

Chapter 4, Article IX, Cannabis License is added as follows:

Chapter 4. Article IX – Cannabis Licenses

Sec. 4-300. – Title

This article is known as the cannabis license ordinance.

Sec. 4-301. – Purpose

The purpose of this article is to establish a cannabis license program for cannabis uses in unincorporated Sonoma County to ensure the uses operate in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, to protect the regulated industry from competing black market operations, and to maintain the public health, safety, and welfare of each community and county as a whole.

Sec. 4-302. – Administration

- A. Administrative authority. This section will be administered under the direction of the board of supervisors, by and through the local authority subject to the standards and criteria contained in this section. The local authority is authorized to develop application forms and procedures and require all information necessary to verify compliance with this article.
- B. Enforcement. The local authority is the enforcing officer for purposes of enforcing this article under Chapter 1.
- C. Review. All decisions made by the local authority under this article are final, subject only to judicial review.

Sec. 4-303 – License Requirements.

- A. License Required. A cannabis use regulated under Chapter 26 must be licensed under this article. Personal cultivation exempt from the land use permit requirement under Chapter 26 is also exempt from this cannabis license requirement.
- B. Compliance Generally. A licensee must comply with all applicable laws and regulations, including holding an active state license as required by the California Department of Cannabis Control. To obtain or maintain a license the site cannot have any unresolved violations related to the cannabis operation.
- C. Consent to Inspections. A licensee must consent to inspections that may be conducted at any time during normal business hours, with or without prior notice.
- D. Term and renewal. A license expires one year from the date of issuance and must be renewed annually.
- E. Tax Compliance. A licensee must comply with Sonoma County Cannabis Business Tax Ordinance, Sonoma County Code Chapter 35.

Sec. 4-304 – License suspension or revocation.

- A. Suspension or Revocation. The local authority may suspend or revoke a license in the event of 1 or more of the following:
 - 1. License issuance was based on inaccurate or incomplete information.
 - 2. Licensee has operated in non-conformance with this article or license.
 - 3. Licensee has failed to pay permitting or licensing fees or civil penalties associated with the cannabis use.
- B. Notice of Suspension or Revocation. To suspend or revoke a license, the local authority must issue a written notice to the licensee. The notice must include:
 - 1. The address of the cannabis operation;
 - 2. License number;
 - 3. License holder; and
 - 4. Reason for suspension or revocation.

- C. Service of Notice. A notice of suspension or revocation must be sent via email and certified mail to the licensee address on file with the local authority.
- D. Effect of Suspension or Revocation.
 - 1. License Suspension. If a license is suspended, a cannabis operation cannot operate on the parcel until the suspension expires. If the license expires during the suspension a license application will not be accepted for the parcel until the suspension expires.
 - 2. License Revocation. If a license is revoked a new license cannot be issued on the same site for 1 year from the date of revocation.

Sec. 4-305 – Fees.

The board of supervisors will establish a schedule of fees for services provided under this section. Services subject to fees may include, but are not limited to, licensing, license renewal, monitoring, and enforcement. Fees may be changed from time to time by a resolution of the board of supervisors.