



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Obtaining Liquor License within the Downtown Noblesville Riverfront Redevelopment District

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**I hear that it is possible to apply for a 3-way license in parts of Downtown Noblesville that only costs \$1,000. Is this true?**

- Yes, within the boundaries of the defined Noblesville Riverfront Redevelopment District.

**What is a Riverfront Redevelopment District (District)?**

- A district where 3-way licenses are made available to eligible establishments for \$1,000 as a way to spur development near a river.

**How did Noblesville find a way to create this District?**

- A piece of state legislation made it available and the Common Council approved the District and with the goal of spurring development in the District.

**Where can I see a map of the District?**

- A map showing the boundaries of the Noblesville Riverfront Redevelopment District is available at the following [link](#).

**Where can I find a copy of the local ordinance establishing the District?**

- You can find a copy of the ordinance at the following [link](#).

**Does my business need to be located next to the river to be eligible?**

- Your space can be up to 1,500 feet from the river as long as it is located within the defined Noblesville Riverfront Redevelopment District boundaries.

**Are there any locations within the District that might not be eligible?**

- Yes. The same state restrictions apply within the District as outside the District. For instance, if your desired location falls within 200 feet of a church or a school, you will need to go through the variance process to see if you might be granted an exception.

**What types of establishments was the District designed to attract?**

- Dining, entertainment, and cultural establishments.



## **Why isn't the District bigger?**

For two reasons:

1. The District was developed as tool to encourage the development in such a way that builds critical mass in a defined area.
2. The District had to meet certain criteria as defined by Indiana State Code such as be within 1,500 feet from the first buildable area on both sides of the river and fall within a redevelopment area.

## **Is there any limit to the number of riverfront licenses that can be issued within the District?**

- The idea behind the District is to further cement downtown as a destination for dining, culture, and entertainment by encouraging these types of establishments. The Noblesville Common Council has capped the amount of three-way licenses to ten (10) within this district. There are, however, requirements above and beyond those set by the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission (ATC) that any business applying for a riverfront license must meet.

## **What is the role of the Noblesville Economic Development Department?**

- The Noblesville Economic Development Department administers the local Riverfront Application Review process.

## **How do I contact the Noblesville Economic Development Department?**

- You may phone the Noblesville Economic Development Department at 317-776-3645 during regular business hours, 8am – 4:30pm EST.

## **How will I know if my business concept is eligible?**

- Review the eligibility requirements at the following [link](#). You may also schedule a meeting with Noblesville Economic Development Department to review the requirements.

## **Who issues the license?**

The license is issued by the State of Indiana through the Alcohol and Tobacco Commission.

## **How much does a 3-way riverfront license cost?**

- \$1,000 payable to the State.



### **What are the steps to apply?**

1. Check to see that your location is within the District and that you meet the local requirements.
2. Meet with the local Riverfront License Review Committee.
3. If your application is approved, a copy of the Mayor's approval letter, Riverfront Redevelopment Ordinance and aerial map of the District will be provided to you for your ATC Application packet.
4. Fill out the ATC Application for New or Transfer Permit.
5. Appear before the local alcoholic beverage board for their recommendation.
6. Submit to a final inspection of the premises by the State Excise Police.

### **How long will it take for me to go through the local approval process?**

- Typically, no longer than 30 days from submission of a completed application.

### **How long does it typically take to receive approval from the State?**

- Typically, 90-120 days from submission of a completed application.

### **I am in a hurry. Do I need to wait for local approval before I send my application to the ATC?**

- No. You may submit your completed application to the ATC along with the required attachments and a note indicating that the letter from the Mayor is to follow. If you are approved at the local level, we will send the letter directly to the ATC for you.

### **If I do not receive local approval for a riverfront license am I still eligible to apply for a regular 221-3 license from the State?**

- Yes.

### **Where can I find the Application for New or Transfer Permit?**

- You can find this form on the ATC website in the following [location](#).



### How do I indicate to the State that I wish to apply for a Riverfront license?

- At the top of page 4, step 5 of the ATC Application for New or Transfer Permit check "Yes" in the section titled "**AIRPORT, REDEVELOPMENT, RIVERFRONT, RAILWAY STATION, CULTURAL CENTER**" and then fill in the word "**Riverfront**" in the blank.

### When applying for a riverfront license do I need to send additional documents along with my completed Application for New or Transfer Permit?

- Yes. You will need to send:
  - a copy of the local ordinance,
  - an aerial map showing the entire boundaries of the District
  - an aerial map showing the entire boundaries of the District with the location of your establishment clearly marked, and
  - a letter from the Mayor in support of their application\*

\* This letter is obtained through the local Riverfront Application Review process and will be provided if your local application is approved.

### I am located within the District and I have an operational 2-way license now. I would love a 3-way license? Can I apply for a riverfront license if I meet the eligibility requirements?

- Yes.

### I am a building owner located within the District. I would love a 3-way license? Can I apply for a riverfront license on behalf of a tenant or potential tenant, if I meet the eligibility requirements?

- Yes. This is allowed by the ATC, though they recommend contacting the Department of Revenue to confirm how to report on this license.

### Can I sell my riverfront license to anyone else once I have it?

- No, unlike a regular 221-3 license, the riverfront license cannot be sold or transferred.

If your question that was not addressed in our Frequently Asked Questions, please contact:

Noblesville Economic Development Department  
City of Noblesville.  
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