

Georgia Rules and Regulations

Administrative Bulletin for January 2023

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE DIVISION

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Final rules filed with the Georgia Secretary of State during the month of *January 2023*:

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	110-12-8-.01 --- 110- 12-8-.04	adopted	Nov. 28, 2022	Jan. 1
195. GEORGIA BOARD FOR HEALTH CARE WORKFORCE	195-2-.01	amended	Dec. 19, 2022	Jan. 8
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391. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES	391-4-3-.13	adopted	Dec. 19, 2022	Jan. 8
464. GEORGIA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL	464-6-.01 --- 464-6-.07	adopted	Jan. 9, 2023	Jan. 29
505. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION	505-2-.191 , 505-2-.193	adopted	Dec. 9, 2022	Jan. 1
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	505-6-.01	adopted	Dec. 9, 2022	Jan. 1
509. GEORGIA BOARD OF PRIVATE DETECTIVE AND SECURITY AGENCIES	509-4-.08	amended	Jan. 6, 2023	Jan. 26

Department 150. RULES OF GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Chapter 150-3. LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

150-3-.01 [Effective 2/20/2023] Examination for Dental Licensure

(1) Each candidate submitting an application for a dental license must have passed all sections of the National Board Theory Examinations - Part I and Part II with a score of 75 or higher or have a passing score on the Integrated National Board Dental Exam. The President of the Georgia Board of Dentistry may appoint one or more members of the Board to proctor the National Dental Board Examinations held in Georgia.

(2) Each candidate for a license to practice dentistry must pass with a score of 75 or higher a jurisprudence examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of dentistry in the State of Georgia. Such examination shall be in the English language. The score will be valid for one year.

(3) Each candidate for a license to practice dentistry must pass all sections with a score of 75 or higher on any clinical examination administered by the Georgia Board of Dentistry, or a testing agency designated and approved by the Board. Such examination shall be in the English language.

(4) Any candidate who fails one or two sections of any clinical examination or any combination of one, two, or three sections of the clinical examination, three times must take a remedial course of study designated and pre-approved by the board.

(a) Once the candidate shows written proof of successful completion of the approved course of study, the Board will grant the candidate one additional attempt at successful passage of a clinical licensing examination approved by the board.

(b) After a fourth failure of one or more sections of any clinical examination, no further attempts will be authorized or scores recognized by the board for licensure in Georgia.

(5) Any candidate who fails three or more sections of any clinical examination three times must successfully complete a one-year American Dental Association-accredited course of study pre-approved by the board.

(a) Once the candidate provides written proof of successful completion of this one-year course of study, the board will grant the candidate one additional attempt at successful passage of a clinical licensing examination approved by the Georgia Board.

(b) After a fourth failure of one or more sections of any clinical examination, no further attempts will be authorized or scores recognized by the board for licensure in Georgia.

(6) For purposes of this rule, failure of the completed curriculum integrated format type examination shall only be counted as one (1) examination failure. Failure of Part II of the curriculum integrated format type examination will be applicable to sections (4) and (5) of this rule.

(7) In determining whether an applicant has met the requirements for licensure, the board will only consider:

(a) The examination given by the Georgia Board of Dentistry prior to February 22, 1993.

(b) Results from the Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA) that were attained between February 22, 1993 and December 31, 2005; to include SRTA retake examination results until December 31, 2006.

(c) Results from the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) examination as uniformly administered by the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) and the Northeast Regional Board of Dental Examiners (NERB) that were attained between January 1, 2006 and June 30, 2009.

(d) Results from the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) examination or any other testing agency designated and approved by the Board attained subsequent to June 30, 2009. Results from the retake examinations administered by the Northeast Regional Board of Dental Examiners (NERB) or the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) are accepted through June 30, 2010. Such retakes must be from initial examinations taken prior to June 30, 2009 and must include at least one successful score from Parts II, III, IV or V.

(e) Results from the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc. (ADEX) dental examination as uniformly administered by a testing agency approved by the Board taken on or after January 1, 2015.

(f) Results from the Central Regional Dental Testing Service (CRDTS) Manikin-based (no human subject) dental examination taken on or after January 1, 2021.

(g) Results from the American Board of Dental Examiners, Inc. (ADEX) Manikin-based (no human subject) dental examination taken on or after January 1, 2021.

(h) Results from the Southern Regional Testing Agency dental examination taken on or after January 1, 2021.

(i) Regional examinations must include psychomotor patient-based or simulated patient-based (manikin) procedures performed as part of the assessment of clinical competencies, and shall include evaluations in the following areas:

1. periodontics, clinical abilities testing;
2. endodontics, clinical abilities testing;
3. posterior class II amalgam or posterior class II composite preparation and restoration, clinical abilities testing;
4. anterior class III composite preparation and restoration, clinical abilities testing;
5. crown preparation, clinical abilities testing;
6. prosthetics, written or clinical abilities testing;
7. oral diagnosis, written or clinical abilities testing; and
8. oral surgery, written or clinical abilities testing.

(j) Examination scores from slot preparations of restorative dentistry shall neither be accepted nor recognized by the Board.

(8) Each candidate for Georgia licensure must furnish a background check. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the performance of a background check.

(9) The Board may hold other examinations as may be required and necessary.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 150-3-.01

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [43-11-7](#), [43-11-20](#), [43-11-40](#), [43-11-41](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Examinations" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965.

Amended: F. Mar. 26, 1969; eff. Apr. 15, 1969.

Amended: F. Jan. 26, 1970; eff. Feb. 15, 1970.

Amended: F. Oct. 13, 1970; eff. Nov. 2, 1970.

Amended: F. July 5, 1974; eff. July 25, 1974.

Amended: F. Mar. 3, 1977; eff. Mar. 23, 1977.

Amended: F. Sept. 24, 1979; eff. Oct. 14, 1979.

Amended: F. May 5, 1982; eff. May 25, 1982.

Amended: F. Nov. 20, 1984; eff. Dec. 10, 1984.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Feb. 5, 1988; eff. Feb. 25, 1988.

Amended: F. Dec. 20, 1989; eff. Jan. 9, 1990.

Amended: F. May 9, 1991; eff. May 29, 1991.

Amended: F. Sept. 2, 1992; eff. Sept. 22, 1992.

Amended: F. Feb. 2, 1993; eff. Feb. 22, 1993.

Amended: F. Sept. 15, 1993; eff. Oct. 5, 1993.

Amended: Rule retitled "Examination for Dental Licensure". F. Oct. 29, 1996; eff. Nov. 18, 1996.

Amended: F. Dec. 28, 2000; eff. Jan. 17, 2001.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 28, 2003; eff. August 17, 2003.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 26, 2005; eff. Feb. 15, 2005.

Amended: F. Nov. 7, 2005; eff. Nov. 27, 2005.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 22, 2006; eff. Apr. 11, 2006.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Sept. 18, 2006; eff. Oct. 8, 2006.

Amended: F. June 8, 2009; eff. June 28, 2009.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Apr. 20, 2010; eff. May 10, 2010.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 11, 2011; eff. Jan. 31, 2011.

Amended: F. Apr. 16, 2013; eff. May 6, 2013.

Amended: F. Aug. 24, 2017; eff. Sept. 13, 2017.

Amended: F. Sep. 29, 2020; eff. Oct. 19, 2020.

Note: Correction of non-substantive typographical error on SOS Rules and Regulations website, "(6) In determining whether an applicant has met the requirements for licensure, the board will only consider:" corrected to "(7) In determining whether an applicant has met the requirements for licensure, the board will only consider:", duplicate

paragraph number (i.e., number "(6)") corrected to reflect Rule as originally filed by Agency on September 29, 2020. Effective October 19, 2020.

Amended: F. Jan. 31, 2023; eff. Feb. 20, 2023.

150-3-.09 [Effective 2/20/2023] Continuing Education for Dentists

(1) Dentists licensed to practice in the state of Georgia shall maintain and furnish to the Board, upon request, official documentation of having completed a minimum of forty (40) hours of continuing education during each biennium. Official documentation shall be defined as documentation from an approved provider that verifies a licensee's attendance at a particular continuing education course. Official documentation of course attendance must be maintained by a dentist for at least three (3) years following the end of the biennium during which the course as taken.

(a) Compliance with all continuing education requirements is a condition for license renewal. Failure to complete all hours of mandatory continuing education shall serve as grounds to deny the renewal of a license and may also result in disciplinary action being taken against a licensee.

(b) Upon its own motion, the Board may at any time randomly select a percentage of actively licenses dentists for the purpose of auditing their compliance with the continuing education requirements of the Board. Those licensees selected for an audit shall submit official documentation of their compliance within thirty (30) days of receipt of the audit letter. Failure to respond to an audit request in a timely manner shall be grounds for disciplinary action against a licensee.

(c) The continuing education requirements shall not apply to dentists whose licenses are on inactive status.

(d) The continuing education requirements shall apply within the first biennium that a dentist is licensed in Georgia. However, in order to meet the continuing education requirements during the first biennium, a newly licensed dentist may submit as their continuing education hours proof of dental coursework taken within the previous two (2) years of the date of the renewal application from a university or other institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, or its successor agency. Following the first biennium that a dentist is licensed in Georgia such licensees shall comply with the continuing education requirements set forth in Rule [150-3-.09\(2\) and \(3\)](#).

(e) The continuing education requirements for dentists holding volunteer licenses may be satisfied by compliance with this rule, or they may alternatively be satisfied by compliance with Rule [150-3-.10](#).

(2) Coursework, including home study courses, sponsored or approved by the following recognized organizations will be accepted:

(a) American Dental Association/American Dental Hygienists association, and their affiliate associations and societies;

(b) Academy of General Dentistry;

(c) National Dental Association and its affiliate societies;

(d) Colleges, and universities and institutions with programs in dentistry and dental hygiene that are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association when the professional continuing education course is held under the auspices of the school of dentistry or school of dental hygiene;

(e) CPR courses offered in-person by the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association, the American Safety and Health Institute, the National Safety Council, EMS Safety Services, or other such agencies approved by the Board.

(f) National and State Associations and/or societies of all specialties in dentistry recognized under Georgia law;

- (g) Veterans Administration Dental Department;
 - (h) Armed Forces Dental Department;
 - (i) Georgia Department of Public Health;
 - (j) American Medical Association, the National Medical Association and its affiliate associations and societies;
 - (k) Hospitals accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospital Organizations (JCAHO).
- (3) Course content:
- (a) All courses must reflect the professional needs of the dentist in providing quality dental health care to the public;
 - (b) At least thirty (30) hours of the minimum requirement shall be clinical courses in the actual delivery of dental services to the patient or to the community;
 - (c) Four (4) credit hours for successful completion of the in-person CPR course required by Georgia law may be used to satisfy continuing education requirements per renewal period. This requirement may be satisfied by successful completion of an in-person Basic Life Support (BLS) or Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) course;
 - (d) One (1) hour of the minimum requirement shall include the impact of opioid abuse, proper prescription writing, and/or the use of opioids in dental practice;
 - (e) Effective on and after January 1, 2022, one (1) hour of the minimum requirement shall include legal ethics and professionalism in the practice of dentistry, which shall include, but not be limited to, education and training regarding professional boundaries; unprofessional conduct relating to the commission of acts of sexual intimacy, abuse, misconduct, or exploitation with regard to the practice of dentistry; legislative updates and changes to the laws relating to the practice of dentistry and rules, policies, and advisory opinions and rulings issued by the Board; professional conduct and ethics; proper billing practices; professional liability; and risk management.
 - (f) Up to fifteen (15) hours of continuing education per year may be obtained by assisting the Board with administering the clinical licensing examination. These hours shall be approved by the Continuing Education Committee of the Georgia Board of Dentistry and need not be sponsored by any agency listed in [150-3-.09\(2\)](#);
 - (g) Eight (8) hours per biennium may be obtained by assisting the board with investigations of licensees. This may include consultant review on behalf of the Georgia Board of Dentistry and peer reviews completed by committees of the Georgia Dental Association but shall be limited to two (2) hours for each case reviewed. These hours shall be approved by the Continuing Education Committee of the Georgia Board of Dentistry and need not be sponsored by any agency listed in [150-3-.09\(2\)](#);
 - (h) Up to ten (10) hours of continuing education per year may be obtained by teaching clinical dentistry or dental hygiene at any ADA-approved educational facility. These hours shall be awarded in writing by the course director at the facility and approved by the Continuing Education Committee of the Georgia Board of Dentistry;
 - (i) Up to ten (10) hours of continuing education per biennium may be obtained by providing, uncompensated dental care at a charitable dental event as defined by O.C.G.A. § [43-11-53](#);
 - (j) Up to twenty (20) hours of continuing education per biennium may be obtained by members of the Georgia Board of Dentistry for member service, where one continuing education hour is credited for each five hours of Board service provided.;
 - (k) Eight (8) hours per biennium may be obtained by assisting the Board with conducting onsite sedation evaluations. This shall be limited to a maximum of four (4) hours per evaluation. These hours shall be approved by

the Continuing Education Committee of the Georgia Board of Dentistry and need not be sponsored by any agency listed in [150-3-.09\(2\)](#).

