

MCES Microbrewery & Brewpub General Permit Comparison

The Industrial Waste & Pollution Prevention (IWPP) Section issues Standard, General, Liquid Waste Hauler, and Special Discharge Permits to industrial users of the Metropolitan Disposal System. Microbreweries and brewpubs are subject to either a Standard or General Permit. The following chart compares Standard and General Permits.

Permit Types:	Standard Industrial Permit	General Discharge Permit
Need for permit based on:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge volumes Wastewater characteristics Treatment requirements Compliance with MCES & EPA limits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 500 BBLs/year or more Annual discharge volume less than 1,000,000 gallons
Annual Permit Fee	\$1075 - \$10,550 (2021 fee range)	\$475 (2021 fee)
Reporting Requirements	1 - 4 times per year	1 time per year
Local Discharge Limits (pH & metals)	Applicable to all Permittees	Applicable to all Permittees
Best Management Practices	Not applicable	Applicable to General Permits for Microbreweries & Brewpubs
Sampling & Analytical Requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specified in Permit Conducted & paid for by Permittee 	Minimum of 2 samples/hour over the course of a normal operating day, 1 - 4 times per year or more when deemed necessary due to wastewater variability and/or compliance issues	Not required (Optional)
Sampling Points	Must meet MCES requirements specified in permit	Must meet MCES requirements specified in permit
Strength Charge Based on:	Sampling and volume data input into MCES Strength Charge formula (See p. 2)	MCES Production-Based Strength Charge (2021 rate = \$0.815 per BBLs)
Strength Charge Determined:	Each reporting period	Once per year
Strength Charge Invoices Issued:	Following reporting period due dates: January 30, April 30, July 30, and October 30	Once per year following report due date: January 30
Sewer Availability Charge (SAC)	SAC volume review done once every reporting period. Every 1,000 gallons discharged over the SAC baseline is subject to an Industrial Capacity Charge.	SAC volume review done once per year. Every 1,000 gallons discharged over the SAC baseline is subject to an Industrial Capacity Charge.

MCES Strength Charge Formula

Strength Charge is based on the volume of wastewater from the industry and the concentration of COD and TSS above the strength charge threshold (COD=500 mg/L and TSS=250 mg/L). Standard strength charge is calculated using the formula below. The Strength Charge formula only affects COD and TSS above domestic values.

Formula	Strength Charge = $[V \times (TSS - 250) \times (8.34) \times (TSS \text{ Rate}) + V \times (COD - 500) \times (8.34) \times (COD \text{ Rate})]$
Strength Charge	= Strength Charge in dollars
V	= Volume in million gallons per reporting period
TSS	= Total suspended solids (TSS) >250 in mg/l. If TSS is <250 mg/l, use 250 mg/l.
COD	= Chemical oxygen demand (COD) > 500 in mg/l. If COD is < 500 mg/l, use 500 mg/l.
250	= TSS threshold value in mg/l
500	= COD threshold value in mg/l
8.34	= Conversion factor for converting mg/l and gallons to pounds
TSS Rate	= Via onsite connection: \$0.2600/lb of excess TSS (2021)
COD Rate	= Via onsite connection: \$0.1300/lb of excess COD (2021)