

F.A.Q. Recyclers

Hawaii Deposit Beverage Container Program

If I choose to operate a certified redemption center, what will be required?

You must receive a solid waste permit and redemption center certification from the Department of Health (DOH). Certified redemption centers are required to collect, transport, process, and market deposit beverage containers.

I am already a permitted recycler in Hawaii, but I do not handle all the materials collected under the law. If I choose to operate a certified redemption center, will I have to accept all containers covered in the law?

Yes. The law requires that certified redemption centers accept all glass, plastic, and metal deposit beverage containers. However, the handling fee provided under this law will allow recyclers to expand the types of materials they collect, including those that which are not currently cost-effective.

Is the 1¢ handling fee per container going to be enough to cover costs?

The combination of the handling fee, additional funding from unredeemed deposits, and the value of the recyclables has been assessed as sufficient to cover the cost of processing the materials. The Department of Health may adjust handling fees in the future depending on recycling rates and amounts of unredeemed deposits.

I operate in an area where distance makes it more expensive for my operations. Will there be additional funding to help me with these additional costs?

Yes. The funds collected from the law will be used to assist with the collection, transporting, processing, and marketing of deposit beverage containers, particularly in remote locations.

Do I have to keep the containers separated by brand?

No. Although some states have a beverage deposit program that requires recyclers to separate by brand, the Hawaii law does not.

For more information contact:
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