



**UPDATED**  
December 29, 2020

**CONTACT:** Aaron Rummage  
**OFFICE:** 615-741-7628

## **Coronavirus Related Questions for Retail Package Stores**

### **Q: Are retail package stores allowed to remain open?**

A: Yes, unless your local government has ordered you to close. To date, the governor has not issued any executive order related to the operation of package stores. Many local governments have, however, issued orders requesting nonessential businesses to close during this state of emergency.

Please contact your local government to determine whether you are considered an essential service/business. Here are some links that may be helpful:

[Chattanooga](#)

[Knoxville](#)

[Memphis](#)

[Nashville](#)

### **Q: May a package store provide curbside or drive-through window pickup?**

A: Yes, a retail package store may provide curbside pickup to customers with no additional permit, license, or approval from the TABC. Please note that you must check identification for any person who does not reasonably appear to be an age of fifty (50)

years or older, but we suggest that the customer hold their ID for you to inspect visually without you touching the ID.

**Q: May a package store deliver to customers?**

A: Yes, a package store may deliver to customers themselves or via a licensed delivery service subject to restrictions outlined below. Please note that you must check identification for any person who does not reasonably appear to be an age of fifty (50) years or older, but we suggest that the customer hold their ID for you to inspect visually without you touching the ID. A list of licensed delivery services can be found on our [website](#).

**Q: Does a package store need a bond to deliver alcoholic beverages?**

A: Yes. T.C.A. 57-3-403 requires the posting of a bond of \$1000 with the TABC to “transport any alcoholic beverages” in this state. This is unnecessary if the package store only delivers via a licensed delivery service.

**Q: How does a package store obtain a bond?**

A: There are several companies that will provide bonding services, such as certain insurance and surety companies. The bond must be payable in the amount of \$1,000 to the Tennessee Alcoholic Beverage Commission upon condition that such person will not unlawfully transport or deliver any alcoholic beverages in Tennessee.

**Q: Is there anything else a package store needs to do to deliver alcoholic beverages?**

A: When the bond has been issued by a bonding company, please

email a copy of the bond to the TABC's [licensing and permitting staff](#) along with a statement that the package store will deliver alcoholic beverages. Once such an email is provided to the TABC's licensing and permitting staff, then the package store may immediately begin delivering alcoholic beverages as it requires no approval process. A record of all deliveries shall be maintained in writing and must contain all information concerning the recipient, products delivered, the time of delivery, and place of delivery. Any delivery made by a retailer must be made only to the physical address indicated by the individual placing the delivery order. The delivery must be documented by a verification of the delivery signed by the recipient.

**Q: Do I need a bond to have a drive-through window or do curbside pickup or similar delivery to the store's curb or parking lot?**

A: No. This do not involve the transportation of alcoholic beverages and thus, a bond is not required to perform these activities.

**Q: May I accept an expired driver license as identification?**

A: No. Persons selling alcoholic beverages must check a valid, government-issued (state, local, national, federally recognized tribe, or foreign government) document that includes the photograph and birthday of the customer. Please note that executive orders tolling the expiration date of some forms of identification have lapsed. Expired forms of identification are not acceptable to verify age.

For additional information about retail package stores, see our [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page and our [Retail Package Store License](#) information page. Please follow us on Twitter [@TABC TN](#) for continuing updates.

###