(4) Criteria for receiving credit for attending an approved continuing education course:

(a) Credit hours are not retroactive or cumulative. All credit hours must be received during the two (2) year period to which they are applied;

(b) One credit hour for each hour of course attendance will be allowed;

(c) Only twelve hours of credit will be accepted per calendar day;

(d) Effective January 1, 2008, at least twenty (20) of the required forty (40) hours of credit must be acquired in person at an on-site course or seminar; you are not allowed to acquire all CE hours through on-line courses, electronic means, journal studies, etc.

(5) Criteria for receiving credit for teaching an approved continuing education course:

(a) Credit hours for teaching an approved course must be obtained and used during the biennium that the approved course is taught;

(b) A dentist who teaches an approved continuing education course is eligible to receive two (2) credit hours for each hour of course work that he or she presents at a particular course. Credit will be given for teaching a particular course on one occasion. A maximum of ten (10) credit hours per biennium may be obtained by a dentist by whom an approved continuing education course is taught;

(c) Only continuing education courses sponsored by organizations designated in Rule 150-3-.09(2) will be considered for credit pursuant to this subsection of the rule.

(d) In the event that an audit is conducted of the continuing education hours of a dentist who has taught a course approved by a recognized organization, the following information shall be required to document the dentist's role in presenting a continuing education course:

(i) Documentation from an approved provider verifying that the dentist presented an approved continuing education course;

(ii) Documentation from an approved provider reflecting the content of the course;

(iii) Documentation from an approved provider specifying the list of materials used as a part of the course; and

(iv) Documentation from an approved provider verifying the hours earned and the dates and times that the course in question was given.

(e) In the event that an approved continuing education course is taught by more than one dentist, continuing education credit will be given for those portions of coursework for which the dentist is directly involved and primarily responsible for the preparation and presentation thereof. Continuing education credit will not be available to a dentist whose participation in preparing and presenting an approved course is not readily identifiable.

(6) Criteria for receiving credit for providing uncompensated indigent dental care.

(a) Up to ten (10) hours of continuing education per biennium may be obtained by providing, uncompensated dental care at a charitable dental event as defined by O.C.G.A. § [43-11-53](#).

(b) Dentists may receive one hour of continuing education for every four hours of indigent dental care the dentist provides, up to ten (10) hours. Such continuing education credits will be applied toward the dentist's clinical courses.

- (c) All credit hours must be received during the two (2) year renewal period;
- (d) All appropriate medical/dental records must be kept;
- (e) Dentists shall at all times be required to meet the minimal standards of acceptable and prevailing dental practice in Georgia;
- (f) The Board shall have the right to request the following:
 - 1. Documentation from the organization indicating that the dentist provided the dental services;
 - 2. Documentation from the organization that it provided medical and/or dental services to the indigent and/or those making up the underserved populations;
 - 3. Notarized verifications from the organization documenting the dentist's agreement not to receive compensation for the services provided;
 - 4. Documentation from the organization detailing the actual number of hours spent providing said services; and
 - 5. Documentation from the dentist and/or organization verifying the services provided.
- (7) Effective January 1, 2012, dentists may receive continuing education credit for dental coursework taken during a residency program from a university or other institution accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Such coursework must have been taken during the current license renewal period.
 - (1) Submission of a copy of the certificate of completion of program showing dates of completion is sufficient proof of coursework.
 - (2) One (1) credit hour equals one (1) continuing education credit.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 150-3-.09

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [43-11-7](#), [43-11-40](#), [43-11-46](#), [43-11-46.1](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Requirements for Continuing Education for Dentists" adopted. F. Feb. 2, 1993; eff. Feb. 22, 1993.

Amended: F. Nov. 7, 1994; eff. Nov. 27, 1994.

Amended: F. Oct. 29, 1996; eff. Nov. 18, 1996.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 29, 1998; eff. Jan. 18, 1999.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 28, 2003; eff. August 17, 2003.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 13, 2004; eff. Feb. 2, 2004.

Amended: Rule retitled "Continuing Education for Dentists". F. Mar. 15, 2004; eff. Apr. 4, 2004.

Amended: F. Jan. 27, 2005; eff. Feb. 16, 2005.

Amended: F. Sept. 10, 2007; eff. Sept. 30, 2007.

Amended: F. June 8, 2009; eff. June 28, 2009.

Amended: F. Jan. 10, 2012; eff. Jan. 30, 2012.

Amended: F. Jan. 21, 2014; eff. Feb. 10, 2014.

Amended: F. Sep. 3, 2014; eff. Sept. 23, 2014.

Amended: F. Jan. 15, 2015; eff. Feb. 4, 2015.

Amended: F. Feb. 5, 2016; eff. Feb. 25, 2016.

Amended: F. July 25, 2018; eff. August 14, 2018.

Amended: F. Jan. 31, 2023; eff. Feb. 20, 2023.

Department 150. RULES OF GEORGIA BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Chapter 150-5. DENTAL HYGIENE

150-5-.02 [Effective 2/20/2023] Qualifications for Dental Hygienists

(1) No persons shall be issued a license to practice as a dental hygienist unless such person is a graduate of a school or college for dental hygienists recognized by the board and accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association or its successor agency. Such school or college must conduct a course consisting of not less than two (2) academic years for dental hygiene graduation.

(2) All applicants must show passage of all sections with a score of 75 or higher on a psychomotor, patient-based or simulated patient-based clinical examination administered by the board or a testing agency designated and approved by the board. Regional examinations must include evaluations in the following areas:

(a) Pocket depth detection;

(b) Calculus detection and removal;

(c) Intra oral and extra oral assessment.

(3) The board will only consider exam results from:

(a) The Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA) that were attained between February 22, 1993 and December 31, 2005. SRTA retake examination results will be accepted until December 31, 2006.

(b) After December 31, 2005, the dental hygiene examinations uniformly administered by the Central Regional Dental Testing Service, Inc. (CRDTS).

(c) Notwithstanding the acceptance of simulated patient-based examinations provided in Rule [150-5-.02\(2\)](#), after January 1, 2015 the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) dental hygiene examinations as uniformly administered by the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA), the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB), or the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA), provided such examination was taken with a human patient.

(d) After January 1, 2021, the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) dental hygiene examinations as uniformly administered by the Commission on Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA), the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB), or the Council of Interstate Testing Agencies (CITA).

(e) After January 1, 2021, the dental hygiene examinations as uniformly administered by Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA).

(f) The Board may hold other examinations as may be required and necessary.

(4) All applicants must pass a jurisprudence examination on the laws and rules governing the practice of dental hygiene in the State of Georgia. Such examinations shall be administered in the English language.

(5) Any candidate who fails any clinical examination three times must take a remedial course of study designated and pre-approved by the board.

(a) Once the candidate shows written proof of successful completion of the approved course of study, the Board will grant the candidate one additional attempt at successful passage of a clinical licensing examination approved by the board.

(b) After a fourth failure of any clinical examination, no further attempts will be authorized or scores recognized by the board for licensure in Georgia.

(6) The applicant must provide the board with a copy of his or her score showing passage of all sections with a score of 75 or higher on the National Board Examination.

(7) An applicant for dental hygiene licensure must provide the board with the following items:

(a) An official transcript under seal showing the date of graduation and degree awarded from an accredited dental hygiene school certified by the appropriate officials;

(b) A certified copy of the results of the clinical examination given by the board or a testing agency designated and approved by the board;

(c) Copies of score of the National Board Examination;

(d) Proof of current CPR certification;

(e) Copies of any and all National Practitioner's Data Bank reports pertaining to the applicant;

(f) Furnish a criminal background check. The applicant shall be responsible for all fees associated with the performance of a background check;

(g) Verification of licensure from all states where the applicant has ever held or currently holds a license to practice dental hygiene. All such licenses shall be unencumbered by any past or present disciplinary action; and

(h) In accordance with O.C.G.A. § [50-36-1](#), all applicants applying for licensure must submit an Affidavit Regarding Citizenship and submit a copy of secure and verifiable documentation supporting the Affidavit with his or her application.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 150-5-.02

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [43-1-2](#), [43-11-7](#), [43-11-9](#), [43-11-70](#), [43-11-71](#), [43-11-71.1](#), [43-11-73](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Qualifications for Dental Hygienists" adopted. F. and eff. June 30, 1965.

Amended: F. Mar 26, 1969; eff. April 15, 1969.

Amended: F. Oct. 13, 1970; eff. Nov. 2, 1970.

Amended: F. Sept. 24, 1979; eff. Oct. 14, 1979.

Amended: F. May 5, 1982; eff. May 25, 1982.

Amended: F. Sept. 27, 1988; eff. Oct. 17, 1988.

Amended: F. Feb. 2, 1993; eff. Feb. 22, 1993.

Amended: F. Dec. 28, 2000; eff. Jan. 17, 2001.

Amended: F. Jan. 10, 2002; eff. Jan. 30, 2002.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 28, 2005; eff. Feb. 17, 2005.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. May 20, 2005; eff. June 9, 2005.

Amended: F. Nov. 7, 2005; eff. Nov. 27, 2005.

Amended: F. July 18, 2006; eff. August 7, 2006.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 23, 2009; eff. Feb. 12, 2009.

Amended: F. Oct. 7, 2014; eff. Oct. 27, 2014.

Amended: F. Jan. 31, 2023; eff. Feb. 20, 2023.

Department 360. RULES OF GEORGIA COMPOSITE MEDICAL BOARD

Chapter 360-34. VACCINE PROTOCOL AGREEMENTS

360-34-.01 Definitions

As used in this Chapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Administer" means the provision of a unit dose of vaccine by a pharmacist or nurse pursuant to a vaccine order contained in a vaccine protocol agreement with a physician.
- (2) "Adverse event" means an event that is a negative consequence of the administration of vaccine by a pharmacist or nurse that results in an unintended reaction, injury, or illness, which may or may not have been preventable.
- (3) "Board" means the Georgia Composite Medical Board.
- (4) "Nurse" means a registered professional nurse as defined in paragraph (9) of Code Section [43-26-3](#). The term shall also mean a licensed practical nurse as defined in paragraph (5) of Code Section [43-26-32](#) who is regularly employed by a physician who actively engaged in the private practice of medicine.
- (5) "Pharmacist" means an individual licensed under Chapter 4 of Title 26 to engage in the practice of pharmacy in the State of Georgia.
- (6) "Pharmacy intern" means a pharmacy intern as defined in paragraph (19) of Code Section [26-4-5](#).
- (7) "Physician" means an individual holding a current license to practice medicine and surgery in this state and whose principal place of practice is located in this state.
- (8) "Vaccine" means
 - (a) A vaccine that is included on the adult immunization schedule recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention administered to an individual 18 years of age or older;
 - (b) An influenza vaccine administered to an individual 13 years of age or older; and
 - (c) Any vaccine administered to an individual 13 years of age or older for an illness that has resulted in a public health emergency, as defined in Code Section [31-12-1.1](#).
- (9) "Vaccine order" means a prescription drug order, contained in a vaccine protocol agreement, issued by a physician for a group of patients that meet a certain criteria and to be administered by a pharmacist or a nurse. A vaccine order shall also mean a prescription drug order, contained in a vaccine protocol agreement, for epinephrine issued by a physician for a group of patients that meet a certain criteria and to be administered by a pharmacist or a nurse only upon the occurrence of an actual or perceived anaphylactic adverse reaction to the administered vaccine provided that the vaccine protocol agreement sets forth the signs and symptoms that warrant the administration of epinephrine.
- (10) "Vaccine protocol agreement" means a written document mutually agreed upon and signed by a physician and a pharmacist or by a physician and a nurse, by which document the physician prescribes a vaccine and epinephrine, if determined appropriate by the physician, by means of a vaccine order for administration by a pharmacist or a nurse.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-34-.01

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [26-4-5](#), [43-34-26.1](#), [43-26-32](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Definitions" adopted. F. Sep. 14, 2015; eff. Oct. 4, 2015.

