



LFCHD Temporary Food Service Guidelines

Permitting

A temporary food service permit is required for preparing or serving food/drinks to the public; including beverages or samples of food/drink products. Commercial pre-packaged, shelf-stable food products do not need a temporary permit.

Obtain foods from an approved source: The preparation of foods in a home kitchen or any other establishment not subject to a Health Department inspection is prohibited. Additionally, the following foods are also prohibited:

- Foods prepared from a home kitchen cannot be sold
- Wild Game or any meat not inspected by USDA or other official Governmental Regulatory Agencies
- Pastries filled with cream, custards, and similar products
- Complex foods (Definition: Store-Prepare-Cook-Cool-Reheat-Hot Hold-Serve) are not allowed. Only same-day service foods that go through the temperature danger zone (41 – 135°F) once are allowed.
- Other food items (e.g. shellfish) or ingredients, which may constitute a high risk in a temporary setting

A public food service establishment or other food vendor must obtain a permit from the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department (LFCHD) for each temporary food service event in which it participates. LFCHD will inspect temporary events and if minimum sanitation standards are not met, the food service operation will be discontinued until corrections are completed and verified by LFCHD Environmental Health Specialists.

Owners/operators of a temporary food service must notify LFCHD of the following items no less than two business days (48 - hours) before the scheduled event and complete a Temporary Foodservice Registration form to include the following information:

- 1) Type of food service proposed
- 2) Food list, method of storage, and how (coolers, refrigerators, hot boxes, etc.) temperature will be maintained
- 3) Time and location of the event

If, for whatever reason, you do NOT set up for operation or are late please call 859-231-9791 during normal working hours or after-hours / weekends/holidays call 859-335-7071 to notify the Environmental Health representative. This is the only way a potential credit for a future temporary food service application can be applied.

Please visit our website to watch a quick video on temporary food service guidelines. There is an English and Spanish video. <https://www.lfchd.org/temporary-food-service/>

Fees

Temporary public food service establishments and vendors are required to pay the following license fees at the time of licensing:

- 1 – 3 day event – \$60
- 4 – 7 day event – \$90
- 8 –14 day event - \$125

Food Service Personnel

All food service personnel who prepare/handle food must have a valid Lexington-Fayette County Health Department Food Handler Card.

- Lexington-Fayette County Health Department food handler cards may be obtained online for \$23 at: www.lfchd.org

Employees may not touch ready-to-eat (RTE) food with their bare hands. Employees must use suitable utensils such as deli tissue, spatulas, tongs, single-use gloves, or dispensing equipment when handling RTE food.

All personnel must wash their hands before beginning work when returning to work after any break in food preparation activities, when putting on or changing gloves, or any time their hands become unclean.

Smoking is prohibited in food preparation, ware washing, or in food storage areas.

Personnel must wear clean outer garments, effective hair restraints, and no jewelry on their hands or arms (except plain wedding bands). If worn, artificial and painted fingernails must be covered by intact gloves.

All food service workers must be free of open sores, skin infections, respiratory infections, upset stomachs, diarrhea, or other infectious diseases.

Facilities

The specific requirements for the temporary event physical facility where food is prepared or handled are based on the length of the event, the type of food that is prepared or served, and the extent of food preparation conducted at the temporary facility. **“Time/Temperature control for safety food (TCS)”** (formerly potentially hazardous food) means Food that requires time/temperature control for safety (TCS) to limit pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation.

Minimum requirements include:

- 1) Food service operators must provide overhead protection where food is prepared, portioned, stored or warewashing is done onsite.
- 2) Flooring may be concrete, machine-laid asphalt, or dirt/gravel if it is covered with mats, removable platforms, duckboards, or other suitable approved materials that effectively control dust and mud and are graded to drain.
- 3) Walls and ceilings should be constructed of a material that protects the interior from the weather, windblown dust, and debris, or other forms of cross-contamination.
- 4) When time/temperature control for safety (TCS) foods are prepared at events, the physical structure where the food preparation occurs must be protected against flying insects and other vermin by an effective means.
- 5) A three-compartment sink is required within the temporary food service for washing, rinsing, and sanitizing utensils and equipment. If this activity is conducted at an approved, remotely located commissary or food service establishment, an adequate supply of spare preparation and serving utensils must be maintained on the premises in case the original utensils become unclean. **Refer to the diagram for handwashing and dishwashing on the last page.**
- 6) A hand washing station is required. This station may be a clean, portable container with an on/off valve and a catch bucket to collect the wastewater. Soap and single-service paper towels must be available for hand washing and drying.

Water

All food service operations that prepare/portion food on the premises must provide enough potable water for employee hand washing and ware washing for the duration of the temporary operation. Municipal connections, holding tanks, or portable containers are acceptable means to provide water and ensure water hoses specifically state “food grade”.

