

CHAPTER 9  
PERSONAL IMPORTATION OF ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR, WINE, AND BEER

**185—9.1(123) Tax liability.** The division makes no judgment or decision regarding any tax liability resulting from the personal importation of alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer as provided in Iowa Code section 123.10, 123.22, 123.171, or 123.122, as applicable.

[ARC 3994C, IAB 9/12/18, effective 10/17/18; ARC 5192C, IAB 9/23/20, effective 10/28/20]

**185—9.2(123) Personal importation in excess of the amounts provided—waiver.** The administrator may provide for the issuance of a waiver for an individual of legal age desiring to import alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer in excess of the amounts provided in Iowa Code section 123.22, 123.171, or 123.122. The decision on whether the circumstances justify the issuance of a waiver shall be made at the discretion of the administrator upon consideration of all the relevant factors.

**9.2(1) Criteria.** The division may, in response to a completed request, issue a waiver, as applied to the circumstances of a specific situation if the division finds each of the following:

- a. The requester is an individual of legal age;
- b. The requester is an individual who was domiciled outside the state within one year of the request;
- c. The alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer imported pursuant to the waiver shall be only for personal consumption in a private home or other private accommodation and only if it is not sold, exchanged, bartered, dispensed, or given in consideration of purchase for any property or services or in evasion of the requirements of Iowa Code chapter 123; and
- d. The alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer imported pursuant to the waiver shall be in unopened original containers.

**9.2(2) Domicile.** Domicile, for the purposes of establishing when an individual is “domiciled outside the state,” shall be determined in accordance with rule 701—38.17(422).

**9.2(3) Request.** All requests for a waiver to import alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer in excess of the amount provided in Iowa Code section 123.22, 123.171, or 123.122 shall be submitted in writing by completing a request for import authorization form and returning it to the division, as instructed.

**9.2(4) Content of form.** A request for import authorization form shall be prescribed by the division and shall include the following information: the name, date of birth, and personal contact information of the requester; full residential history of the requester for the past three years without gaps; a statement of reasons that the requester believes will justify import authorization; the destination address for the imported alcoholic beverages; the name, date of birth, and personal contact information of the recipient of the alcoholic beverages, if different from that of the requester; a detailed inventory of the alcoholic beverages for which the requester seeks import authorization; and any other information the administrator may require.

**9.2(5) Burden of persuasion.** When a request is filed for a waiver pursuant to this rule, the burden of persuasion shall be on the requester to demonstrate by clear and convincing evidence that the division should exercise its discretion in the granting of the waiver.

**9.2(6) Notice.** The division shall acknowledge a request for a waiver upon receipt of a completed request for import authorization form.

**9.2(7) Additional information.** Prior to granting or denying a request for a waiver, the division may request additional information from the requester relative to the request and surrounding circumstances.

**9.2(8) Investigation.** The division may conduct an investigation as the administrator deems necessary to determine that the requester meets the criteria in subrule 9.2(1) or to verify the accuracy of the information provided by the requester.

**9.2(9) Ruling.** A letter granting or denying a request for a waiver to import alcoholic liquor, wine, or beer in excess of the amount provided in Iowa Code section 123.22, 123.171, or 123.122 shall be in writing and shall contain a description of the precise scope and duration of the waiver if one is issued.

**9.2(10) *Duration of waiver.*** A waiver issued pursuant to this rule shall allow only for the importation of the inventory of alcoholic beverages detailed on the request for import authorization form. If a waiver is granted, there is no automatic right to renewal.

**9.2(11) *Public availability.*** The division shall maintain a record of all waivers granted or denied under this rule. All rulings in response to requests for waivers shall be indexed and available to members of the public at the Alcoholic Beverages Division, 1918 S.E. Hulsizer Road, Ankeny, Iowa 50021. Waivers containing information that the division is authorized or required to keep confidential shall be edited prior to public inspection.

**9.2(12) *Cancellation.*** A waiver issued by the division pursuant to this rule may be withdrawn, canceled, or modified if, after appropriate notice, the division finds any of the following:

*a.* The requester of the waiver withheld or misrepresented material facts relevant to the propriety or desirability of the waiver; or

*b.* The recipient of the waiver has failed to comply with any of the conditions contained in the waiver.

**9.2(13) *Violations.*** Violation of a condition in a waiver is equivalent to a violation of Iowa Code section 123.10, 123.22, 123.171, or 123.122, as applicable. The recipient of a waiver under this rule who violates a condition of the waiver may be subject to the same remedies or penalties as a person who violates the applicable Iowa Code section.

**9.2(14) *Defense.*** After the division grants a waiver under this rule, the waiver is a defense within its terms and the specific facts indicated therein for the recipient of the waiver in any proceedings in which the waiver in question is sought to be invoked.

**9.2(15) *Appeals.*** Granting or denying a request for a waiver is final agency action under Iowa Code chapter 17A.

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These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 123.10, 123.22, 123.59, 123.22, and 123.171.

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