Amended: F. Jan. 26, 2023; eff. Feb. 15, 2023.

360-34-.02 Qualifications for Physician to enter a protocol

In order for a physician to be eligible to enter into a vaccine protocol agreement, the physician must:

- (1) Hold a current license to practice medicine in the State of Georgia;
- (2) Have his/her principal place of practice in the State of Georgia;
- (3) Be registered with the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services ("GRITS");
- (4) Not be employed by the pharmacist(s) or nurse(s) with whom he/she is entering into the vaccine protocol agreement;
- (5) Not be an employee of a pharmacy that also employs the pharmacist(s) or nurse(s) with whom he/she is entering into the vaccine protocol agreement; and
- (6) Be available for immediate consultation or have designated another qualified physician as an alternate physician who is available for immediate consultation.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-34-.02

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [31-12-3.1](#), [43-34-5](#), [43-34-26.1](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Qualifications for Physician to enter a protocol" adopted. F. Sep. 14, 2015; eff. Oct. 4, 2015.

Amended: F. Jan. 26, 2023; eff. Feb. 15, 2023.

360-34-.05 Requirements of the Vaccine Protocol Agreement

The protocol agreement must:

- (1) Contain the current names, addresses, telephone numbers, and professional license numbers of the physician and the pharmacist or nurse;
- (2) Contain a provision for immediate consultation with the physician or an alternate physician;
- (3) Require the pharmacist or nurse to take a complete case history and determine whether a patient has had a physical examination within the past year;
- (4) Provide that no vaccine shall be administered to a patient with any condition for which the vaccine is contraindicated;
- (5) Require the pharmacist or nurse to provide the vaccine recipient with the appropriate and current Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) as provided by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
- (6) Require the pharmacist or nurse to provide written information to the vaccine recipient developed by the Department of Public Health on the importance of having and periodically seeing a primary care physician;

(7) Require the pharmacist or nurse to retain documentation of each dose administered with such documentation to include the following:

(a) the administering pharmacist's or nurse's name, address, telephone number and professional license number;

(b) the name, dose, manufacturer, and lot number of the vaccine;

(c) the vaccine recipient's name, address, date of birth, and telephone number;

(d) the date of administration and injection site;

(e) the signed and dated consent form that acknowledges receipt of the VIS, consents to the administration of the vaccine and authorizes the pharmacist or nurse to notify the vaccine recipient's primary care provider of the vaccine administered to the vaccine recipient; and

(f) any adverse events or complications that occur;

(8) Require the pharmacist or nurse to make documented reasonable efforts to obtain the name of the vaccine recipient's primary care provider and to notify such primary care provider of the vaccine administered by the pharmacist or nurse within 72 hours of the administration;

(9) Require the pharmacy or nurse to administer the vaccine to a patient in a private room, area with a privacy screen or other interior area in which the patient's privacy can be maintained unless there is a declared public health emergency or where immunizations are being administered for purposes of training for a short period of time;

(10) Prohibit the administration of the vaccine to a patient while the patient is in his or her personal vehicle;

(11) Require the pharmacist, nurse, or his or her designee to check the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services prior to administration of the vaccine and to enter the patient's vaccine information in the vaccination registry within the time designated by the Department of Public Health; provided, however, that a pharmacist, nurse, or his or her designee shall not be required to check the Georgia Registry of Immunization Transactions and Services during:

(a) A public health emergency, as defined in Code Section [31-12-1.1](#), for any vaccine administered to address the cause of the threat of an illness or health condition or the infectious agent or biological toxin which resulted in such public health emergency; or

(b) A vaccination event for influenza that is anticipated to serve 75 or more patients;

(12) Require that the vaccine recipient remain under observation for not less than 15 minutes immediately subsequent to the administration of the vaccine;

(13) Contain procedures to follow in the event of an adverse event or complication;

(14) Provide for prioritization of vaccine recipients in the event of a limitation in the supply of the vaccine;

(15) Require that the pharmacist or nurse maintains individual liability insurance coverage in an amount not less than \$250,000 to cover claims arising from the administration of vaccines, or has individual coverage from his/her employer's liability insurance in an amount not less than \$250,000 to cover claims arising from the administration of vaccines;

(16) Require that the pharmacist or nurse maintain a copy of the proof of insurance with the name of the insurer and policy number onsite at his or her primary location;

(17) Require that the pharmacist or nurse post proof of the vaccine protocol agreement, including a list of the vaccines authorized to be administered, in a conspicuous location within the pharmacy or other setting in which the vaccine is being administered;

(18) Require the submission of a signed and notarized affidavit by the pharmacist or nurse to the physician attesting to:

(a) the maintenance of liability insurance;

(b) current certification in Basic Cardiac Life Support, and for pharmacists, verification of completion of immunology training;

(c) the maintenance of a copy of the vaccine protocol agreement; and

(d) the identification of the locations where the pharmacist or nurse will be administering vaccinations pursuant to the protocol;

(19) Provide that the pharmacist cannot delegate the administration of the vaccine to another individual except a pharmacy intern under his/her direct supervision, and that the nurse cannot delegate the administration of the vaccine except a registered professional nurse may delegate the administration to a licensed practical nurse under the direct on-site supervision of the registered professional nurse; and

(20) Provide for the expiration, renewal or revision of the protocol on at least a biennial basis.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-34-.05

AUTHORITY: §§ [31-12-3.1](#), [31-12-3.2](#), [43-34-26.2](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Requirements of the Vaccine Protocol Agreement" adopted. F. Sep. 14, 2015; eff. Oct. 4, 2015.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Dec. 20, 2015; eff. Jan. 9, 2016.

Amended: F. Jan. 26, 2023; eff. Feb. 15, 2023.

360-34-.06 Limitations of the Vaccine Protocol Agreement

(1) The physician shall not enter vaccine protocol agreements with more than ten (10) pharmacists and/or nurses except as provided in O.C.G.A. Section [43-34-26.1\(j\)](#).

(2) The physician must be in the same public health district as the nurses identified in the protocol; or the nurses are located in the same or contiguous county as the physician's registration with the vaccination registry.

(3) The physician shall have verified that the pharmacist(s) or nurse(s) have had Basic Cardiac Life Support training and any other training required by law.

(4) The physician shall verify that the pharmacist or nurse administering the protocol has policies and procedures for the handling and disposal of contaminated equipment and supplies.

(5) No vaccine protocol agreement shall permit a pharmacist or nurse to administer a vaccine to a child under the age of 18 without consent from the child's parent or legal guardian.

(6) No live attenuated virus shall be administered pursuant to a vaccine protocol unless the patient or his or her parent, if a minor, has signed an informed consent that he or she does not have a contraindication to this vaccine, and such informed consent lists the contraindications to the vaccine.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 360-34-.06

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [43-34-26.1](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Limitations of the Vaccine Protocol Agreement" adopted. F. Sep. 14, 2015; eff. Oct. 4, 2015.

Amended: F. Jan. 26, 2023; eff. Feb. 15, 2023.

Department 464. GEORGIA PEACE OFFICER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL

Chapter 464-6. INSTRUCTOR CERTIFICATION

464-6-.01 Instructor Certification. Levels of Instructor

For the purposes of these rules, there shall be five levels of certification by which an instructor may become certified to teach in a course approved by the Council:

- (a) Level I-Basic/In-service Instructor;
- (b) Level II-Advanced Instructor;
- (c) Level II-D-Designated Instructor;
- (d) Level III-Senior Instructor; and
- (e) Level IV-Master Instructor.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.01

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Standards" adopted. F. Feb. 12, 1971; eff. Mar. 4, 1971.

Amended: F. June 7, 1974; eff. June 27, 1974.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Right of Petition Established" adopted. F. Sept. 2, 1975; eff. Sept. 22, 1975.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Basic Course" adopted. F. July 7, 1978; eff. July 27, 1978.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 13, 1985; eff. Apr. 2, 1985.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "General Instructor/Specialized Instructor" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1988; eff. Mar. 22, 1988.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Instructor Certification. Levels of Instructor" adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

464-6-.02 Instructor Certification

(a) Any persons serving as a Level I (Basic) instructor may teach in-service courses as defined in the most recent Uniform Law Enforcement Academy Regulations (ULEAR) as adopted by the Council, at an agency level. A Level I certified instructor may also teach basic training as defined by the ULEAR under the supervision of any instructor engaged by assignment as a certified POST academy staff member or Level II or above adjunct faculty member.

(b) Any persons serving as a Level II instructor may teach Level I approved courses, and, in addition, basic training as defined by the ULEAR, and advanced level courses which lead to certifications other than topics governed by

Level II-D certification. Level II certification is required for all staff acting as full-time instructors at any POST certified Academy.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.02

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Attendance" adopted. F. Feb. 12, 1971; eff. Mar. 4, 1971.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Form of Petition" adopted. F. Sept. 2, 1975; eff. Sept. 22, 1975.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "In-Service Training Courses" adopted. F. July 7, 1978; eff. July 27, 1978.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Refresher Training Courses" adopted. F. Mar. 13, 1985; eff. Apr. 2, 1985.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Instructor Certification" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1988; eff. Mar. 22, 1988.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

464-6-.03 Competency Required for Instructor Level I Certification

To qualify for certification as an instructor under these Rules, an applicant shall demonstrate competency to teach.

(a) Competency shall be evaluated in terms of three abilities, as follows:

1. possession of requisite skills and knowledge;
2. demonstration of effective presentation skills and knowledge in a classroom situation; and
3. organization of requisite skills and knowledge.

(b) Competency with respect to possession of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of a high school diploma, or its recognized equivalent, and direct experience.

(c) Competency with respect to organization of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of the following:

1. successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training instructor course or its recognized equivalent; and
2. academy director authorization for certification upon successful completion of Level I course of instruction.

(d) Suitable evidence of applicant's competency in each of the three abilities (possession of requisite skills, organization of skills and demonstration of effective presentation) shall be reflected in an application form provided by the Council. No applicant shall be certified as a Level I instructor in accordance with these Rules unless application is made in such form as the Council may establish.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.03

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Notebooks" adopted. F. Feb. 12, 1971; eff. Mar. 4, 1971.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Proceeding on Petition" adopted. F. Sept. 2, 1975; eff. Sept. 22, 1975.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Advanced Specialized Courses" adopted. F. July 7, 1978; eff. July 27, 1978.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 13, 1985; eff. Apr. 2, 1985.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "General Instructor Certification" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1988; eff. Mar. 22, 1988.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Competency Required for Instructor Level I Certification" adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

464-6-.04 Competency Required for Instructor Level II Certification

To qualify for certification as an instructor under these Rules, an applicant shall demonstrate competency to teach.

