WAC 314-02-092 What is a combination spirits, beer, and wine license? (1) Per RCW 66.24.632, a combination spirits, beer, and wine license is a retail license that allows a licensee to sell beer and wine, including strong beer, at retail in bottles, cans, and original containers for off-premises consumption, and to:

(a) Sell spirits in original containers to consumers for off-premises consumption and to permit holders;

(b) Sell spirits in original containers to retailers licensed to sell spirits for consumption on the premises, for resale at their licensed premises according to the terms of their licenses; and

(c) Export spirits.

(2) A combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee that intends to sell to an on-premises retailer must possess a basic permit under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act. This permit must provide for purchasing distilled spirits for resale at wholesale. A copy of the federal basic permit must be submitted to the board. A federal basic permit is required for each location from which the combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee plans to sell to an on-premises retailer.

(3) A sale by a combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee is a retail sale only if not for resale to an on-premises spirits retailer. On-premises retail licensees that purchase spirits from a combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee must abide by RCW 66.24.630.

(4) A combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee must pay to the board 17 percent of all spirits sales.(see WAC 314-02-109 for quarterly reporting requirements).

Reporting of spirits sales and payment of fees must be submitted on forms provided by the board.

(5) The board may issue a combination spirits, beer, and wine license:

(a)(i) For premises comprising at least 10,000 square feet of fully enclosed retail space within a single structure, including store rooms and other interior areas. This does not include any area encumbered by a lease or rental agreement; and

(ii) To applicants that the board determines will maintain appropriate systems for inventory management, employee training, employee supervision, and physical security of the product.

(b) For premises of a former contract liquor store; or

(c) To a holder of former state liquor store operating rights sold at auction.

(6) A spirits retail licensee may apply for a sampling endorsement to conduct spirits, beer, and wine sampling if they meet the following criteria:

(a) Be a participant in the responsible vendor program;

(b) Advertising:

(i) For combination spirits, beer, and wine retail licensees that are grocery stores, advertising samplings may not be placed in the windows or outside of the premises that can be viewed from the public right of way;

(ii) For combination spirits, beer, and wine retail licensees that are specialty stores, advertising of sampling may be advertised but not state that sampling is free of charge.

(c) Samplings are to be conducted in the following manner:

(i) Samplings service area and facilities must be located within the licensee's fully enclosed retail area and must be of a size and design that the licensee can observe and control persons in the area;

(ii) The licensee must provide a sketch of the sampling area. For combination spirits, beer, and wine licensees that are grocery stores, fixed or movable barriers are required around the sampling area to ensure that persons under 21 years of age and apparently intoxicated persons cannot possess or consume alcohol. For combination spirits, beer, and wine licensees that are specialty stores, barriers are not required. The sketch is to be included with the application for the spirits sampling endorsement;

(iii) Each sample may be no more than one-half ounce of spirits, and no more than a total of one and one-half ounces of spirits samples per person during any one visit to the premises. Spirits samples may be altered with mixers, water, and/or ice. For combination spirits, beer, and wine licensees that are grocery stores, beer and wine samples must be two ounces or less, up to a total of four ounces per person during any one visit to the premises. For combination spirits, beer, and wine licensees that are specialty stores, each beer and wine sample must be two ounces or less and no more than 10 ounces of beer and/or wine may be provided to a customer during any one visit to the premises;

(iv) For combination spirits, beer, and wine licensees that are grocery stores, the licensee must have food available for the sampling participants;

(v) Customers must remain in the service area while consuming samples;

(vi) All employees serving spirits, beer, or wine during sampling events must hold a class 12 server permit;

(vii) For combination spirits, beer, and wine licensees that are grocery stores, there must be at least two employees on duty when conducting sampling events;

(viii) Sampling activities are subject to RCW 66.28.305 and 66.28.040.

(d) Licensees are required to send a list of scheduled sampling events to their regional enforcement office at the beginning of each month. The date and time for each sampling must be included;

(e) The cost for a beer and wine sampling endorsement is $200. There is no charge for a spirits sampling endorsement.

(7) A combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee may sell beer in kegs or other containers holding at least four gallons and less than five and one-half gallons of beer. See WAC 314-02-115 regarding keg registration requirements.

(8) A combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee may sell spirits, beer, and wine over the internet. See WAC 314-03-020 and 314-03-030 regarding internet sales and delivery.

(9) A combination spirits, beer, and wine applicant or licensee that is a grocery store may apply for an international exporter endorsement for $500 a year, which allows the sale of beer and wine for export to locations outside the United States.

(10) A combination spirits, beer, and wine licensee may apply for an endorsement to sell beer and cider growlers.

(a) Beer and cider must be sold in sanitary containers provided by the purchaser, licensee or the manufacturer and filled by the employee at the time of purchase.

(b) The taps must be located behind a counter where only employees have access or the taps must have locks preventing use unless unlocked and operated by an employee.

(c) Only employees of the licensee are permitted to operate the taps.

(d) All employees operating a tap must hold a class 12 alcohol server permit.

(e) The cost for the endorsement is $180.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 34.05.353, 66.08.030, 66.08.[0]31, 66.20.010, 66.20.110, 66.20.300, 66.20.310, 66.20.400, 66.24.015, 66.24.035, 66.24.055, 66.24.146, 66.24.179, 66.24.246, 66.24.248, 66.24.320, 66.24.330, 66.24.350, 66.24.354, 66.24.360, 66.24.363, 66.24.371, 66.24.420, 66.24.540, 66.24.550, 66.24.580, 66.24.590, 66.24.600, 66.24.610, 66.24.630, 66.24.710, 69.50.325, and 69.50.342. WSR 26-03-072, s 314-02-092, filed 1/20/26, effective 1/20/26. Statutory Authority: RCW 66.24.010, 66.24.035, and 66.24.330. WSR 18-04-116, § 314-02-092, filed 2/7/18, effective 3/10/18.]