

**WAC 314-55-055 Marijuana retailer license forfeiture.** (1)(a) A marijuana retailer's license is subject to forfeiture if the retailer is not fully operational and open to the public after twelve months of issuance of the license or November 1, 2018, whichever is later. No marijuana retailer's license is subject to forfeiture within the first nine months of issuance.

(b) Fully operational means the business meets the following criteria for at least twelve consecutive weeks within a twelve-month period after issuance of the license before or after the effective date of this section:

(i) Is open to the public for a minimum of five hours a day between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 midnight, three days a week;

(ii) Posts business hours outside of the premise in the public view; and

(iii) Reports monthly sales from the sale of marijuana products and pays applicable taxes.

(2)(a) A marijuana retailer's license will not be subject to forfeiture if the licensee has been incapable of opening a fully operational retail marijuana business due to actions by the city, town, or county with jurisdiction over the licensed business to include:

(i) The adoption of a ban or moratorium that prohibits the opening of a retail marijuana business; or

(ii) The adoption of an ordinance or regulation related to zoning, business licensing, land use, or other regulatory measure that has the effect of preventing a licensee from receiving an occupancy permit from the jurisdiction or which otherwise prevents a licensed marijuana retailer from becoming operational.

(b) The board has the sole discretion to grant exceptions to the license forfeiture process if a marijuana retailer licensee has had circumstances occur that are out of their control such as a natural disaster.

(c) Adequate documentation will be required to verify any of the exceptions to license forfeiture in this section. It is the licensee's responsibility to inform the WSLCB if conditions change, such as an adjustment to zoning requirements, changes to a ban or moratorium, or other circumstances that would allow the licensee to operate. If the underlying condition exempting a marijuana retail license from forfeiture under subsection (2)(a) or (b) of this section is removed, then the twelve-month time frame to become fully operational and open to the public requirement under subsection (1) of this section will begin from the time the condition exempting the retail license from forfeiture is removed.

(3) A retailer that receives notice of license forfeiture under this section from the WSLCB may request an administrative hearing under chapter 34.05 RCW. A request for a hearing must be made in writing and received by the WSLCB no later than twenty days after service of the notice. Requests submitted in paper form may be delivered to the WSLCB in person during normal business hours at 3000 Pacific Avenue S.E., Olympia, WA 98501, or mailed to the WSLCB. Mailed appeal requests must be addressed to: WSLCB, ATTN: Adjudicative Proceedings Coordinator, P.O. Box 43076, Olympia, WA 98504-3076 or, for certified mail, WSLCB, ATTN: Adjudicative Proceedings Coordinator, 3000 Pacific Avenue S.E., Olympia, WA 98501.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 69.50.325, 69.50.342, and 69.50.345. WSR 18-12-046, § 314-55-055, filed 5/30/18, effective 6/30/18.]