(a) Competency shall be evaluated in terms of three abilities, as follows:

1. possession of requisite skills and knowledge;
2. demonstration of effective presentation skills and knowledge in a classroom situation; and
3. organization of requisite skills and knowledge.

(b) Competency with respect to possession of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of a high school diploma, or its recognized equivalent, and direct experience.

(c) Competency with respect to organization of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of the following:

1. successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Level II Instructor Course or its recognized equivalent; and
2. academy director authorization for certification upon successful completion of Level II course of instruction.

(d) Suitable evidence of applicant's competency in each of the three abilities (possession of requisite skills, organization of skills and demonstration of effective presentation) shall be reflected in an application form provided by the Council. No applicant shall be certified as a Level II instructor in accordance with these Rules unless application is made in such form as the Council may establish.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.04

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Grades" was filed on February 12, 1971; effective March 4, 1971.

Amended: Filed December 13, 1974; effective January 2, 1975.

Amended: Rule repealed. Filed September 2, 1975; effective September 22, 1975.

Amended: Rule entitled "Instructor Training Course" adopted. Filed July 7, 1978; effective July 27, 1978.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed March 13, 1985; effective April 2, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Competency Required for General Instructor Certification" adopted. Filed March 2, 1988; effective March 22, 1988.

Repealed: New Rule, same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Competency Required for Instructor Level II Certification" adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

464-6-.05 Designated Instructor Certification

Any persons serving as an instructor in the following subjects must be certified as a Level II-D (Designated) instructor in accordance with these rules:

- (a) Firearms
- (b) Defensive tactics
- (c) Driver training
- (d) Speed detection
- (e) Hazardous materials
- (f) Emergency medical
- (g) Master Resiliency

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.05

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Prior Employed Applicants" adopted. F. Feb. 12, 1971; eff. Mar. 4, 1971.

Repealed: F. Sept. 2, 1975; eff. Sept. 22, 1975.

Amended: Rule entitled "Schools Required To Be Certified" adopted. F. July 7, 1978; eff. July 27, 1978.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. F. Mar. 13, 1985; eff. Apr. 2, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Specialized Instructor Certification" adopted. F. Mar. 2, 1988; eff. Mar. 22, 1988.

Amended: F. Sept. 7, 1989; eff. Sept. 27, 1989.

Amended: F. Jan. 11, 1991; eff. Jan. 31, 1991.

Repealed: New Rule, same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Amended: F. Apr. 9, 2007; eff. Apr. 29, 2007.

Amended: F. July 2, 2021; eff. July 22, 2021.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Designated Instructor Certification" adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

464-6-.06 Competency Required for Designated Instructor Certification (Level II-D)

To qualify for certification as a Level II-D instructor under these Rules, an applicant shall demonstrate competency to teach.

(a) Competency shall be evaluated in terms of the following;

1. Successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council Level II instructor training course; and
2. Successful completion of designated Council approved training in the subject of expertise.

(b) Suitable evidence of applicant competency shall be reflected in an application form provided by the Council.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.06

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Revocation of Certificate" was filed on May 31, 1973; effective June 20, 1973.

Amended: Rule repealed. Filed September 2, 1975; effective September 22, 1975.

Amended: Rule entitled "Number of Certified Schools" adopted. Filed July 7, 1978; effective July 27, 1978.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed March 13, 1985; effective April 2, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Competency Required for Specialized Instructor Certification" adopted. Filed March 2, 1988; effective March 22, 1988.

Repealed: New Rule, same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Competency Required for Designated Instructor Certification (Level II-D)" adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

464-6-.07 Level III (Senior) Instructor Certification and Level IV (Master) Instructor Certification

(a) Each person applying for Level III (Senior) Instructor level certification must demonstrate a competency to teach.

1. Competency shall be evaluated in terms of three abilities, as follows: possession of requisite skills and knowledge;
2. organization of skills and knowledge in a written form suitable for teaching; and
3. demonstration of effective presentation skills and knowledge in a classroom situation.

(i) Competency with respect to possession of knowledge of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent.

(ii) Competency with respect to organization of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of the following:

1. successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Level III Instructor Courses; and
2. academy director authorization for certification.

(iii) Competency with respect to classroom presentation of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of the following:

1. successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer and Standards Training Instructor Courses; and
2. successful completion of both written and performance examinations approved by Council in which curriculum development, presentation skills, and knowledge are tested.

(iv) Suitable evidence of applicant's competency in each of the three abilities (possession of requisite skills, organization of skills, and demonstration of effective presentation) shall be reflected in an application form provided by the Council. No applicant shall be certified as an instructor in accordance with these rules unless application is made in such form as the Council may establish.

(b) Level IV (Master Instructor Certification Requirements)

1. Each person applying for Master Level certification must:

- (i) Possess or be able to possess the Level III (Senior) Instructor Certificate;
- (ii) Demonstrate competency to teach.

2. Competency shall be evaluated in terms of three abilities as follow:

- (i) possession of requisite skills and knowledge;
- (ii) organization of skills and knowledge in a written form suitable for teaching; and
- (iii) demonstration of contemporary training course development skills and knowledge in a classroom situation.

3. Competency with respect to organization of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of the following:

- (i) successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Level IV Instructor Course; and
- (ii) academy director authorization for certification.

4. Competency with respect to classroom presentation of requisite skills and knowledge is demonstrated when an applicant provides suitable evidence of one of the following:

- (i) successful completion of the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Level IV Instructor Course; and
- (ii) successful completion of both written and performance examinations approved by the Council in which teaching presentation skills and knowledge are tested.

5. Suitable evidence of applicant's competency in each of the three abilities (possession of requisite skills, organization of skills, and demonstration of training course development) shall be reflected in an application form provided by the Council. No applicant shall be certified as an instructor in accordance with these rules unless application is made in such form as the Council may establish.

(c) Individuals in the process of completion of Senior and Master Level Instructor Certification as of January 1, 2023 shall have two (2) years to complete said certification(s). Any person in the process of obtaining Senior and Master Level Instructor Certifications that fails to complete the requirements by January 1, 2025 shall forfeit their credit hours and be required to begin seeking Level III and Level IV Instructor Certification under these revised rules.

1. Individuals possessing General Instructor, Specialized Instructor (Driver Training, Firearms, Speed Detection, Defensive Tactics, Emergency Medical, Hazmat, and Master Resiliency) Certifications, as well as Senior and Master Instructor levels as of January 1, 2023 will be "grandfathered in," maintaining their ability to teach in their previously certified areas.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 464-6-.07

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. § [35-8-7\(23\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Application for Certification" was filed on July 7, 1978; effective July 27, 1978.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule of the same title adopted. Filed March 13, 1985; effective April 2, 1985.

Amended: Rule repealed and a new Rule entitled "Instructor Application" adopted. Filed March 2, 1988; effective March 22, 1988.

Repealed: New Rule, same title adopted. F. Mar. 19, 1998; eff. Apr. 8, 1998.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Level III (Senior) Instructor Certification and Level IV (Master) Instructor Certification" adopted. F. Jan. 9, 2023; eff. Jan. 29, 2023.

Department 480. RULES OF GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

Chapter 480-15. PHARMACY TECHNICIANS AND OTHER PHARMACY PERSONNEL

480-15-.02 [Effective 2/20/2023] Registration of Pharmacy Technicians and Continuing Education Requirements

(1) Effective August 1, 2011, a pharmacy may only employ registered pharmacy technicians to perform pharmacy technician duties.

(2) In order to be registered as a Pharmacy Technician in this State, an applicant shall:

(a) Submit an application to the Board on the form prescribed by the Board;

(b) Attest that applicant is at least 17 years old;

(c) Attest that applicant is currently enrolled in high school, or has a high school diploma, or has a GED, or has a postsecondary education or college degree;

(d) Consent to, provide the necessary information to conduct, and pay for a background check to be conducted by the Board, its agent or a firm or firms approved by the Board, which background check will include a criminal history, driver license history and other information as the Board deems necessary, and will authorize the Board and the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency to receive the results;

(e) Submit the name and address of employer and place of employment;

(f) Pay application fees; and

(g) If certified, submit evidence of training supporting designation as certified.

(3) The Board may deny registration or conditionally grant registration for any of the reasons set forth in Code sections [26-4-60](#) or [43-1-19](#). This includes convictions, pleas of nolo contendere and guilty pleas related to misdemeanor crimes of moral turpitude or marijuana and to felonies. In addition, no pharmacist whose license has been denied, revoked, suspended, or restricted for disciplinary purposes shall be eligible to be registered as a pharmacy technician.

(4) The denial of an application for registration as a pharmacy technician shall not be a contested case and the applicant shall not be entitled to a hearing under the Georgia Administrative Procedures Action, O.C.G.A. T. 50, Ch. 13, but such applicant may be entitled to an appearance before the Board.

(5) A registration, once issued, is renewable biennially, upon payment of a fee. Registrations shall expire on June 30th of each odd-numbered year. If the application for renewal is not made and the fee paid before September 1st of the odd-numbered year, the registration shall lapse and shall not be renewed. An application for a new registration shall be required.

(6) On and after July 1, 2023, as a requirement for the biennial renewal of his/her registration, a pharmacy technician must complete not less than twenty (20) hours of approved continuing education.

(a) "Approved continuing education" means courses approved by the Board as described in Rule [480-3-.03](#).

(b) One hour of C.E. is defined as 0.1 C.E.U. Each pharmacy technician in the State of Georgia must obtain 20 hours of continuing education or 2.0 C.E.U.'s per biennium for registration renewal.

1. Certificates documenting 20 hours of approved continuing education or 2.0 C.E.U.'s must be completed and date within the biennium.

(c) During the technician's first registration cycle,

1. A pharmacy technician registered during the first six (6) months of the biennium (January to June), shall be required to obtain 20 hours of C.E.

2. A pharmacy technician registered during the following twelve (12) months (July to June), shall be required to obtain 10 hours of C.E.

3. A pharmacy technician registered during the last six (6) months (July to December) of the biennium, shall be exempt from continuing education for that biennium only.

(d) In the event of an audit and a pharmacy technician fails to submit certificates, which document his/her required continuing education credits, the Board will not process his/her request to renew the registration until the continuing education requirements are provided to the Board.

1. The pharmacy technician may not carry over continuing education credits from one registration period to the next.

2. Nothing is meant to prohibit representatives from the Georgia Drugs and Narcotics Agency (GDNA) from checking, auditing, or verifying a pharmacy technician's continuing education certificates as needed.

3. Each registered pharmacy technician shall maintain these certificates of attendance at continuing education meetings for a period of two (2) years from the date of the preceding renewal period.

(e) The staff of the Georgia Board of Pharmacy may audit, or otherwise select randomly, the continuing education of a percentage of registrants as determined by the Board.

(7) A registrant has a responsibility to update the Board with a change of home address and employment address within ten (10) days of such change.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 480-15-.02

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [16-13-111](#), [26-4-5](#), [26-4-20](#), [26-4-27](#), [26-4-28](#), [26-4-60](#), [26-4-80](#), [26-4-84](#), [26-4-85](#), [26-4-88](#), [26-4-110](#), [43-1-19](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "To Provide for the Revocation and Suspension of Licenses and Registration for Certain Causes" adopted. F. Oct. 6, 1970; eff. Oct. 26, 1970.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Use of Pharmacy Technicians and Other Pharmacy Personnel" adopted. F. Nov. 14, 2007; eff. Dec. 4, 2007.

Repealed: New Rule entitled "Registration of Pharmacy Technicians" adopted. F. Feb. 21, 2011; eff. Mar. 13, 2011.

Amended: F. Sept. 1, 2011; eff. Sept. 21, 2011.

Amended: F. June 29, 2015; eff. July 19, 2015.

Amended: F. Jan. 31, 2023; eff. Feb. 20, 2023.

