liquor festival, including the location, dates, and times of operation; and

(iv) include appropriate evidence that the applicant has been given permission by the owner of the property where the liquor festival is to be held.

(f) Not less than 15 days before the liquor festival, the permit holder shall provide the Comptroller with a list of distillery off-site permit holders that will attend.

(g) The permit fee is \$100.]

2-133.

(e) The permit may be used only:

(1) at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair;

(2) at the Harford County Farm Fair;

(3) 1 night each week from June through November at the North Beach Friday Night Farmers' Market;

(4) at an event that has as its major purpose an activity:

(i) that is other than the sale and promotion of alcoholic beverages;
and

(ii) for which the participation of a winery is a subordinate activity;

(5) at a farmers' market that is listed on the Farmers' Market Directory of the Maryland Department of Agriculture; and

(6) at a **NONPROFIT BEER, wine, AND LIQUOR** festival that:

(i) has as its primary purpose the promotion of Maryland **BEER, wine, AND LIQUOR**; and

(ii) is authorized by the Comptroller under § [2-134] **2-131** of this subtitle.

(f) Each calendar year, a permit holder may participate in no more than:

(1) 32 events described in subsection (e)(4) of this section or **NONPROFIT BEER, wine, AND LIQUOR** festivals described in § [2-134] **2-131** of this subtitle statewide; and

(2) nine events at any single venue.

[2-134.

(a) There is a wine festival permit.

(b) The Comptroller may issue the permit to a nonprofit organization, as defined by § 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code, that meets the requirements of this section.

(c) (1) The permit authorizes the permit holder to:

(i) conduct a wine festival for at least 1 day but not more than 3 consecutive days; and

(ii) purchase wine at wholesale to:

1. provide to a consumer a sample that does not exceed 1

fluid ounce for each offering; and

2. sell to a consumer wine for on- and off-premises consumption.

(2) The permit holder shall provide space at a wine festival for holders of winery off-site permits.

(3) A holder of a winery off-site permit that attends a wine festival may provide wine to a consumer in the same manner as the holder of the wine festival permit.

(4) The permit holder may provide or sell at the wine festival only alcoholic beverages provided by the permit holder or a holder of a winery off-site permit that is in attendance.

(d) At all times during the wine festival, the permit holder shall have present at least two agents, one of whom may be the permit holder, who are certified by an approved alcohol awareness program.

(e) (1) Not less than 30 days before the wine festival, a person shall submit an application for the permit to the Comptroller.

(2) The application shall:

(i) be on a form that the Comptroller provides;

(ii) state that the primary purpose of the wine festival is to promote Maryland wine;

(iii) provide details of the wine festival, including the location, dates, and times of operation; and

(iv) include appropriate evidence that the applicant has been given permission by the owner of the property where the wine festival is to be held.

(f) Not less than 15 days before the wine festival, the permit holder shall provide the Comptroller with a list of winery off-site permit holders that will attend.

(g) The permit fee is \$100.]

2-136.

(a) There is a [farmers' market] **RETAIL OFF-SITE** permit.

(b) (1) The Comptroller may issue the permit to a holder of a license **ISSUED BY A LOCAL LICENSING BOARD**:

(i) [other than a Class 4 limited winery license,] that allows the license holder to sell alcoholic beverages to the public for off–premises consumption; and

[(ii) that was issued by the local licensing board of the jurisdiction in which the farmers’ market will be held.]

(II) OTHER THAN A CHAIN STORE.

(2) The holder of a permit shall notify the local licensing board of the jurisdiction in which the [farmers’ market] **OFF–SITE EVENT** will be held that the permit has been issued.

(c) (1) A permit may be used only:

(i) at [a farmers’ market that is] **NOT MORE THAN THREE FARMERS’ MARKETS IN THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH THE LOCAL LICENSE HAS BEEN ISSUED, THAT ARE** listed in the farmers’ market directory of the Maryland Department of Agriculture;

[(ii) at the farmers’ market named in the permit; and]

(II) ON INVITATION BY A HOLDER OF A NONPROFIT BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR FESTIVAL PERMIT, AT THE LOCATION OF THE PERMIT, IF THE FESTIVAL IS LOCATED IN THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH THE LOCAL LICENSE HAS BEEN ISSUED OR IN AN ADJOINING JURISDICTION; AND

(iii) during the hours of operation of the farmers’ market [for which it is obtained] **OR THE NONPROFIT BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR FESTIVAL.**

(2) A permit authorizes the holder to:

[(i) occupy stall space at a farmers’ market; and

(ii) subject to subsection (e) of this subsection:

1. offer and sell sealed containers of wine to consumers for consumption off the licensed premises of the farmers’ market; and]

(I) AT A FARMERS’ MARKET, OFFER AND SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR PRODUCED BY STATE–LICENSED MANUFACTURERS TO CONSUMERS FOR CONSUMPTION OFF THE LICENSED PREMISES;

(II) AT A NONPROFIT BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR FESTIVAL,

OFFER AND SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR TO CONSUMERS FOR CONSUMPTION ON AND OFF THE LICENSED PREMISES; AND

[2.] (III) provide at no charge samples of:

1. BEER, NOT TO EXCEED 4 FLUID OUNCES;

2. wine, not to exceed 1 fluid ounce [for each offering to consumers for consumption on the licensed premises of the farmers’ market]; AND

3. LIQUOR, NOT TO EXCEED FOUR SAMPLES THAT DO NOT EXCEED ONE-QUARTER OF 1 FLUID OUNCE.

[(d) The Comptroller may issue not more than one permit for use at each farmers’ market.

(e) All wine offered for sale or samplings by the permit holder shall be the product of a Class 4 limited winery.]

(D) THE FEE IS \$100.

11-102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11-1304.

(g) (1) The license holder may hold another license of a different class or nature.

(2) The license holder may display and sell beer or wine at a festival without holding[:

(i)] a nonprofit beer, WINE, AND LIQUOR festival permit under § 2-131 of this article[; or

(ii) a wine festival permit under § 2-134 of this article].

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Approved by the Governor, May 13, 2019.