



## QUICK GUIDE | GENERAL GUIDANCE FOR INTERNET RETAILERS

All individuals and entities licensed as off-premise internet retailers to distribute and sell alcohol in closed containers from their premises must ensure their operations are compliant with [Title 25 of the D.C. Official Code and Title 23 of the D.C. Municipal Regulations](#). The following guidance summarizes important rules governing the conduct of licensees.

### SELLING PRIVILEGES

Off-premise retailers may only sell products authorized by their license class and endorsements. A licensee solely holding:

- An Off-premise Retailer's Class AI License may only sell beer, wine, and spirits in closed containers.
- An Off-premise Retailer's Class BI License may only sell beer and wine in closed containers.

An Off-premise Retailer's Class AI License holder is also permitted to sell directly to licensed caterers.

### INTERNET ONLY OPERATION REQUIREMENT

All businesses operating under an Off-Premise Retailer's Class AI and BI License may not operate a physical location open to the public where alcohol may be purchased.

### TASTING PERMIT

An Off-premise Retailer's Class AI and BI License holder is eligible to apply for a tasting permit. The permit allows the license holder to offer sampling of alcoholic beverages during its hours of operation so long as the sampling is not open to the public and limited to temporary and festival license holders. Off-Premise Retailer's Class AI may also offer tastings to caterers. License holders may also request permission to conduct tastings closed to the public in the common area of any off-site storage area approved by the ABC Board.

### ABC MANAGER EXCEPTION

An Off-Premise Retailer's Class AI and BI License holders are exempt from the requirement to have a licensed manager during the establishment's hours of sale so long as the license holder is present or the premises are not open to the public.

### CONTACT ABRA

For more information, visit [abra.dc.gov](http://abra.dc.gov), call (202) 442-4423, or email [abra@dc.gov](mailto:abra@dc.gov).