Selling Eggs in Missouri FAQ's

Licensing

1. If I sell my eggs strictly from my house/farm, do I need a license?

   No, if customers strictly come to your house or farm to purchase the eggs, there is no license required.

2. I am planning on selling my eggs at the farmers' market. What type of license do I need to do that?

   You would need a Retailer's License (R2)

3. I operate a store and would like to sell my eggs from my store, what license must I have to do that?

   You will need a Retailer's License (R1).

4. I have a flock of chickens and want to sell my eggs to a local convenience store or restaurant. What type of license do I need for this?

   You will need a Dealer's License. The license is then based on the number of cases sold.

D1	1 to 25 cases per week	$5.00
D2	26-50 cases per week	$12.50
D3	51-100 cases per week	$25.00
D4	over 100 cases per week	$50.00

5. How do I apply for a Missouri Egg License?

   To apply for an egg license you can go online at https://apps.mda.mo.gov/webforms/Egg-License-Form or you can email mda.dci@mda.mo.gov and a paper application can be sent to you. If you apply online you can pay by credit card, a small processing fee will apply.

6. How long is the license good for?

   The license expires on June 30th of each year. Licenses are not prorated, therefore if you apply in March your license will be issued through June 30th of the current year. License renewals are sent via email or by regular mail depending on the correspondence type chosen at the time of registration.

7. I have a bakery and will be using fresh shell eggs in my baked products. Do I need a Processor's egg license?

   No, a processor egg license allows for processing the eggs into either liquid or frozen eggs.

8. How long will it take to receive my license?

As long as application, payment and any other applicable documents are received the license would be issued, and emailed or mailed within two weeks.

9. How do I renew my egg license?

   To renew your egg license you can mail in your paper egg license renewal form and submit your license fee to obtain a license or you can renew your license online at apps.mda.mo.gov/EggMilkRenewal/ using your license number and PIN# issued on your renewal.

Candling, Packaging and Storage of Eggs

1. Why do I need to candle my eggs? I don't have a rooster.

   All eggs sold to consumers must be candled and graded. Candling is used determine the grade of eggs as listed in the "USDA Grading Manual" Candling is also utilized to show evidence of abnormalities within the egg, which could make it unfit to be sold.

2. I have never candled eggs before, where can I learn how to do this?

   A good reference is the "USDA Grading Manual".

3. What temperature are eggs required to be stored, transported and displayed at?

   Eggs are required to be at 45°F or below.

4. Can I use previously used cartons to package my eggs?

   Yes, as long as the cartons are in clean and sound condition. All markings on the carton that do not pertain to eggs currently in the carton must be removed and updated with the name and address of the person/business packaging the eggs, the size, grade, and the date the eggs are packaged.

5. What are the labeling requirements for egg cartons?

   On each carton you must have the size, grade, name and address of the person or business packing/grading the eggs, and the pack date.

Egg Inspections

1. Will I be getting an inspection?

   Yes, all licensees are subject to at least an annual inspection by a state inspector.

2. What will the inspector be looking for during their inspection?

   a. Licensing requirements are met

   b. Correct labeling on the cartons-size, grade, pack date, and packer/grader name and address information.

   c. Eggs are clean and undamaged

   d. Eggs are being stored at 45°F or below.