



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 you have questions, 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 setback 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 (**Macrobusiness in 2027**)

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. Licensed cannabis retail sales are limited to 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Monday to Sunday (*does not apply to Tribal Dispensary*)
- B. Licensed lower-potency hemp edible retail sales are limited to 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. Monday to Saturday and 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 a.m. Sunday.

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 liquor and cannabis products in the same location.
 - ii. Lower-potency hemp products - Yes. You may request a state license to sell lower-potency hemp products along with liquor products.

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 and/or Zoning Permit for Selected Location at planning@moorheadmn.gov (*proof of intent to lease or purchase required*)

- 6. **Non-Retail Sales Businesses:**
 - a. Once OCM sends zoning verification for selected site, you will receive an email from the City of Moorhead Cannabis Business Registration portal (*please monitor spam folder*)
 - i. Complete registration and provide requested information and documents.
 - b. Have you received approvals from Moorhead Planning & Zoning, Building Codes, Fire Department, Sanitation and Wastewater for selected location?
 - i. You will need all departments to sign off before you may start operating.
 - c. Have you received your OCM license?
 - i. In addition to a & b, you must be granted your OCM license before you start operating.

- 7. **Retail Sales Businesses** (*including Bars/Restaurants*):
 - a. Once OCM sends zoning verification for selected site, you will receive an email from the City of Moorhead Cannabis Business Registration portal (*please monitor spam folder*)
 - i. Complete registration and provide requested information, documents and fee.
 - b. Have you received approvals from Moorhead Planning & Zoning, Building Codes and Fire Department for selected location?
 - ii. You will need all departments to sign off before you may start operating.
 - c. Have you received your OCM license?
 - i. In addition to a & b, you must be granted your OCM license before you start operating.

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