Drive Through Window and Curbside Pickup

Curbside pickup and drive through windows are areas where alcoholic beverages are carried to a consumer that were ordered online or through the phone from an agency liquor store or licensed alcoholic beverage business. The conveyance of alcoholic beverages at the curbside pickup area may only be provided to a consumer who is within 300 feet of the licensed premises or agency liquor store and a drive through window must be on the licensed premises.

Allowed:

- Accepting alcoholic beverage orders online or through the phone.
  - The drive through window and curbside is meant for pickup of those alcoholic beverages ordered online or through the phone.

- Selling alcoholic beverages in original packaging, prepared servings, or growlers depending on the type of establishment or license held.

- Transporting alcoholic beverages through a drive through window within the hours the licensee is allowed in statute based on the type of establishment or license held if ordered ahead of time online or through the phone.

- Carrying alcoholic beverages curbside within the hours the licensee is allowed in statute based on the type of establishment or license held if ordered ahead of time online or through the phone.

Not Allowed:

- Ordering alcohol at the drive through window of the premises or agency liquor store.

- Consuming alcoholic beverages sold for off premises consumption on the premises.

- Ordering alcohol at the curbside area of the premises or agency liquor store.

Specific License Conditions:

- Brewery and Distillery Licenses: prepared servings count towards sample room limits and may only be sold between the hours of 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.

- Restaurant Beer and Wine (RBW) Licenses: food must also be purchased at the same time and stated on the bill and may only be sold between the hours of 11 a.m. and 11 p.m.
Does not include the following license types:

- Golf course beer/wine
- Nonprofit arts
- Yellowstone airport beer/wine
- Montana heritage
- Sacramental wine
- Academic brewer (Flathead Valley Community College (FVCC) and MSU-Billings)
- Continuing Care Retirement Center
- Beer wholesaler and table wine distributor

Definitions

- “Growler” means any fillable, sealable container complying with federal law.
- “Original package” means the sealed container in which a manufacturer packages its product for retail sale. The term includes but is not limited to:
  
  (i) bottles;
  
  (ii) cans; and
  
  (iii) kegs.

- “Prepared Serving” means a container of alcoholic beverages, filled at the time of sale and sealed with a lid, for consumption at a place other than the licensee’s premises.

Date Effective

Effective April 14, 2021 with the passage of House Bill 226 during the 2021 Legislative Session.

AMENDING SECTIONS 16-1-106, 16-2-106, 16-3-213, 16-3-214, 16-3-303, 16-3-411, 16-4-105, 16-4-110, 16-4-115, 16-4-201, 16-4-208, 16-4-209, 16-4-213, 16-4-312, AND 16-4-420, MCA. New sections and newly amended sections to Title 16 will not be available for print until approximately October 2021. Click here to read full version of HB 226.

8.2021 (Please note that information in Department Communications may have been modified, superseded, or made obsolete by changes in federal or state law or the Administrative Rules of Montana. If you need to verify the current validity of any Department Communications, contact us.)