



# City of Moorhead Cannabis & Hemp Business Rules & Regulations

City Clerk | 218.299.5304 | [cityclerk@moorheadmn.gov](mailto:cityclerk@moorheadmn.gov)  
Planning & Zoning | 218.299.5370 | [planning@moorheadmn.gov](mailto: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](mailto:cityclerk@moorheadmn.gov) or [planning@moorheadmn.gov](mailto: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](mailto:planning@moorheadmn.gov)
- 3. Verify Building & Fire Code requirements for selected location at [buildingcodes@moorheadmn.gov](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](#)