



Requirements for Wines Not Yet Imported into the United States

Entries are not required to be registered with an importer in order to be eligible to enter the TEXSOM Awards.

We would be happy to provide Certificate of Label Approval (COLA) assistance to clear wines or spirits through customs if you DO NOT have an importer.

This process can require more than 10 business days **prior to shipment** to complete.

Steps for Certificate of Label Approval(COLA) Processing

1. Enter your wines or spirits into the TEXSOM Awards online submission form at <https://app.texasom.com/>. From your entry we receive the necessary information to create the COLA waiver request: Number of bottles & size of bottles (750 ml or other), company/brand of the entry, type of spirit or wine, and vintage.
2. Email info@texasom.com to notify us that you require COLA Waiver assistance along with any questions or requests.
3. The TEXSOM Awards team will create a COLA request letter and process it through our importer partner with the TTB.
4. The TEXSOM Awards team will email you the COLA Waiver upon receipt to include in your shipment.
5. Complete and include the PROFORMA Invoice for international shipping noting the contents as "wines" or "spirits" for sample only, "not for sale".
6. Please do not ship your submissions or pay for your entries before you have received your COLA waiver approval from TEXSOM.
7. All applicable taxes and duties are to be paid by the shipper/entrant on imported products.
8. Any Country of Origin markings will be indicated in English and each individual shipment shall bear a label stating the following:
 - a. "Sample Only" – " Not for sale" or similar phrase.
 - b. Each individual container will bear a label with the government health warning statement mandated by law.
 - c. For wine the product will also contain a "Contains Sulfites" label.

If you have an importer, you can process Certificate of Label Approval (COLA) documents to allow the entries to clear customs with your own importer. Waiver assistance is only available to those companies that do not have importers.

If you have any further questions, please contact us anytime at (214) 886-1665 or info@texasom.com.