



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division

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NEW and RENEWAL APPLICATION BETELNUT CONTROL LICENSE

Application forms and other required documents for new and renewal must be completed (typed or printed legibly) before submitting to the Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control (ABTC) Division. If you have any questions, please call the ABTC Division, Department of Commerce at telephone numbers 664-3065/664-8018/664-8024.

REQUIREMENTS

All application and supporting documents must be verified by an ABTC representative prior to assessing any fees. The following documents should be submitted to the ABTC division for review:

For Class-1: Betelnut Import/Distributor License - (\$75) License Fee, (\$50) Filing Fee

1. Copy of Business License:
 - a) If applicant is importing betelnut products and distributing to retail stores (copies of import/export and wholesale business license).
 - b) If applicant locally distributes betelnut products to retail stores (copy of wholesale business license).
2. Copy of Valid I.D. (Driver's License, Passport, or other Gov't issued identification document):
 - a) If Corporation (ID from President only)
 - b) If LLC (ID from Primary or Principal member/manager only)
 - c) If Partnership (ID from Primary partner only)
3. Map of exact business location (please include street name)
4. Payment Receipt (after review of application and assessment has been made by ABTC)

For Class-2: Betelnut Retail Sales License – (\$75) License Fee, (\$50) Filing Fee

1. Copy of Business License (retail general merchandise)
2. Copy of Valid I.D. (Drivers License, Passport, or other Gov't issued identification document):
 - a) If Corporation (ID from President only)
 - b) If LLC (ID from Primary or Principal member/manager only)
 - c) If Partnership (ID from Primary partner only)
3. Map of exact business location (please include street name)
4. Payment Receipt (after review of application and assessment has been made by ABTC)

IMPORTANT NOTICE (Please Read):

I. License Required

A person or business entity shall be required to obtain a Betel Nut Control License issued by the Department of Commerce, Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control (“ABTC”) Division prior to engaging in the importation and/or selling of Betel Nut in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

II. License Applications

- a) Applications for any Betel Nut Control License or transfer of any license shall be submitted upon proper forms to be provided and approved by the Secretary or his/her designee.
- b) Each application must be properly and completely filled out and accompanied by any and all required data supplementing the application form. If the Secretary or his/her designee determines that additional information is necessary, consideration of the application may be postponed and a reasonable period of time may be afforded to the applicant to comply with this requirement.
- c) A deposit of \$50.00 to cover the cost of processing the application must accompany all applications for license. Full payment of the \$75.00 license fee is due and payable at the time the license is issued.
- d) An assessment of \$25.00 shall cover the cost of any amendment of license made or duplication of license requested in addition to the filing fee of \$50.00.

III. Betel Nut Display and Required Sign

- a) A person or business entity shall ensure that betel nut is displayed in accordance with this section. Betel nut shall not be displayed openly or in any manner in any part of the business premises generally open to the public. Such packages or bags of betel nut shall be secured underneath or behind the cashier counter at the point of sale, which can only be accessed by the owner or an authorized agent (cashier) of the retail establishment upon the request from a person of legal age to purchase such item or product.
- b) Any person or business entity which sells or permits to be sold on its premises betel nut shall clearly, continuously, and conspicuously post signs reading **“BETEL NUT SALE IS PROHIBITED TO PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 18”** at the area where the betel nut is displayed or available for sale, and next to any cash register or any other place(s) where such items may be purchased from the point of sale. Said signs shall be at least eleven (11) inches by eight and one-half (8.5) inches in dimension, and the letters on said signs shall be printed in a bright color, with large capitalized letters, printed in a plain easily readable font or lettering style.

IV. Application Review

- a) Upon inspection and investigation, and in reference to the guidelines set forth in the regulations, the Secretary or his/her designee shall consider the application and shall within fifteen (15) days give its decision, granting or refusing, the application.
- b) If the Secretary or his/her designee decides in favor of the applicant or licensee, the applicant or licensee shall be promptly notified of the decision. If the Secretary or his/her designee decides otherwise, an appropriate decision and order shall be issued and provided to the applicant or licensee. The Secretary shall explain his/her findings to support his/her decision. The Secretary or his/her designee shall within a reasonable amount of time send a certified copy thereof to the applicant or licensee.
- c) Where an application for license has been denied, a person aggrieved by such a denial shall be entitled to a review of the decision pursuant to the procedures established under the Administrative Procedures Act, 1 CMC §§ 9108-9115.
- d) Judicial review shall be as provided by law.