



California's Blueprint for Reopening Craft Breweries

CALIFORNIA CRAFT BREWERS ASSOCIATION GUIDELINES FOR TIERED REOPENING OF CRAFT BREWING INDUSTRY

As county health departments work to reopen their local economies and small businesses, the California Craft Brewers Association (CCBA) has developed the following resource to help guide department staff on the reopening protocols applicable to this sector of the hospitality industry. Craft breweries have a different set of guidelines for reopening than their hospitality industry counterparts —including restaurants and bars — due to the unique nature of these manufacturing small businesses. This overview is designed to clarify the California Department of Public Health requirements for craft breweries.

WHAT IS A CRAFT BREWERY?

A Craft Brewery is a small, regionally focused manufacturing facility whose primary purpose is to produce beer and sell beer directly to consumers or into the supply chain (distributing to restaurants, grocery stores, etc.). A craft brewery holds a license from the state Alcoholic Beverage Control, typically either a type 23 or 01 manufacturing license.

A Type 23 and 01 Craft Brewery is also allowed to operate a Brewery Tasting Room at the same location as their manufacturing facility so that consumers can taste the beer produced by that brewery onsite.

WHAT ARE CRAFT BREWERIES ALLOWED TO DO IN EACH TIER OF THE STATE'S REOPENING PLAN?

As manufacturing facilities, craft breweries are allowed to sell the beer they produce either to retailers, distributors or directly-to-consumers at every tier of reopening.

Additionally, the state of California determined that a Brewery Tasting Rooms can reopen under "restaurant" guidelines so long as they provide a bona fide meal in the same transaction as alcohol via a food partner (onsite caterer, food truck or local restaurant). The California Alcoholic Beverage Control has defined a "bona fide" meal on their website at abc.ca.gov.

IN THE WIDESPREAD (PURPLE) TIER

- A Craft Brewery can offer to-go sales directly to consumers at their facility.
- A Brewery Tasting Room is required to offer a bona fide meal in the same transaction as alcohol to open for onsite, OUTDOOR dining.

IN THE SUBSTANTIAL (RED) TIER

- A Craft Brewery can offer to-go sales directly to consumers at their facility.
- A Brewery Tasting Room is required to offer a bona fide meal in the same transaction as alcohol to open onsite for OUTDOOR dining and INDOOR dining at 25% capacity or 100 people (whichever is fewer).

IN THE MODERATE (ORANGE) TIER

- A Craft Brewery can offer to-go sales directly to consumers at their facility.
- A Brewery Tasting Room is required to offer a bona fide meal in the same transaction as alcohol to open INDOOR dining at 50% capacity or 200 people (whichever is fewer).
- Additionally, Brewery Tasting Rooms are allowed to open OUTDOOR service without requiring a meal purchase.

IN THE MINIMAL (YELLOW) TIER

- A Craft Brewery can offer to-go sales directly to consumers at their facility.
- Brewery Tasting Rooms are allowed to open both INDOOR service at 50% capacity or 200 people (whichever is fewer) along with OUTDOOR service, without requiring a meal purchase either indoor or outdoor.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

The following terms are used in this guidance and within both state and county health orders.

Craft Brewery: A beer manufacturer with a type 23 or O1 license to produce beer, as authorized by the California Alcoholic Beverage Control.

Since the start of COVID-19 health orders requiring closures of many businesses (March 17, 2020) craft breweries have been allowed to continue to produce, distribute, and sell beer to licensed wholesalers and retailers according to both state and federal guidance on essential manufacturing industries. According to state and federal manufacturing guidelines, craft beer manufacturers in California are also allowed to sell beer “to go” directly to consumers without being open for onsite service at their Brewery Tasting Room and allowed to operate these to-go sales during state and county shut down orders.

Craft Brewery Tasting Room: A Type 23 and O1 craft brewery is allowed to operate a Brewery Tasting Room as a component of their beer manufacturing license and at the same facility so that consumers can taste the beer made by that manufacturer onsite.

Brewpub: A licensed beer manufacturer with a type 23 or O1 license that additionally operates a full service restaurant at their facility. These businesses are restaurants and follow all guidance for “restaurants” outlined by state and county level health orders.

Some Brewpubs may hold a type 75 license from the ABC, which has different privileges, including allowing the sale of spirits on the premise. These licenses should also follow all “restaurant” guidelines per the state of California.

Licensed premise: The area on which the craft brewery may both produce and sell beer, according to the Alcohol Beverage Control. This area is typically clearly marked either by walls, fencing or other barriers.

To-Go Sales: Type 23 and O1 licensed beer manufacturers are allowed to sell the beer they produce on their licensed premise “to go” directly to consumers. This sale does not need to occur in the same transaction as a meal since this is a manufacturing license privilege.

Onsite Sales: The sale of beer that occurs on the licensed premise of the manufacturer.

Onsite Service: The sale of beer that occurs on the licensed premise of the beer manufacturer specifically for consumption onsite.

QUESTIONS?

The CCBA is here as a resource to help county public health officials and department staff understand the nuanced and highly regulated craft brewing industry and help to encourage local, voluntary compliance among its membership.

Please feel free to contact the CCBA's Associate Executive Director, Leia Bailey (leia@californiacraftbeer.com or 916-228-4260) at any time with questions regarding the license or business structure of the craft breweries in your community or for guidance on how to communicate to the craft breweries in your county.

ABOUT CCBA

More information about the CCBA can be found at www.californiacraftbeer.com.

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