

## **Raw Single Serving Unit Preparation**

Pursuant to the initiated statute approved by Ohio voters, smoking and combustible products are one of the forms of cannabis permitted to be sold in dispensaries. Therefore, the Division of Cannabis Control (DCC or Division) has proposed rules to regulate the safe production and sale of these forms and methods of non-medical cannabis permitted by the initiated statute.

Until such rules are in effect, licensees are not permitted to transfer or sell single serving units. However, some licensees have inquired about preparing for the manufacturing of single serving units as a smoking and combustible product. Therefore, the Division is issuing the following guidance regarding what activities are permitted at this time as it relates to single serving units. Again, the eventual storage, transfer, and sale of single serving units is dependent upon rules permitting those activities becoming effective, which includes review by the Common Sense Initiative and legislative approval by the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review. Therefore, the proposed rule drafts are subject to change before becoming final.

At this time, licensed cannabis processors may only engage in the following activities in the manner and process described below:

- 1) Submit a <u>Change of Operations</u> request for single serving unit equipment and machinery, and the procedures for creating *raw* single serving units. Please include the following:
  - a. Documentation that the cannabis contact surfaces of the equipment are comprised of materials that are smooth, easily cleanable and food safe (for example, stainless steel.) This can be in the form of a specification sheet, if available.
  - b. A standard operating procedure that details:
    - i. How the single serving units will be prepared, including how the cannabis will be processed.
    - ii. Instructions for the operation, cleaning, and maintenance of all associated equipment, as specified by the manufacturer.
- 2) Following approval of a Change of Operations request, obtain and install *raw* single serving unit machinery/equipment.
- 3) Create "practice" runs of raw single serving units.
  - a. Only raw, uninfused, single serving units are permitted to be created at this time.
  - b. All units created at this time are for practice purposes only, including trial use of equipment and SOPs, calibration, and for staff training.
  - c. All flower, shake/trim, and plant material used and units created must be appropriately tracked in Metrc and destroyed immediately in accordance with the processor's waste destruction procedures. No raw single serving units may be maintained. The processor must follow these steps in Metrc in order to be in compliance with this guidance:
    - i. In Metrc, navigate to the Create New Package screen.
    - ii. Create a new package out of the package of bulk flower buds, bulk shake/trim, or plant material that you wish to use in your practice runs.
      - 1. Enter the quantity. This package should only include the amount of material you plan to use.

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- 2. Select the Production Batch Checkbox.
- 3. Enter the following exactly into the Prod. Batch No. free-form text field: "Raw Single Unit Validation." You may add additional information at the end of that phrase if needed for your internal operations/procedures, but "Raw Single Unit Validation" must be included.
- 4. Confirm by pressing Create New Package.
- iii. Once you have the new package created, you may use it for raw single serving unit practice runs as permitted by this guidance.
- iv. Once you have created practice raw single serving units, they **must be destroyed** in compliance with O.A.C. <u>1301:18-3-12</u> and the processor's waste destruction procedures.

Please note, the act of grinding plant material, as is commonly done in the creation of raw single serving units, is a manufacturing process that only licensed cannabis processors are permitted to engage in.

Licensees are not yet permitted to submit advertising, packaging and labeling, or new product concept applications for raw or infused single serving units. The Division will provide further guidance to allow additional activity with regard to single-serving units when appropriate based on the rulemaking process.

As stated above, the Division's rules regarding forms and methods of administration are only proposed at this time and have not been approved by the Common Sense Initiative or Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review. Therefore, the proposed rule drafts are subject to change.

All questions must be directed to the Cannabis Service Center by emailing <a href="mailto:DCCCompliance@com.ohio.gov">DCCCompliance@com.ohio.gov</a>.

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