



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: Temporary Food Establishments

1. When is a temporary permit required?

- ▶ A temporary food permit is required anytime you plan to serve food to the public, regardless if money is exchanged.

2. If I am only serving drinks, do I need a temporary permit?

- ▶ If the drinks remain packaged, or are non-temperature control for safety food (TCS) drinks served in single use service ware, a temporary permit is not required.
- ▶ If drinks will be served with ice, or in a container that is reused for other customers, a temporary permit is required.
- ▶ If drinks are TCS foods and require refrigeration, a temporary permit is required.
- ▶ If you are intending to serve alcoholic drinks, please contact the Washington State Liquor Control Board for information: customerservicelicensing@lcb.wa.gov

3. Can I make food at my home to sell at a temporary event?

- ▶ No, food stored and/or prepared at home without a Cottage Food License from Washington State Department of Agriculture is not allowed to be served at a temporary food event. For more information, call [360-902-1876](tel:360-902-1876).

4. Our family is hosting a private event with invited guests only. (Example: wedding, graduation party, quinceañera, family reunion, etc.) Is a temporary food permit required for the caterer to have food?

- ▶ No, if the event is private and **not** advertised through fliers, newspaper, ticket sales, etc., then a temporary permit is not required.

5. I own a restaurant and will be providing food at a public event or to an organization that will serve the food at a public event. Do I need a temporary food permit for the event?

- ▶ A temporary food permit must be obtained to cover the facilities at the event where the food will be served. We recommend that the person in charge of the food station apply for the temporary permit since they are responsible for the final service of the food. The owner of the restaurant may also apply for the permit, but then they must be responsible for the food at the service location.



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6. Am I allowed to cool food and re-use it the following day at a multi-day temporary event?

- ▶ No. Temporary food establishments are not allowed to cool any leftover food. All food must be prepared the same day as the event. Any leftover food must be discarded at the end of service/event.

7. Are street vendors allowed in our two counties, and if so, what is the permitting process?

- ▶ Yes, street vendors are allowed to sell food. If food sold is as whole produce, and not trimmed, cut, or further processed before sale, a permit is not required.
- ▶ If food for sale will be processed (cut, cooked, etc.), then a permit is required.

8. Can I sell food in local orchards during harvest season?

- ▶ Mobile food trucks with a permit to sell foods in Chelan or Douglas counties are allowed to go to the orchards and sell food.
- ▶ If the vendor does not have a permit, then they must apply for either a temporary permit or a permanent food service establishment permit. Operating without a valid permit is subject to closure and fines from the Chelan-Douglas Health District.

9. I would like to operate a food booth at the county fair, but I don't have a food establishment. What are my options?

- ▶ A food establishment is not required to operate a food booth at any event. Apply for a temporary food permit to operate at any event lasting up to 21 consecutive days.

10. Are there late application fees associated with a temporary permit?

- ▶ YES: In order to avoid late fees with a temporary permit application, the application must be submitted 8 business days in advance of the event. The day of the event does not count as one of the 8 business days.