



Free Nevada Liquor License Checklist

Your Step-by-Step Guide to Getting Approved Without the Headaches

Step 1: Determine the License Type

Choose the correct license before you begin—this affects everything.

- ☐ Importer/Wholesaler License
- ☐ Manufacturer License
- ☐ Retail License (via local city/county)

***Tip:** If you sell alcohol directly to customers (bars, restaurants, etc.), you need a retail license from the city or county.*

Step 2: Check Local Requirements

Every city/county has unique rules. Before applying:

- ☐ Confirm zoning laws allow alcohol sales
- ☐ Apply for a local business license
- ☐ Pass fire, health, and safety inspections
- ☐ Schedule city council or zoning board reviews (if applicable)

Step 3: Gather Required Documents

Prepare these **before** applying to avoid delays:

- ☐ Completed Nevada Liquor License Application
- ☐ Nevada Business Registration Certificate
- ☐ Business Tax Permit
- ☐ Federal TTB Approval
- ☐ Fictitious Firm Name Certificate (DBA)
- ☐ Personal history/background forms for all owners



- ☐ Floor plan or site layout (some localities require this)
- ☐ Lease or deed for business location

Step 4: Submit the Application

Where to submit depends on your business type and location:

- ☐ Submit to Nevada Department of Taxation (Manufacturer/Importer)
- ☐ Submit to City or County Board (Retail License)

Cities requiring city board review (check if applicable):

- ☐ Las Vegas
- ☐ Reno
- ☐ North Las Vegas
- ☐ Henderson
- ☐ Carson City
- ☐ Sparks
- ☐ Mesquite
- ☐ Fallon
- ☐ Ely
- ☐ Elko

Step 5: Pay All Fees

Double-check all required fees:

License Type	State Fee
Importer (Beer Only)	\$150
Importer (All Alcohol)	\$500
Wholesaler (Beer Only)	\$75
Wholesaler (All Alcohol)	\$250
Brewpub / Brewery / Winery	\$75
Rectifier / Distiller	\$550



- ☐ Sales Tax Permit (\$15 per in-state location)
- ☐ Local city/county license fees (often \$500–\$5,000+ annually)

Pro Tip: Pay fees **before July 1st** annually to avoid license cancellation.

Step 6: Secure a Liquor Surety Bond

Bond is required to protect the state and ensure tax compliance.

Bond Type	Amount Required
Beer Only (Wholesale)	\$10,000
All Alcohol (Wholesale)	\$50,000
Brewer / Winemaker / Brewpub	\$1,000
Rectifier	\$50,000

- ☐ Work with a licensed surety provider
 - ☐ Pay premium (usually 1–15% of bond value, based on credit)
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Step 7: Final Approval + License Display

Once approved:

- ☐ Receive and prominently display liquor license
- ☐ Pay annual renewal fees (before July 1)
- ☐ Track deadlines to avoid cancellation
- ☐ Set up reminders for next year's renewal

Ongoing Maintenance

- ☐ Renew license annually
- ☐ Pay all taxes and fees on time
- ☐ Update zoning/city changes if expanding or relocating