Solid and Liquid Waste

Operators must remove all garbage and rubbish from the premises often enough to prevent nuisance conditions and dispose of solid waste properly in tight-fitting, covered containers.
Operators must dispose of liquid waste in a public or other approved wastewater system.

To Prevent Foodborne Illness

- Obtain foods from an approved source. **The preparation of foods in a home kitchen or any other establishment not subject to a Health Department inspection is prohibited.**
- Wash hands thoroughly before handling food, and single-service items, and clean equipment and utensils.
- Maintain hot foods at temperatures of 135° F or above.
- Maintain cold foods at temperatures of 41° F or below.
- Reheat cooked foods to a minimum temperature of 165° F within two hours for hot holding.
- **Check food temperatures frequently with a metal stem thermometer.**
- Heat foods quickly and cool foods rapidly to minimize the time foods are in the food danger zone (41° F to 135° F).
- Keep raw and cooked foods separate.
- Thaw foods properly: completely submerged under cold running water for no longer than four hours, as part of the cooking process, or under refrigeration.
- Use single-service articles whenever possible.
- Keep foods covered and protected from dust, dirt, insects, vermin, and human cross-contamination.
- Protect all food, including displayed food, from customer contamination (touching, coughing, sneezing, etc.).
- Minimize handling of foods before, during, and after preparation.
- Do not store food directly in contact with ice used for beverages.
- Do not use swollen, leaking, or damaged canned goods.
- Store all food products, equipment, and single-service articles (cups, straws, napkins) at least six inches off the ground.
- Store prepackaged foods and drinks in drained ice.
- Condiments must be provided in individual packages or approved dispensers.
- Do not display relish/onions/etc. for customer self-service.
- All light fixtures (except heat lamps) shall be shielded or shatter-proof

Type of Food	Minimum Internal Temperature
Poultry	165°F
Ground meats (beef, pork, and seafood)	155°F
Steaks of pork, beef, veal, and lamb	145°F

Required Items

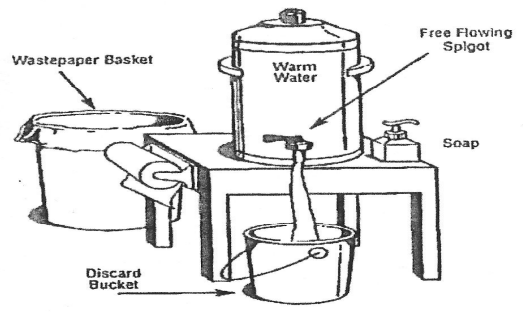
- Sanitizer (Quaternary Ammonia or properly diluted unscented bleach may be used)
- Applicable chemical test strips (for measuring sanitizer concentration)
- Metal stem thermometer
- Thermometers for refrigeration unit(s) / cooler(s)

- Three-compartment sink to wash, rinse, and sanitize equipment and utensils or access to such facilities at an approved commissary or food service establishment
- Use utensils and scoops with handles for food and ice.
- Hair restraints (hair net, ball cap, visor, scarf, or bandanas are acceptable)
- Adequate supply of back-up utensils
- Adequate supply of potable water
- Soap and single-service hand towels
- Adequate equipment and facilities to maintain food at the proper temperatures (**keep hot foods hot $\geq 135^{\circ}\text{F}$ and cold foods cold $\leq 41^{\circ}\text{F}$**)
- Adequate protection from flying insects, vermin, dust, dirt, and weather
- Adequate protection for displayed, prepared, and stored food

HANDWASHING

At least one convenient handwashing facility must be available for handwashing on site **at all times**. This facility must consist of, at least, a container with warm potable running water (via spigot if sinks won't be utilized), a catch bucket for wastewater, soap, individual single-use paper towels, and a trash container for disposal of paper towels. Employees must wash their hands at all necessary times during food preparation and service.

- Prior to starting food handling activities
- After using the restroom
- After sneezing, coughing, blowing your nose, eating, drinking, smoking, or touching a part of the body
- After touching an open sore, boil, or cut
- After handling money or other soiled items
- After taking out the trash or following any activity during which hands may have become contaminated.



DISHWASHING

Facilities must be provided to wash, rinse, and sanitize multi-use utensils, dishware and equipment used for food preparation at the site. Proper chemical sanitizer and the appropriate chemical test kit must be provided **and used** at each site. All dishes and utensils must be air-dried. Use of disposable pans is recommended.

PROPER SET-UP



PROPER SANITIZER CONCENTRATIONS

Chlorine
50-100 ppm*

Quaternary Ammonia
200 ppm*

Iodine
12.5-25 ppm*

* Or as otherwise indicated by the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) or by the manufacturer of the product.