



City of Moorhead Cannabis & Hemp Business Rules & Regulations

City Clerk | 218.299.5304 | cityclerk@moorheadmn.gov
Planning & Zoning | 218.299.5370 | planning@moorheadmn.gov

Background:

Before starting a cannabis or hemp-related business, please note that Moorhead has rules and regulations for these types of businesses. If the FAQs are not clear, please contact cityclerk@moorheadmn.gov or planning@moorheadmn.gov

Cannabis and Hemp Business FAQs:

1. **LOCAL AUTHORITY DELEGATION:** Has Moorhead delegated their cannabis/hemp authority to Clay County?
 - a. No. The City of Moorhead is the local cannabis/hemp authority for properties within city limits.
2. **LICENSE CAPS:** Does Moorhead have a cap on the number of cannabis licenses or retail registrations?
 - a. No. Because there are no caps, all who have state and local approvals may operate in Moorhead.
3. **BUFFERS/SETBACKS:** Does Moorhead have setbacks from schools, daycares, residential treatment facilities, attractions in a public park used by minors or other cannabis businesses?
 - a. No. There are no cannabis or hemp business buffers.
4. **LICENSE TYPES:** What types of cannabis and hemp licenses are permitted in Moorhead?
 - a. All state license types are permitted in Moorhead:

Cannabis Business License Types:

1. Retailer
2. Microbusiness
3. Mezzobusiness
4. Cultivator
5. Manufacturer
6. Wholesaler
7. Transporter
8. Testing facility
9. Event organizer
10. Delivery service
11. Medical cannabis combination business

Hemp Business License Types:

1. Lower-potency hemp edible retailer
2. Lower-potency hemp edible manufacturer
3. Lower-potency hemp edible wholesaler

5. **ZONING:** Does Moorhead have zoning restrictions for cannabis and hemp businesses?
 - a. Yes. Some cannabis uses require zoning permits and some do not. [See Zoning Use Table.](#)
6. **OTHER LOCAL ORDINANCES:** Does Moorhead have any other local ordinances related to cannabis and hemp businesses?
 - a. Yes. Moorhead has a [retail registration ordinance](#) for all cannabis and hemp retail businesses.

7. **RETAIL HOURS OF OPERATION:**

- A. Retail Stores/Dispensaries may sell cannabis and lower-potency hemp products: 10 am to 10 pm, Monday to Sunday *(does not apply to Tribal Dispensary)*
- B. Bars/Restaurants may only sell lower-potency hemp products: 8:00 am - 2:00 am Monday to Saturday and 10:00 am - 2:00 am Sunday *(depending upon liquor license type)*

8. **OTHER CITY LICENSE RESTRICTIONS:**

- a. Tobacco License: Can I sell tobacco in my cannabis or hemp retail business?
 - i. No. Tobacco cannot be sold in the same location as cannabis or hemp products.
- b. Liquor License: Can I sell liquor in my cannabis or hemp retail business?
 - i. Cannabis - No. You cannot sell cannabis products if you have a liquor license.
 - ii. Lower-potency hemp products - Yes. You may request a state registration/license to sell lower-potency hemp products along with your liquor license.

9. **DRUG PARAPHERNALIA:** Can I sell drug paraphernalia along with cannabis or hemp products?

- a. Yes

10. **REGULATORY STEPS FOR OPENING A CANNABIS OR HEMP-RELATED BUSINESS IN MOORHEAD:**

- 1. Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) License Application/Become Qualified Applicant
- 2. Search for Location/Verify Zoning at planning@moorheadmn.gov
- 3. Verify Building & Fire Code requirements for selected location at buildingcodes@moorheadmn.gov
- 4. OCM Pre-Approval/Become Preliminarily Approved Applicant *(after background checks)*
- 5. Request Zoning Verification Letter and/or Zoning Permit for Selected Location at planning@moorheadmn.gov *(proof of intent to lease or purchase required)*
- 6. Non-Retail Sales Businesses Ready to Operate:
 - a. If you have verified and received approval for Building & Fire Code requirements for selected location at buildingcodes@moorheadmn.gov
 - b. If you have received your OCM license.
- 7. Retail Sales Businesses Ready to Operate *(including Bars/Restaurants)*:
 - a. Request Retail Registration about 1-2 weeks before opening by contacting planning@moorheadmn.gov
 - b. Complete form, submit required attachments and [pay annual fee](#) online.
 - c. Applicant will schedule required Moorhead Building Codes, Moorhead Police Department and Moorhead Fire Department Inspections *(MFD inspections not required for all uses)*
 - d. Once items a - c have been completed to the City's satisfaction, your Retail Registration will be approved
 - e. Once you have been issued the Retail Registration and the OCM license, you may commence sales after posting both in your business.

Questions about your pending state cannabis license applications: [Office of Cannabis Management](#)

Questions about your pending state lower-potency hemp edible (LPHE) or hemp-derived cannabinoid products (HDCPs) registration/license applications: [Office of Cannabis Management](#)

[Office of Cannabis Management](#)

[2023 Cannabis Law](#)