Department 480. RULES OF GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY

Chapter 480-28. PRACTITIONER DISPENSING OF DRUGS

480-28-.10 [Effective 2/20/2023] Loss or Theft of Controlled Substances

- (1) A loss or theft of any controlled substance drugs must, within 48 hours of discovery, be reported to the GDNA.
- (2) A written report must be made regard any theft of significant loss, as defined under [21 C.F.R. 1301.76](#), of controlled substances by completing a DEA Form 106 and submitted to the Drug Enforcement Administration, with a copy to the GDNA.
- (3) The report shall include the following information:
 - (a) Full name and address of practitioner;
 - (b) The practitioner's DEA registration number;
 - (c) The date of theft;
 - (d) The type of theft;
 - (e) A list of cost codes, or identification symbols on package(s) stolen; and
 - (f) A list of controlled substances missing.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 480-28-.10

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [16-13-34](#), [26-4-4](#), [26-4-27](#), [26-4-28](#), [26-4-37](#), [26-4-112](#), [26-4-130](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Loss or Theft of Controlled Substances" adopted. F. Sept. 15, 1987; eff. Oct. 15, 1987.

Repealed: New Rule of same title adopted. F. July 24, 2002; eff. August 13, 2002.

Amended: F. Jan. 31, 2023; eff. Feb. 20, 2023.

Department 509. GEORGIA BOARD OF PRIVATE DETECTIVE AND SECURITY AGENCIES

Chapter 509-4. SAFETY AND CONDUCT OF LICENSEES AND REGISTRANTS

509-4-.08 Advertising and Promotional Materials

Advertising material distributed or published by a private detective agency or security agency must display the agency license number as issued by the Board.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 509-4-.08

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [43-38-2](#), [43-38-4\(d\)\(3\)](#), [\(4\)](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Advertising and Promotional Materials" adopted. F. Dec. 12, 2006; eff. Jan. 1, 2007.

Amended: F. Jan. 6, 2023; eff. Jan. 26, 2023.

Department 511. RULES OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Chapter 511-6. FOOD AND LODGING ESTABLISHMENTS

Subject 511-6-1. FOOD SERVICE

511-6-1-.01 [Effective 2/24/2023] Definitions

(1) "Accredited program" means a food protection manager certification program that has been evaluated and listed by an accrediting agency as conforming to national standards for organizations that certify individuals. It refers to the certification process and is a designation based upon an independent evaluation of factors such as the sponsor's mission; organizational structure; staff resources; revenue sources; policies; public information regarding program scope, eligibility requirements, re-certification, discipline and grievance procedures; test development and administration. Accredited programs does not refer to training functions or educational programs.

(2) "Adulterated" has the meaning stated in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, § 402.

(3) "Approved" means acceptable to the Health Authority based on a determination of conformity with principles, practices, and generally recognized standards that protect public health.

(4) "Asymptomatic" means without obvious symptoms, not showing or producing indications of a disease or other medical condition, such as an individual infected with a pathogen but not exhibiting or producing any signs or symptoms of vomiting, diarrhea, or jaundice. It includes not showing symptoms because symptoms have resolved or subsided, or because symptoms never manifested.

(5) "Authorization to Operate" means approval from a county board of health to operate within its jurisdiction for a mobile food service establishment that is permitted in another county that is referred to as the county of origin.

(6) "aw" means water activity which is a measure of the free moisture in a food, is the quotient of the water vapor pressure of the substance divided by the vapor pressure of pure water at the same temperature, and is indicated by the symbol aw.

(7) "Balut" means an embryo inside a fertile egg that has been incubated for a period sufficient for the embryo to reach a specific stage of development after which it is removed from incubation before hatching.

(8) "Base of operation" means a fixed location with a food service permit from which a mobile food service unit, extended food service unit, "pop-up" food service operation, or catering food service establishment operates. Mobile food service units operating in conjunction with a restaurant shall obtain a separate base of operation permit in addition to the restaurant's fixed food service permit. A restaurant's fixed food service permit shall not serve as the base of operation permit for the mobile food service unit.

(9) "Beverage" means a liquid for drinking, including water.

(10) "Bottled drinking water" means water that is sealed in bottles, packages, or other containers and offered for sale for human consumption, including bottled mineral water.

(11) "Casing" means a tubular container for sausage products made of either natural or artificial (synthetic) material.

(12) "Catering operation" means the provision of a specific menu and quantity of food for service to a consumer, pursuant to a contract, at a site such as a consumer's home, motion picture filming location, or other event site. Food

served during a catering operation may be prepared all or in part at the base of operation and transported to the service site, or it may be prepared and served at the service site.

(13) "Catering food service establishment" means a permitted food service establishment that has been approved by the Health Authority to perform catering operations. A catering food service establishment shall operate from a base of operation within the State of Georgia, and its permit shall be issued by the Health Authority in the county in which its base of operation is located. A catering food service establishment may include one or more mobile catering units and other components which allow for the preparation and service of food at the service site; however, the term shall not include operations such as temporary food service establishments or extended food service establishments, and shall not include delivery of food (for example, pizza) by a food service establishment to a consumer.

(14) "Certification" means a document certifying that an individual has completed an approved food safety training program and has passed a professionally validated food safety examination.

(15) "Certification number" means a unique combination of letters and numbers assigned by a shellfish control authority to a molluscan shellfish dealer according to the provisions of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

(16) "Certified food safety manager (CFSM)" means the owner or manager of a food service establishment who has successfully completed a food safety training program approved by the Department and passed a professionally validated CFSM examination that is accredited by the Conference for Food Protection or other accrediting agency as conforming to national standards for organizations that certify individuals.

(17) "CFR" means Code of Federal Regulations.

(18) "CIP" means cleaned in place by the circulation or flowing by mechanical means through a piping system of a detergent solution, water rinse, and sanitizing solution onto or over equipment surfaces that require cleaning, such as the method used, in part, to clean and sanitize a frozen dessert machine. It does not include the cleaning of equipment such as band saws, slicers, or mixers that are subjected to in-place manual cleaning without the use of a CIP system.

(19) "Color additive" has the meaning stated in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, [§201\(t\)](#) and [21 CFR 70.3f](#).

(20) "Commingle" means to combine shellstock harvested on different days or from different growing areas as identified on the tag or label, or to combine shucked shellfish from containers with different container codes or different shucking dates.

(21) "Comminuted" means reduced in size by methods including chopping, flaking, grinding, or mincing. It includes fish or meat products that are reduced in size and restructured or reformulated such as gefilte fish, gyros, ground beef, and sausage and a mixture of two or more types of meat that have been reduced in size and combined, such as sausages made from two or more meats.

(22) "Conditional employee" means a potential food employee to whom a job offer is made, conditional on responses to subsequent medical questions or examinations designed to identify potential food employees who may be suffering from a disease that can be transmitted through food and done in compliance with Title 1 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

(23) "Confirmed disease outbreak" means a foodborne disease outbreak in which laboratory analysis of appropriate specimens identifies a causative agent and epidemiological analysis implicates the food as the source of the illness.

(24) "Consumer" means a person who is a member of the general public, takes possession of food, is not functioning in the capacity of an operator of a food service establishment or food processing plant and does not offer the food for resale.

- (25) "Core item" means a provision in this Chapter that is not designated as a priority item or a priority foundation item. It includes an item that usually relates to general sanitation, operational controls, sanitation standard operating procedures (SSOPs), facilities or structures, equipment design, or general maintenance.
- (26) "Corrosion-resistant material" means a material that maintains acceptable surface cleanability characteristics under prolonged influence of the food to be contacted, the normal use of cleaning compounds and sanitizing solutions, and other conditions of the use environment.
- (27) "Counter-mounted equipment" means equipment that is not portable and is designed to be mounted off the floor on a table, counter, or shelf.
- (28) "County board of health" means a Board of Health established pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [31-3-1](#).
- (29) "County of origin" means the permitting county for a mobile food service establishment. This is the same county where a mobile food service unit's base of operation is located.
- (30) "Critical control point" means a point or procedure in a specific food system where loss of control may result in an unacceptable health risk.
- (31) "Critical item" means a provision of this Chapter, that, if in noncompliance, is more likely than other violations to contribute to food contamination, illness, or environmental health hazard and may create an imminent health hazard.
- (32) "Critical limit" means the maximum or minimum value to which a physical, biological, or chemical parameter must be controlled at a critical control point to minimize the risk that the identified food safety hazard may occur.
- (33) "Cut leafy greens" means fresh leafy greens whose leaves have been cut, shredded, sliced, chopped, or torn. The term "leafy greens" includes iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce, leaf lettuce, butter lettuce, baby leaf lettuce (i.e., immature lettuce or leafy greens), escarole, endive, spring mix, spinach, cabbage, kale, arugula and chard. The term "leafy greens" does not include herbs such as cilantro or parsley.
- (34) "Dealer" means a person who is authorized by a shellfish control authority for the activities of shellstock shipper, shucker-packer, repacker, reshipper, or depuration processor of molluscan shellfish according to the provisions of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.
- (35) "Department" means the Georgia Department of Public Health.
- (36) "Disclosure" means a written statement that clearly identifies the animal-derived foods which are, or can be ordered, raw, undercooked, or without otherwise being processed to eliminate pathogens, or items that contain an ingredient that is raw, undercooked, or without otherwise being processed to eliminate pathogens.
- (37) "District Standard Trainer" means an Environmental Health Specialist (EHS) appointed by a District Environmental Health Director to train and standardize other EHS in conducting risk based inspections of food service establishments and to monitor their inspection activities as well. In addition, these individuals must successfully complete a standardization exercise and receive standardization certification from the State Environmental Health Section.
- (38) "Drinking water" means water that meets criteria as specified in [40 CFR 141](#) National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, is traditionally known as "potable water", and includes the term "water" except where the term used connotes that the water is not potable, such as "boiler water," "mop water," "rainwater," "wastewater," and "nondrinking" water.
- (39) "Dry storage area" means a room or area designated for the storage of packaged or containerized bulk food that is not time/temperature control for safety food and dry goods such as single-service items.

(40) "Easily cleanable" means a characteristic of a surface that allows effective removal of soil by normal cleaning methods; is dependent on the material, design, construction, and installation of the surface; and varies with the likelihood of the surface's role in introducing pathogenic or toxigenic agents or other contaminants into food based on the surface's approved placement, purpose, and use. The application of this general criterion will depend on the purpose of the surface (e.g., food preparation counter, floor, consumer table, etc.)

(41) "Easily movable" means portable, mounted on casters, gliders, or rollers, or provided with a mechanical means to safely tilt a unit of equipment for cleaning. It also means having no utility connection, a utility connection that disconnects quickly, or a flexible utility connection line of sufficient length to allow the equipment to be moved for cleaning of the equipment and adjacent area.

(42) "Egg" means the shell egg of avian species such as a chicken, duck, goose, guinea, quail, ratites or turkey and does not include a balut, or the egg of reptile species such as alligator, or an egg product.

(43) "Egg product" means all, or a portion of, the contents found inside eggs separated from the shell and pasteurized in a food processing plant, with or without added ingredients, intended for human consumption, such as dried, frozen or liquid eggs. It does not include food which contains eggs only in a relatively small proportion such as cake mixes.

(44) "Emergency Operations Plan" is a detailed operations plan outlining how a food service establishment may continue operations in the event an imminent health hazard exists because of an emergency such as a fire, flood, interruption of electrical or water service for two or more hours, sewage malfunction, misuse of poisonous or toxic materials, onset of apparent foodborne illness outbreak, gross unsanitary occurrence or condition, or other circumstances that may endanger public health. The operation plan should demonstrate and outline procedures and actions of how food service management, such as the food service permit holder, person in charge, and food service staff will ensure food can continue to be prepared and served safely without comprising the public's health. The plan should demonstrate how the facility can provide potable water, temperature control, cleaning and sanitizing, and general sanitization when resources may not be available during the event.

(45) "Employee" means the permit holder, person in charge, food employee, person having supervisory or management duties, person on the payroll, family member, volunteer, person performing work under contractual agreement, or other person working in a food service establishment.

