MOBILE FOOD FACILITY PERMITS

THIS FACTSHEET IS FOR VENDORS WHO WANT TO SELL FOOD ON THE STREET IN A CART, TRUCK, OR TRAILER.

Anyone over 18 years of age can get a mobile food facility permit. You don’t have to be a U.S. resident or citizen to get a public health permit. Los Angeles Department of Public Health (Public Health) will NOT ask questions regarding your residency status.

What are the fees for the mobile food facility permits?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cart</th>
<th>Truck or Trailer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prepackaged</td>
<td>$393</td>
<td>$692</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unpackaged</td>
<td>$772</td>
<td>$905</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

OTHER PERMITS NEEDED

What do I need in addition to obtaining a Public Health permit?
In addition to obtaining a Public Health permit, you’ll also need to get a business license in the city where you’ll be selling food.
1) If you’re selling food in the City of Los Angeles, you can apply for a business license at:
   http://www.finance.lacity.org/forms
   The form is called Application for Business Tax Registration Certificate 2018
2) Also, you’ll need to check the land use restrictions for the city you’re selling food in to ensure you are allowed to sell food in the space you desire.

Do I need any special training or certification to operate a mobile food facility?
If you’re selling unpackaged and perishable food (foods that need to be kept hot or cold), you’ll need training. The 2 types of training are: the Certified Food Handler (CFH) and the Certified Food Protection Manager (CFM) certificate. To learn more about the differences between the 2 trainings and where to take them, visit:
   http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/docs/CFH_FAQ_Final.pdf

For additional information on mobile food facilities, please contact the Vehicle Inspection Program at (626) 430-5500.

• At the conclusion of the vehicle/cart evaluation:

  Carts that do not meet the requirements:
  - May be referred to Plan Check.
    Plan check is responsible for reviewing and approving plans submitted for new or remodeled Mobile Food Facilities
  - If Plan Check is not required, the vendor will be instructed to make the necessary corrections and come back for a re-inspection

  Carts that meet the requirements:
  - Permit is processed and you will receive an invoice with your fee
  - Upon payment, the certification decals (signs) will be placed on your mobile food facility.
What is a mobile food facility?
A mobile food facility is a cart, truck, or trailer that people use to sell food and beverages. Carts are smaller and usually sell a few food items. Trucks and trailers are bigger and usually offer a more complex menu.

Food can be sold as prepackaged or unpackaged. Prepackaged food has already been wrapped by a manufacturing company. Unpackaged food is made by the people selling the food. Some examples of prepackaged and unpackaged foods sold from different vehicles are below:

### PREPACKAGED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CART</th>
<th>TRUCK OR TRAILER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ice cream bars, popsicles, chips, gum, candy, water bottles, soda cans</td>
<td>Ice cream bars, popsicles, chips, gum, candy, water bottles, soda cans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### UNPACKAGED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CART</th>
<th>TRUCK OR TRAILER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chopped fruit, hot dogs, tamales, churros, corn on the cob, smoothies, coffee, champurrado, raspados</td>
<td>Plated foods, hamburgers, fries, tacos, burritos, pupusas, gorditas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What do I need to operate a mobile food facility?
You are required to have a public health permit to operate a mobile food facility. You may apply for a Health Permit by contacting the Department of Public Health, Environmental Health, Vehicle Inspection Program at: (626) 430-5500

What are the benefits of a Public Health Permit?
- Having this permit informs potential customers your food/beverages have been evaluated for safety by Public Health.
- Individuals who only want to eat from establishments that have a Public Health permit will be more inclined to purchase food/beverages from you.

What are the steps to get a Public Health Permit?
- To be guided through the permitting process, contact the Vehicle Inspection Program at: (626) 430-5500
- Prior to receiving your Public Health Permit, your vehicle/cart must be evaluated to ensure it meets the mobile food facility requirements that apply, per the California Retail Food Code

PERMITS

- You’ll need to provide the following documents when applying for the permit:
  A) Valid Picture ID
  B) If filing as a Limited Liability Company (LLC) or a corporation, provide Articles of Organization or Articles of Incorporation
  C) Vehicle DMV Registration (if applicable)
  D) Commissary Contract
  E) Completed Mobile Food Facility Permit application (The permit application may be accessed prior to your appointment, at the link below): [http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/SSE/Vehicle_Inspection/vip.htm](http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/eh/SSE/Vehicle_Inspection/vip.htm)