

# WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §11-16-6

**§11-16-6. License in one capacity only; no connection between different licensees; when brewer may act as distributor; credit and rebates proscribed; brewer, resident brewer, and brewpub requirements.**

(a) A person shall not be licensed in more than one capacity under the terms of this article, and there shall be no connection whatsoever between any retailer, distributor, resident brewer, or brewer, and a person shall be interested, directly or indirectly, through the ownership of corporate stock, membership in a partnership, or in any other way in the business of a retailer, if the person is at the same time interested in the business of a brewer, resident brewer or distributor. A resident brewer may act as distributor in a limited capacity for his or her own product from the resident brewery or place of manufacture or bottling, but a resident brewer, is not permitted to act as a distributor as defined in §11-16-3 of this code: *Provided*, That nothing in this article may prevent a resident brewer from using the services of licensed distributors as specified in this article. A resident brewer or distributor may sell to a patron for personal use and not for resale, quantities of draught beer in original containers that are no larger in size than one-half barrel for off-premises consumption. A resident brewer who also has a brewpub license may sell nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating craft beer produced by the resident brewer in cans, bottles, or sealed growlers, pursuant to §11-16-6b of this code, for personal consumption off of the brewpub's licensed premises and not for resale.

In order to promote the state's hospitality and tourism industry, as well as promoting economic development within the state by supporting the development of local breweries, including the application for licensure of brewery owners seeking licensure as a resident brewer in this state while licensed in other states, the commissioner may not consider licensure in such other states as a limiting factor or as the basis of licensure denial when evaluating applications for licensure as a resident brewer in this state. Any applicant seeking licensure as a resident brewer in this state (1) must meet all requirements for licensure as a resident brewer in this state, (2) must be in good standing in all other jurisdictions wherein the applicant is licensed as a brewer or resident brewer as such terms are defined in the licensing jurisdiction and, (3) must never have had a license revoked in any other state; *Provided*, that persons licensed as resident brewers in this state are limited to producing 25,000 barrels of non-intoxicating beer and limited to self-distribution rights of 10,000 barrels of non-intoxicating beer, and such production and distribution limits shall apply, in the aggregate, whether produced in another state or West Virginia, as to all non-intoxicating beer produced by a person licensed as a resident brewer in West Virginia.

(b) It is unlawful for any brewer, resident brewer, manufacturer, or distributor to assist any retailer or for any retailer to accept assistance from any brewer, manufacturer, or distributor, accept any gifts, loans, forbearance of money or property of any kind, nature, or description, or other thing of value, or give any rebates or discounts of any kind whatsoever,

except as permitted by rule, or order promulgated by the commissioner in accordance with this article.

(c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b) of this section, a brewpub may offer for retail sale nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating craft beer so long as the sale of the nonintoxicating beer or nonintoxicating craft beer is limited to the brewpub's licensed premises, except as provided in §11-16-6b of this code.

(d) A brewer or resident brewer licensed under this section may also be licensed under §60-4-1 *et seq.* of this code: *Provided*, That the holder of the license meets all the requirements for the additional licenses required by the commissioner and pays all fees related to the license: *Provided, however*, That the licensee maintains all the rights and privileges associated with the license.