(46) "Enough" means occurring in such quantity and quality or scope as to fully satisfy demand or need.

(47) "EPA" means the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

(48) "Equipment" means an article that is used in the operation of a food service establishment such as a freezer, grinder, hood, ice maker, meat block, mixer, oven, reach-in refrigerator, scale, sink, slicer, stove, table, temperature measuring device for ambient air, warewashing machine, or other similar devices. It does not include apparatuses used for handling or storing large quantities of packaged foods that are received from a supplier in a cased or overwrapped lot, such as hand trucks, forklifts, dollies, pallets, racks, and skids.

(49) "Exclude" means to prevent a person from working as an employee in a food service establishment or entering a food service establishment as an employee.

(50) "Extended food service unit" means a stationary trailer, kiosk or similar unit operating as an extension of and under the managerial authority of a permitted food service establishment located on the same property.

(51) "Extensively remodeled" means any changes involving structure or location of walls, openings, floors or counters, or modification of plumbing, mechanical or electrical components other than fixtures or in the equipment's layout, arrangement and installation of a food service establishment that the resulting construction, layout, and equipment and installation significantly differs from what was originally approved by the Health Authority at the time of the Health Authority's issuance of a permit. It does not include minor cosmetic changes such as painting, moving equipment for detailed cleaning, detailed cleaning of physical facilities, replacing carpeting in the dining area, or repairing damage to walls, floors, and ceilings.

(52) "Facilitator" means a third-party entity which manages "pop-up" food service operations through permitted food service establishments at an approved location within a building or enclosed courtyard.

(53) "FDA" means the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(54) "Fish" means fresh or saltwater finfish, crustaceans and other forms of aquatic life (including alligator, frog, aquatic turtle, jellyfish, sea cucumber, and sea urchin and the roe of such animals) other than birds or mammals, and all mollusks, if such animal life is intended for human consumption. It includes an edible human food product derived in whole or in part from fish, including fish that have been processed in any manner.

(55) "Fixed food service establishment" means a permitted food service establishment that is not mobile.

(56) "Follow-up inspection" means a complete inspection of a food service establishment by the Health Authority to determine compliance with this Chapter and its enforcement purposes in response to findings of the previous routine inspection.

(57) "Food" means a raw, cooked, or processed edible substance, ice, beverage, or ingredient used or intended for use or for sale in whole or in part for human consumption, or chewing gum.

(58) "Food additive" has the meaning stated in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act [§201\(s\)](#) and [21 CFR 170.3\(e\)\(1\)](#).

(59) "Foodborne disease outbreak" means the occurrence of two or more cases of a similar illness resulting from the ingestion of a common food.

(60) "Food-contact surface" means a surface of equipment or a utensil with which food normally comes into contact or a surface of equipment or a utensil from which food may drain, drip, or splash into a food or onto a surface normally in contact with food.

(61) "Food employee" means an individual working with unpackaged food, food equipment or utensils, or food-contact surfaces.

(62) "Food processing plant" means a commercial operation that manufactures, packages, labels, or stores food for human consumption, and provides food for sale or distribution to other business entities such as food processing plants or food service establishments. A food processing plant does not include a food service establishment.

(63) "Food service establishment" means public or private establishments which prepare and serve meals, lunches, short orders, sandwiches, frozen desserts, or other edible products directly to the consumer either for carry out or service within the establishment. Such term includes restaurants; coffee shops; cafeterias; short order cafes; luncheonettes; taverns; lunchrooms; places which retail sandwiches or salads; soda fountains; mobile food service establishments; industrial cafeterias; catering establishments; and similar facilities by whatever name called. Within a food service establishment, there may be a food sales component, not separately operated. This food sales component shall be considered as part of the food service establishment. Such term shall not include the following:

(a) a "food sales establishment" as defined in the O.C.G.A. Section [26-2-21](#) and subject to regulation by the Georgia Commissioner of Agriculture, except as otherwise in this paragraph.

(b) The food service component of any food sales establishment defined in O.C.G.A. Section [26-2-21](#);

(c) any outdoor recreation activity sponsored by the state, a county, a municipality, or any department or entity thereof, any outdoor or indoor (other than school cafeteria food service) public school function, or any outdoor private school function;

(d) any organization which is operating on its own property or on the property of a party that has provided written consent for the use of such property for such purpose and which is exempt from taxes under O.C.G.A. Section [48-7-](#)

[25\(a\)\(1\)](#) or under Section 501(d) or paragraphs (1) through (8) or paragraph (10) of Section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code for the purpose of operating a house or other residential structures where seriously ill or injured children and their families are provided temporary accommodations in proximity to their treatment hospitals and where food is prepared, served, transported, or stored by volunteer personnel;

(e) establishments for the preparation and serving of meals, lunches, short orders, sandwiches, frozen desserts, or other edible products if such preparation or serving is an authorized part of and occurs upon the site of an event which:

1. Is sponsored by a political subdivision of this state;
2. Is held on the property of such sponsor or on the property of a party that has provided written consent for use of such property for such event; and
3. Lasts 120 hours or less; or

(f) nonprofit food sales and food service provided under a permit issued pursuant to O.C.G.A. [26-2-391](#).

(64) "Food service manager" means any person who supervises or trains a food service worker to follow all food safety regulations. The manager shall be an employee of the permitted food service establishment.

(65) "Food vending location" means a fixed property location where a mobile food service unit or extended food service unit parks to offer its food products to its consumer or a route along a street that a mobile food service unit travels and periodically stops, at predetermined dates and times, to offer its food products to its consumers. The established boundaries of a City, County, the State of Georgia, or any combination thereof, shall not be used to define a food vending location.

(66) "Game animal" means an animal, the products of which are food, that is not classified as livestock, sheep, swine, goat, horse, mule, or other equine in [9 CFR 301.2](#) Definitions, or as Poultry, or fish. It includes mammals such as reindeer, elk, deer, antelope, water buffalo, bison, rabbit, squirrel, opossum, raccoon, nutria, or muskrat, and nonaquatic reptiles such as land snakes, but does not include ratites.

(67) "General public" means all individuals who have access to facilities that prepare and serve or sell food, including but not limited to, beneficiaries of governmental or private charitable feeding programs such as soup kitchens; and residents and employees of institutions that provide meals to their residents or employees either with or without direct payment to the institution by the residents or employees such as nursing homes, personal care homes with 25 or more beds, and residential childcare institutions with 13 or more children. It does not include:

(a) residents of private homes or home environments where residents take part in preparing and serving their own meals;

(b) guests in private homes; or

(c) participants in a pot-luck dinner, covered dish supper, or similar event in which the food is prepared or contributed by the participants.

(68) "General use pesticide" means a pesticide that is not classified by EPA for restricted use as specified in [40 CFR 152.175](#), Pesticides classified for restricted use.

(69) "Grade A standards" means the requirements of the United States Public Health Service/FDA "Grade A Pasteurized Milk Ordinance" with which governs certain fluid and dry milk and milk products.

(70) "HACCP plan" means a written document that specifies the formal procedures for following the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point principles developed by The National Advisory Committee on Microbiological Criteria for Foods.

(71) "Handwashing sink" means a lavatory, a basin or vessel for washing, a wash basin, or a plumbing fixture especially placed for use in personal hygiene and designed for the washing of the hands and it includes an automatic handwashing facility.

(72) "Hazard" means a biological, chemical, or physical property that may cause an unacceptable consumer health risk.

(73) "Health Authority" means the Department, or a County Board of Health acting as its agent.

(74) "Health practitioner" means a physician licensed to practice medicine, or if allowed by law, a nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or similar medical professional.

(75) "Hermetically sealed container" means a container that is designed and intended to be secure against the entry of microorganisms and, in the case of low acid canned foods, to maintain the commercial sterility of its contents after processing.

(76) "Highly susceptible population" means persons who are more likely than other people in the general population to experience foodborne disease because they are immunocompromised, preschool age children, or older adults and obtaining food at a facility that provides services such as custodial care, health care, or assisted living, such as a child or adult day care center, kidney dialysis center, hospital or nursing home, or nutritional or socialization services such as a senior center.

(77) "Imminent health hazard" means a product, practice, circumstance, or event that may pose a significant risk of injury or illness to food service employees or to members of the public if not promptly corrected or halted.

(78) "Incubator food service establishment" means a food service establishment properly sized, designed, equipped, and managed to foster other food industry entrepreneurs, such as caterers, by covering the capital startup-cost through the provision of a commercial food service kitchen. These commercial food service kitchen facilities are rented to incubatees/members on a separation of time and space basis. The incubator food service establishment, also known as a kitchen incubator or shared kitchen, enables a food service operation to develop to the stage where it may invest in its own commercial food service establishment equipment and facilities. At the time of adoption of this Chapter, there are two basic types of incubator food service establishments:

(a) Business Model A. A single food service establishment operation that has a single permit holder and incubatees/members are considered to be contractual employees of the permit holder that utilize the food service establishment. In this business model, the layout is an open kitchen in which the incubatees/members operate on a separation of time and space basis.

(b) Business Model B. A business relationship in which incubates/members operate within build-out-units and are considered to be contractual employees of a permit holder on a separation of time and space basis. In this business model, the incubator food service establishment must qualify for a permit and would be responsible for the overall facility and each incubatee/member must obtain a permit to operate within the build-out-units on a separation of time and space basis.

(79) "Incubatee/Member" means a food industry entrepreneur who is operating under the authority and active managerial control of a permit holder of an incubator food service establishment on a separation of time and space basis.

(80) "Initial inspection" means an inspection of a food service establishment conducted by the Health Authority to determine the food service establishment's compliance with applicable Law and this Chapter for the purpose of the issuance of a permit.

(81) "Injected" means manipulating meat by introducing a solution into its interior by processes that are referred to as "injecting," "pump marinating," or "stitch pumping".

- (82) "Juice" means the liquid expressed or extracted from one or more fruits or vegetables, purees of the edible portions of one or more fruits or vegetables, or any concentrates of such liquid or puree. It includes juice as a whole beverage, an ingredient of a beverage and a purée as an ingredient of a beverage, but does not include, for purposes of HACCP, liquids, purées, or concentrates that are not used as beverages or ingredients of beverages.
- (83) "Kitchenware" means food preparation and storage utensils. It does not include tableware.
- (84) "Key Drop Deliveries" means a type of delivery in which distributors place products into food service establishments outside of its normal, business hours or when the establishment is closed.
- (85) "Law" means applicable local, state, and federal statutes, regulations, and ordinances.
- (86) "Limited food preparation" means no combining of ingredients except the addition of seasonings, toppings or condiments.
- (87) "Linens" means fabric items such as cloth hampers, cloth napkins, table cloths, wiping cloths, and work garments including cloth gloves.
- (88) "Major food allergen" means milk, egg, fish (such as bass, flounder, cod, and including crustacean such as crab, lobster, or shrimp), tree nuts (such as almonds, pecans, or walnuts), wheat, peanuts, and soybeans; or a food ingredient that contains protein derived from a food specified in this definition. It does not include any highly refined oil derived from a major food allergen or any ingredient derived from such highly refined oil; or any ingredient that is exempt under the petition or notification process specified in the Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-282).
- (89) "Meat" means the flesh of animals used as food including the dressed flesh of cattle, swine, sheep, or goats and other edible animals. It does not include fish, poultry, or wild game animals.
- (90) "Mechanically Tenderized" means manipulating meat with deep penetration by processes which may be referred to as "blade tenderizing," "jaccarding," "pinning," "needling," or using blades, pins, needles or any mechanical device. It does not include processes by which solutions are injected into meat.
- (91) "mg/L" means milligrams per liter, which is the metric equivalent of parts per million (ppm).
- (92) "Mobile catering unit" means a trailer, pushcart, vehicle or other similar conveyance operating as part of a permitted catering food service establishment. This term shall include any conveyance used in conjunction with a catering operation, whether or not food is prepared or served in the conveyance.
- (93) "Mobile food service establishment" means a mobile food service unit operating from a single base of operation and under the managerial authority of one permit holder.
- (94) "Mobile food service unit" means an independent trailer, motor driven or manually propelled pushcart, food truck, watercraft, movable portable structure, vehicle vendor or any other similar conveyance which is not connected to a permanent water supply or sewer disposal system and from which food is offered for sale or service.
- (95) "Molluscan shellfish" means any edible species of fresh or frozen oysters, clams, mussels, and scallops or edible portions thereof, except when the scallop product consists only of the shucked muscle.
- (96) "Non-continuous cooking" means the cooking of food in a food establishment using a process in which the initial heating of the food is intentionally halted so that it may be cooled and held for complete cooking at a later time prior to sale or service. Non-continuous cooking does not include cooking procedures that only involve temporarily interrupting or slowing an otherwise continuous cooking process.
- (97) "Packaged" means bottled, canned, cartoned, securely bagged or securely wrapped, whether packaged in a food service establishment or a food processing plant. It does not include a wrapper, carry-out box or other nondurable container used to containerize food with for the purpose of protecting food during or delivery to the consumer.

