## Requirements for Micro-Producers

June 06, 2025

A micro-producer is defined by Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries (MBLL) as manufacturing cider, mead and wine, beer, spirits, or refreshment beverages, below a total world-wide production threshold by product categories. It is possible to be a micro-producer in some categories and not others, as production volumes are evaluated on a category basis. MBLL determines the thresholds and reviews these regularly.

## **New for 2025**

- New production thresholds for beer and refreshment beverage categories
- New additional micro-producer level for refreshment beverages made with neutral grain spirits (NGS)
  - A new level has been added to this Refreshment Beverage category to include the use of purchased bulk spirits or NGS.
    - Level 1 100% Products must be produced entirely, through active, on-site distillation or fermentation and bottled or packaged at the manufacturing facility without the use of purchased NGS or bulk spirits.
    - **Level 2** 100% Products manufactured using purchased NGS or bulk spirit either in whole, as part of blending, bottling, dilution or re-distillation process.

## Micro-Producer Eligibility (Effective May 1, 2025)

Please note that all documents must be submitted in English or French.

- 1. You qualify as a level 1 micro-producer in a product category when those products:
  - a. Have a worldwide production volume equal to or less than the stated amount for that category.
  - b. Meet established compositional standards as defined by Federal Food and Drug Regulation (FDR) and Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).
  - c. Are made entirely through active on-site distillation or fermentation and packaged at its place of manufacture, with no use of purchased NGS, bulk spirits, or bulk wine.
  - d. Are not grape-based spirits.
  - e. Are not purified flavoured alcohol as determined by FDR and CFIA.
- 2. To qualify as a level 2 micro-producer in the refreshment beverage category:
  - a. All level 1 criteria apply except that purchased NGS or bulk spirits are allowed.
  - b. Using purchased NGS or bulk spirits only qualifies when the mixing, blending and bottling of refreshment beverages is performed on-site at its place of manufacturing.
  - c. Purchasing NGS or bulk spirits means the base spirit was purchased from another producer and using that spirit either in whole, as part of a blending, bottling, dilution or re-distillation process.
- 3. To qualify for micro-producer levels in any category, you must submit the following completed documents to MBLL:
  - a. A completed copy of the Annual Declaration of Production form which can be found on the <u>MBLL</u> <u>partners website</u> under pricing tools and forms.



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- b. Independent confirmation of **2024** calendar year's production volumes. Documentation from a certified independent auditor or government reporting forms such as from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) are acceptable forms of independent confirmation.
- 4. MBLL reserves the right to:
  - a. Determine markup and surcharges on unstandardized products that do not meet FDR or CFIA standards or definitions.
  - b. Not register or list products that do not meet FDR or CFIA standards or definitions.

Please refer to the <u>Manitoba Liquor and Lotteries Pricing Information Manual 2025</u> that can be found on <u>Liquor Agents & Suppliers | Doing Business with Us</u> partners website for the current program production thresholds, markup rates and fees.