



BUILDING & COMMUNITY SERVICES

CATERING GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are required to obtain a permit for food service.

1. Applications for and issuance of Temporary Food Establishment Permits are at 401 S. Rogers in the Building & Community Services. **Applications and fees should be made at least 48 hours in advance of the event. Applications and fees will not be accepted at the time of the event.**

2. The Temporary Food Establishment can operate at a designated fixed location within the City limits only.

3. Only approved food will be permitted. All personnel handling food must obtain a food handler safety course certification and have one certified food manager on-site at all times.

4. HOME PREPARATION OR STORAGE OF FOOD IS NOT ALLOWED.

5. All Temporary Food Establishments must work in association with a commissary that is inspected and permitted by a regulatory agency (i.e.: state, county, or municipal) or in a facility that meets the requirements set forth by the Texas Food Establishments Rules.

6. Suitable hair restraints, including hairnets, caps, or hairsprays, are required in food preparation and serving areas.

7. Use of tobacco in all forms is prohibited in food preparation and/or service areas.

8. All foods, food containers, utensils, napkins, straws, and single service materials must be stored well above the floor and adequately protected from splash, dust, insects, weather, or other contamination.

9. All condiments, including onions, relish, sauces, peppers, catsup, mustard, etc., available for customer self-service must be available in single self-service packets or be dispensed from sanitary automatic dispensers.

10. Non-Permanent Temporary Food Establishments can prepare potentially dangerous food items (potentially dangerous food item is a food that requires temperature control; this includes food of animal origin that is raw) if the following provisions are met:

a. Must have a person on site at all times during operation of the establishment that possesses a certified food manager certificate.

b. Facilities used for operation of the temporary establishment must meet the provisions listed under item 12 of these guidelines in addition to the following:

1. Cooking, refrigeration, and all other required equipment must be located inside a concession trailer unit designed specifically for food preparation;

2. Refrigeration equipment must be manufactured for its specific use (coolers with ice or containers using dry ice are not acceptable);

3. Food preparation must take place inside the concession trailer unit.



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11. All meat, dairy, and perishable food products must be stored at 41° degrees Fahrenheit or colder or at 135° degrees Fahrenheit or hotter.

12. PREPARING OR DISPLAYING FOOD IN AN OPEN UNPROTECTED AREA IS NOT ALLOWED. THIS INCLUDES PREPARING FOODS IN/ON OPEN-PIT BARBECUES, CHARCOAL GRILLS, BUTANE OR PROPANE COOKERS, OR SIMILAR METHODS. Adequate protection is required.

13. All establishments that handle or prepare unpackaged foods are required to have convenient hand washing and utensil washing facilities. The number, type, and size of sinks required will be determined by the type of operation to be conducted. Disposable gloves are recommended and may be utilized. The requirements are as follows:

- a. Multi-compartment sink;
- b. Hot and cold running water from an approved source;
- c. Available sanitary sewer facilities or a system that complies with liquid waste disposal code requirements;
- d. Suitable flooring (i.e.: asphalt, concrete, removable platforms, duckboards, or other suitable materials approved by the director that effectively control dust and mud);
- e. Overhead covering and a minimum of three (3) walls; and
- f. Hot and cold holding equipment with thermometers readily available.

14. Establishments which do not have conveniently available hot and cold running water and sanitary sewer facilities **MUST FURNISH THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES**, when all food items are not pre-packaged.

- a. At least (5) gallons of portable water in a sturdy plastic dispensing container to be used for hand washing, utensil cleaning and sanitizing; if portable water replenishment is not readily available, additional containers of portable water may be required.
- b. One (1) sturdy pail or tub with soap, water, and a small amount of chlorine liquid bleach (approximately ¼ ounce) for hand washing.
- c. Disposable paper towels, hand cleaning soap, or detergent.
- d. Two (2) sturdy plastic pails or tubs of at least two gallons capacity; one for washing and one with chlorine liquid bleach/water solution of fifty (50) parts per million or greater for sanitizing.
- e. An adequate size container of household liquid chlorine bleach and chlorine test strips for verifying a chlorine concentration of at least fifty (50) parts per million.
- f. A sturdy five (5) gallon plastic container with a small opening and a funnel to receive and store liquid wastes until proper disposal can be made to a sanitary sewer system.
- g. Convenient solid waste containers, preferably with plastic liners.

15. When self-services ice dispensers are not provided, ice scoops are required. Ice used for human consumption must be stored separately from ice used to refrigerate drink bottles, cans, or cartons. Ice storage units must have open drains to prevent submergence of chilled drink cartons, cans, or bottles from contact with melted ice water.

16. All wastewater from sinks, steam tables, etc. must be drained or disposed of into the sanitary sewer system or in a manner that is consistent with liquid waste disposal code requirements.