(98) "Permit" means the document issued by the Health Authority that authorizes a person to operate a food service establishment and signifies satisfactory compliance with these rules.

(99) "Permit holder" means the person who possesses a valid permit to operate a food service establishment and is legally responsible for the operation of the food service establishment such as the owner, the owner's agent, or other person.

(100) "Person or Persons" means any individual, firm, partnership, corporation, trustee, or association, or combination thereof.

(101) "Person in charge" means the permit holder, the certified food safety manager (CFSM), or individual present at a food service establishment who is responsible for managing food safety of the operation at the time of inspection. If no individual has been designated as the person in charge at the time of inspection, then any employee present may be considered the person in charge by the Health Authority.

(102) "Personal care items" means items or substances that may be poisonous, toxic or a source of contamination and are used to maintain or enhance a person's health, hygiene or appearance. They include items such as medicines; first aid supplies; cosmetics; and toiletries such as toothpaste and mouthwash.

(103) "pH" means the symbol for the negative logarithm of the hydrogen ion concentration, which is a measure of the degree of acidity or alkalinity of a solution. Values between zero and seven indicate acidity and values between seven and fourteen indicate alkalinity. The value for pure distilled water is seven, which is considered neutral.

(104) "Physical facilities" means the structure, playground areas, and interior surfaces of a food service establishment including accessories such as soap and towel dispensers and attachments such as light fixtures and heating or air conditioning system vents.

(105) "Plumbing fixture" means a receptacle or device that is permanently or temporarily connected to the water distribution system of the premises and demands a supply of water from the system or discharges used water, waste materials, or sewage directly or indirectly to the drainage system of the premises.

(106) "Plumbing system" means the water supply and distribution pipes; plumbing fixtures and traps; soil, waste, and vent pipes; sanitary and storm sewers and building drains, including their respective connections, devices, and appurtenances within the premises; and water-treating equipment.

(107) "Poisonous or toxic materials" means substances that are not intended for ingestion and are included in any one of these categories:

(a) Cleaners and sanitizers, which include cleaning and sanitizing agents and agents such as caustics, acids, drying agents, polishes and other chemicals; Pesticides, except sanitizers, which include substances such as insecticides and rodenticides;

(b) Substances necessary for the operation and maintenance of the establishment such as nonfood grade lubricants and personal care items that may be deleterious to health; or

(c) Substances that are not necessary for the operation and maintenance of the establishment and are on the premises for retail sale, such as petroleum products and paints.

(108) "Pop-up food service operation" means the sale of food to a limited group of customers by a permitted food service establishment, coordinated through a facilitator, at an off-site location within a building or enclosed courtyard that has been approved by the Health Authority.

(109) "Poultry" means any domesticated bird (chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guineas, ratites, or squabs), whether live or dead, as defined in [9 CFR 381.1](#), Poultry Products Inspection Regulations Definitions, Poultry; and any

migratory waterfowl or game bird, pheasant, partridge, quail, grouse, or pigeon, whether live or dead, as defined in [9 CFR 362.1](#), Voluntary Poultry Inspection Regulations Definitions.

(110) "Premises" means and includes all physical buildings, appurtenances, parking lots and all property owned or used by the food service establishment.

(111) "Preparation of food" means to put together or make by combining ingredients and processing food for final service.

(112) "Primal cut" means a basic major cut into which carcasses and sides of meat are separated, such as a beef round, pork loin, lamb flank, or veal breast.

(113) "Priority item" means a provision in this Chapter whose application contributes directly to the elimination, prevention or reduction to an acceptable level, hazards associated with foodborne illness or injury and there is no other provision that more directly controls the hazard. Priority item includes items with a quantifiable measure to show control of hazards such as cooking, reheating, cooling, and handwashing. Priority items are identified in this Chapter with a superscript P- P.

(114) "Priority foundation item" means a provision in this Chapter whose application supports, facilitates or enables one or more priority items. It includes an item that requires the purposeful incorporation of specific actions, equipment or procedures by industry management to attain control of risk factors that contribute to foodborne illness or injury such as personnel training, infrastructure or necessary equipment, HACCP plans, documentation or record keeping, and labeling. Priority foundation items are identified in this Chapter with a superscript Pf - Pf.

(115) "Public water system" has the meaning stated in [40 CFR 141](#), National Primary Drinking Water Regulations.

(116) "Pushcart" means a human propelled, self-contained, enclosed food service cart that operates at predetermined locations as approved by the Health Authority. Its menu is limited to the preparation and serving of hot dogs or fully cooked encased sausages requiring reheating only, condiments such as commercially prepared chili dispensed from approved dispensers, and commercially prepared, prepackaged, time/temperature control for safety foods such as burritos and tamales, served in their original packaging, requiring reheating only or limited to serving non-time/temperature control for safety foods.

(117) "Ratite" means a flightless bird such as an emu, ostrich, or rhea.

(118) "Ready-to-Eat Food" means food that is in a form that is edible without additional preparation to achieve food safety, or is a raw or partially cooked animal food and the consumer is advised, or is prepared in accordance with a variance that is granted, and may receive additional preparation for palatability or aesthetic, epicurean, gastronomic, or culinary purposes. It includes:

(a) Raw animal food that is cooked as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(5\)\(a\) or \(b\)](#) or frozen as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(5\)\(e\)](#);

(b) Raw fruits and vegetables that are washed;

(c) Fruits and vegetables that are cooked for hot holding;

(d) All time/temperature control for safety food that is cooked to the temperature and time required for the specific food and cooled;

(e) Plant food for which further washing, cooking, or other processing is not required for food safety, and from which rinds, peels, husks, or shells, if naturally present are removed;

(f) Substances derived from plants such as spices, seasonings, and sugar;

(g) A bakery item such as bread, cakes, pies, fillings, or icing for which further cooking is not required for food safety;

(h) The following products that are produced in accordance with USDA guidelines and that have received a lethality treatment for pathogens: dry, fermented sausages, such as dry salami or pepperoni; salt-cured meat and poultry products, such as prosciutto ham, country cured ham, and Parma ham; and dried meat and poultry products, such as jerky or beef sticks; and

(i) Foods manufactured as specified in 21 CFR Part 113, Thermally Processed Low-Acid Foods Packaged in Hermetically Sealed Containers.

(119) "Reduced Oxygen Packaging" means the reduction of the amount of oxygen in a package by removing oxygen; displacing oxygen and replacing it with another gas or combination of gases; or otherwise controlling the oxygen content to a level below that normally found in the atmosphere (approximately 21% at sea level); and a process specified in this definition that involves a food for which the hazards *Clostridium botulinum* or *Listeria monocytogenes* require control in the final packaged form. It includes:

(a) Vacuum packaging, in which air is removed from a package of food and the package is hermetically sealed so that a vacuum remains inside the package;

(b) Modified atmosphere packaging, in which the atmosphere of a package of food is modified so that its composition is different from air but the atmosphere may change over time due to the permeability of the packaging material or the respiration of the food. Modified atmosphere packaging includes reduction in the proportion of oxygen, total replacement of oxygen, or an increase in the proportion of other gases such as carbon dioxide or nitrogen;

(c) Controlled atmosphere packaging, in which the atmosphere of a package of food is modified so that until the package is opened, its composition is different from air, and continuous control of that atmosphere is maintained, such as by using oxygen scavengers or a combination of total replacement of oxygen, nonrespiring food, and impermeable packaging material;

(d) Cook chill packaging, in which cooked food is hot filled into impermeable bags which have the air expelled and are then sealed or crimped closed. The bagged food is rapidly chilled and refrigerated at temperatures that inhibit the growth of psychrotrophic pathogens; or

(e) Sous vide packaging, in which raw or partially cooked food is vacuum packaged in an impermeable bag, cooked in the bag, rapidly chilled, and refrigerated at temperatures that inhibit the growth of psychrotrophic pathogens.

(120) "Refuse" means solid waste that is not carried by water through the sewage system.

(121) "Reminder" means a written statement concerning the health risk of consuming animal foods raw, undercooked, or without otherwise being processed to eliminate pathogens.

(122) "Re-service" means the transfer of food that is unused and returned by a consumer after being served or sold and in the possession of the consumer, to another person.

(123) "Restrict" means to limit the activities of a food employee so that there is no risk of transmitting a disease that is transmissible through food and the food employee does not work with exposed food, clean equipment, utensils, linens, or unwrapped single-service or single-use articles.

(124) "Restricted egg" means any check, dirty egg, incubator reject, inedible, leaker, or loss as defined in [9 CFR 590](#).

(125) "Restricted use pesticide" means a pesticide product that contains the active ingredients specified in [40 CFR 152.175](#) Pesticides classified for restricted use, and that is limited to use by or under the direct supervision of a certified applicator.

(126) "Risk" means the likelihood that an adverse health effect will occur within a population as a result of a hazard in a food.

(127) "Routine inspection" means the first complete inspection of a food service establishment conducted by the Health Authority after the initial inspection for issuance of a permit. For purposes of routine enforcement of this Chapter, it is also the normal routine monitoring of the food service establishment by the Health Authority to assess satisfactory compliance with the provisions of the Chapter.

(128) "Safe material" means:

(a) An article manufactured from or composed of materials that may not reasonably be expected to result, directly or indirectly, in their becoming a component or otherwise affecting the characteristics of any food;

(b) An additive that is used as specified in Sections 409 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; or

(c) Other materials that are not additives and that are used in conformity with applicable regulations of the Food and Drug Administration.

(129) "Sanitization" means the application of cumulative heat or chemicals on cleaned food-contact surfaces that, when evaluated for efficacy, is sufficient to yield a reduction of 5 logs, which is equal to a 99.999% reduction of representative disease microorganisms of public health importance.

(130) "Sealed" means free of cracks or other openings that allow the entry or passage of moisture.

(131) "Service animal" means an animal such as a guide dog or signal dog, that has been specifically trained to provide assistance to an individual with a disability as determined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

(132) "Servicing area" means an operating base location to which a mobile food service unit or transportation vehicle returns at least once daily for such things as vehicle and equipment cleaning, discharging liquid or solid wastes, refilling water tanks and ice bins, and boarding food.

(133) "Sewage" means liquid waste containing animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution and may include liquids containing chemicals in solution.

(134) "Shellfish certification number" means a unique combination of letters and numbers assigned by a shellfish control authority to a molluscan shellfish dealer according to the provisions of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program.

(135) "Shellfish control authority" means a state, federal, foreign, tribal, or other government entity legally responsible for administering a program that includes certification of molluscan shellfish harvesters and dealers for interstate commerce.

(136) "Shellstock" means raw, in-shell molluscan shellfish.

