Key Requirements for Wholesale Seafood Sales

A wholesale/retail seafood dealer is any entity (person or business) that buys, acquires or handles any species of seafood in Louisiana for sale or resale. A wholesale/retail dealer is the only licensee who can legally purchase seafood from a licensed commercial fisherman and resell it.

**LICENCES AND PERMITS**

**Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (LDWF)**
https://la-web.s3licensing.com/ (renewals only)  
225-765-2887 & 225-765-2898

**Wholesale/Retail Seafood Dealer License**
You either need a license for sales from a fixed business location or for sales from a vehicle—or multiple licenses if selling from more than one location. Each license costs $250.00 for residents and $1,105.00 for non-residents.

**Seafood Transport License**
You must also have this license to legally transport the product to your place of business. The cost is $30 per vehicle.

**Wholesale Out-of-State Crab Shipping License**
If selling crabs outside of Louisiana—whether hard or soft shell, cooked or live—this license is required; the cost is $100.

**State Health Department Permit to Operate**
If you plan on processing (cleaning, shucking, picking, peeling, or packing) at all, you will need a special permit to operate, must register with the FDA, and complete a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan.

**Mobile Vendor’s Permit**
If you sell seafood out of a vehicle, you must have the vehicle inspected by your local sanitarian.

**Wholesale Seafood Distributor Permit**
This permit is required if you are distributing processed and packaged products from other approved processors or dealers.

**Local City/Parish Government**
Various permits and licenses, including general occupational, and mobile vendors permit (in addition to DHH requirement).

**RECORD-KEEPING REQUIREMENTS**

**Business Records**
LDWF requires that records of seafood purchases and sales must be kept for three years, in English. When seafood is bought, you must record the quantity and species, the date purchased, and the name and license number of the fisherman or dealer from whom the purchase was made. Similarly, when seafood is sold, you must keep a record showing the quantity and species, the date, and the name and license number of the person to whom the seafood was sold (or that it was sold to a ‘consumer’).

**Trip Tickets**
Wholesale/retail seafood dealers purchasing seafood directly from commercial fishermen are required to document each transaction on LDWF-issued trip tickets. On or before the 10th of each month, you must send in all the previous month’s trip tickets and a submission sheet. For more information, contact LDWF at 225-765-2449.

**LOUISIANA FISHERIES FORWARD**
Advancing Our Seafood Industry

Let consumers know your seafood is fresh, local and Certified Louisiana Wild Seafood; enroll in the program today at [http://certified.louisianaseafood.com](http://certified.louisianaseafood.com)