(137) "Shiga toxin - producing *Escherichia coli*" (STEC) means any *E. coli* capable of producing Shiga toxins (also called verocytotoxins). STEC infections can be asymptomatic or may result in a spectrum of illness ranging from mild non-bloody diarrhea, to hemorrhagic colitis (i.e., bloody diarrhea), to hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS - a type of kidney failure). Examples of serotypes of STEC include *E. coli* O157:H7; *E. coli* O157:NM; *E. coli* O26:H11; *E. coli* O145:NM; *E. coli* O103:H2; and *E. coli* O111:NM. STEC are sometimes referred to as VTEC (verocytotoxigenic *E. coli*) or as EHEC (Enterohemorrhagic *E. coli*). EHEC are a subset of STEC which can cause hemorrhagic colitis or HUS.

(138) "Shucked shellfish" means molluscan shellfish that have one or both shells removed.

(139) "Single-service articles" means tableware, carry-out utensils, cups, lids or closures, plates, napkins, doilies, bags, containers, placemats, stirrers, straws, toothpicks, and wrappers that are intended to be used once by one person and then discarded.

(140) "Single-use articles" means utensils and bulk food containers designed and constructed to be used once and discarded. It includes items such as wax paper, butcher paper, plastic wrap, formed aluminum food containers, jars, plastic tubs or buckets, bread wrappers, pickle barrels, ketchup bottles and number ten cans which are not considered durable and cannot be cleaned and sanitized by an approved method.

(141) "Slacking" means the process of moderating the temperature of a food such as allowing a food to gradually increase from a temperature of -23°C (-10°F) to -4°C (25°F) in preparation for deep-fat frying or to facilitate even heat penetration during the cooking of previously block-frozen food such as shrimp.

(142) "Smooth" means a surface that has no roughness or projections that render it difficult to clean or maintain in a sanitary condition.

(143) "Special food service operation" means a mobile food service establishment, an extended food service establishment, a temporary food service establishment, a "pop-up" food service operation, a catering food service establishment, or an incubator food service establishment.

(144) "State Office Standard-Trainer" means State Environmental Health Office personnel at the Program Consultant level who have been appointed by the State Food Service Program Director to train and standardize district appointed environmental health specialist to become District Standard-Trainers and to monitor district standardization activities as well. In addition, these individuals must successfully complete a standardization exercise and receive standardization certification from the State Environmental Health Section and/or United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) prior to being assigned duties and responsibilities of a standard-trainer.

(145) "Table-mounted equipment" means equipment that is not portable and is designed to be mounted off the floor on a table, counter, or shelf.

(146) "Tableware" means eating, drinking, and serving utensils for table use such as flatware including forks, knives, and spoons; hollowware including bowls, cups, serving dishes, and tumblers; and plates.

(147) "Temperature measuring device" means a thermometer, thermocouple, thermistor, or other device that indicates the temperature of food, air, or water.

(148) "Temporary food service establishment" means a food service establishment that operates at the same location for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration.

(149) "Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food" (formerly "potentially hazardous food" or "PHF")

(a) "Time/temperature control for safety food" means a food that requires time/temperature control for safety (TCS) to limit pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation.

(b) "Time/temperature control for safety food" includes an animal food that is raw or heat-treated; a plant food that is heat-treated or consists of raw seed sprouts, cut melons, cut leafy greens, cut tomatoes or mixtures of cut tomatoes that are not modified in a way so that they are unable to support pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation, or garlic-in-oil mixtures that are not modified in a way so that they are unable to support pathogenic microorganism growth or toxin formation; and except as specified in 3.(iv) of this definition, a food that because of the interaction of its AW and PH values is designated as Product Assessment Required (PA) in Table A or B of this definition:

Table A. Interaction of pH and a _w for control of spores in food heat-treated to destroy vegetative cells and subsequently packaged			
a _w values	pH values		
	4.6 or less	> 4.6 - 5.6	> 5.6
<0.92	non-TCS food*	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD
> 0.92 - .95	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD	PA**
>0.95	non-TCS FOOD	PA	PA
* TCS food means Time/Temperature Control for Safety food			
** PA means Product Assessment required			

Table B. Interaction of pH and a _w for control of vegetative cells and spores in food not heat-treated or heat-treated but not packaged				
a _w values	pH values			
	< 4.2	4.2 - 4.6	> 4.6 - 5.0	>5.0
< 0.88	non-TCS food*	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD
0.88 - 0.90	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD	PA**
> 0.90 - 0.92	non-TCS FOOD	non-TCS FOOD	PA	PA
> 0.92	non-TCS FOOD	PA	PA	PA
* TCS food means Time/Temperature Control for Safety food				
** PA means Product Assessment required				

(c) "Time/temperature control for safety food" does not include:

1. An air-cooled hard-boiled EGG with shell intact, or an EGG with shell intact that is not hard-boiled, but has been pasteurized to destroy all viable salmonellae;
2. A food in an unopened hermetically sealed container that is commercially processed to achieve and maintain commercial sterility under conditions of non-refrigerated storage and distribution;
3. A food that because of its pH or Aw value, or interaction of Aw and pH values, is designated as a non-TCS food in Table A or B of this definition;
4. A food that is designated as Product Assessment Required (PA) in Table A or B of this definition and has undergone a Product Assessment showing that the growth or toxin formation of pathogenic microorganisms that are reasonably likely to occur in that food is precluded due to:

(i) Intrinsic factors including added or natural characteristics of the food such as preservatives, antimicrobials, humectants, acidulants, or nutrients,

(ii) Extrinsic factors including environmental or operational factors that affect the food such as packaging, modified atmosphere such as Reduced Oxygen Packaging, shelf life and use, or temperature range of storage and use, or

(iii) A combination of intrinsic and extrinsic factors; or

5. A food that does not support the growth or toxin formation of pathogenic microorganisms even though the food may contain a pathogenic microorganism or chemical or physical contaminant at a level sufficient to cause illness or injury.

(150) "USDA" means the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

(151) "Utensil" means a food-contact implement or container used in the storage, preparation, transportation, dispensing, sale, or service of food, such as kitchenware or tableware that is multiuse, single-service, or single-use; gloves used in contact with food; temperature sensing probes of food temperature measuring devices; and probe-type price or identification tags used in contact with food.

(152) "Variance" means a written document issued by the Department that authorizes a modification or waiver of one or more requirements of this Chapter if, in the opinion of the Department, a health hazard or nuisance will not result from the modification or waiver.

(153) "Vehicle Vender" means a foodservice unit mounted on a vehicle registered with the Georgia Department of Revenue, Division of Motor Vehicles and approved for street usage, designed to be readily movable, and which serves multiple locations on a daily basis along a route which is approved by the Health Authority. It operates on a grab-and-go basis in which the consumer selects packaged food from holding equipment and pays the driver of the vehicle. The majority of food is processed, packaged in individual portions and labeled at the base of operation for service to the consumer. However, some foods may be purchased for sale from licensed food distributors.

(154) "Vending machine" means a self-service device that, upon insertion of a coin, paper currency, token, card, or key, or by optional manual operation, dispenses unit servings of food in bulk or in packages without the necessity of replenishing the device between each vending operation.

(155) "Vending machine location" means the room, enclosure, space, or area where one or more vending machines are installed and operated and includes the storage areas and areas on the premises that are used to service and maintain the vending machines.

(156) "Warewashing" means the cleaning and sanitizing of utensils and food-contact surfaces of equipment.

(157) "Whole-muscle, intact beef" means whole-muscle beef that is not injected, mechanically tenderized, reconstructed, or scored and marinated, from which beef steaks may be cut.

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511-6-1-.02 [Effective 2/24/2023] Provisions

(1) Permit.

(a) Valid Permit Required.

1. Except when a mobile food service establishment has been permitted in a county of origin and has been authorized to operate in such other county, it shall be unlawful for any person to operate any type of food service operation: fixed food service establishment, mobile food service establishment, extended food service establishment, temporary food service establishment, catering food service establishment, or incubator food service establishment without having first obtained a valid food service permit from the Health Authority pursuant to this Chapter.

2. Permits shall be issued by the Health Authority on forms prescribed by the Department.

3. Permits shall only be issued to one permit holder, to one location, and to one type of operation.

4. Permits shall not be issued to separately owned food service operations which propose to utilize common food service equipment and facilities.

(b) Invalidation.

1. Permits shall expire upon change of permit holder, location, or type of operation. However, changes in food vending locations will not invalidate a mobile food service unit's permit or an extended food service unit permit so long as the new locations are within the jurisdiction of the permitting Health Authority.

2. Upon transfer of ownership of an existing food service establishment, the Health Authority may issue a Provisional Permit to correct noncompliant construction or equipment problems at the food service establishment after conducting an initial inspection if:

(i) the new owner has not significantly changed the menu, such as menu changes described in paragraphs (g)1., 2., and 3. of this subsection, and the establishment has not been extensively remodeled from the plans originally approved by the Health Authority for the previous ownership;

(ii) the food service establishment achieves satisfactory compliance with the provisions of this Chapter, and does not have an imminent health hazard that represents a threat to public health during the inspection; and,

(iii) the applicant meets the requirements set forth in paragraphs (c)1 and (c)2 of this subsection and DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(3\)a](#).

3. A Provisional Permit shall expire 60 days after issuance, unless suspended or revoked, and shall not be renewed. The Provisional permit holder shall correct all non-compliant construction or equipment problems identified prior to the Health Authority issuing a food service permit.

(c) Satisfactory Compliance.

1. To qualify for a permit, an applicant shall:

(i) Be an owner of the food service establishment or an officer of the legal ownership;

(ii) Agree to allow the Health Authority access to the food service establishment; and

(iii) Provide required information and pay all applicable fees at the time the application is submitted;

2. Prior to the issuance of the permit to new or existing establishments, the applicant shall provide evidence of satisfactory compliance with the provisions of this Chapter and all other provisions of laws that apply to the location, construction and maintenance of food service establishments and the safety of persons therein.

(d) Displaying the Inspection Report.

1. The most current inspection report shall be prominently displayed in public view at all times, within fifteen feet of the front or primary public door and between five feet and seven feet from the floor and in an area where it can be read at a distance of one foot away.

2. Food service establishments with drive-thru windows will post the current inspection report, and also have the inspection report posted so that a minimum of the top one-third of a copy of the current inspection report is visible through each window allowing customers to easily read the score, date of inspection and establishment information.

3. At food service establishments with no primary or public door, the current inspection report shall be prominently displayed at all times where the documents can be read by the public from a distance of one foot away. If requirements of this paragraph are not possible because of physical restrictions, a location will be determined as approved by the Health Authority.

4. The most current inspection report for mobile food service units and extended food service units issued by the local Health Authority having jurisdiction for its inspections shall be prominently displayed in public view during all hours of operation. Such inspection reports shall be prominently displayed at the point of service where the documents can be read by the public from a distance of one foot away.

5. A food service establishment inspection report addendum need not be displayed, but shall be made available by the food service establishment to the public upon request.

(e) Property. The permit shall be returned within seven days to the local Health Authority when the food service establishment ceases to operate, has a change in ownership, is moved to another location or when the permit is revoked.

(f) Responsibilities of the Permit Holder. The permit holder shall:

1. Post the permit as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(1\)\(d\)](#);

2. Comply with the provisions of this Chapter including the conditions of a granted variance as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(5\)\(a\)](#), and approved plans as specified under subsection (6)(b) of this Rule;

3. If a food service establishment is required under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(7\)](#) to operate under a HACCP plan, comply with the plan as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(8\)](#);

4. Immediately contact the Health Authority to report an illness of a food employee or conditional employee as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(4\)\(b\)](#);

5. Immediately discontinue operations and notify the Health Authority if an imminent health hazard may exist as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(2\)\(n\)](#);

6. Allow representatives of the Health Authority access to the food service establishment as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(2\)\(d\)](#);

7. As required within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.08\(1\)\(i\)1](#), maintain and provide to the Health Authority, a current listing of all food vending locations for mobile food service units and extended food service units for the purpose of enabling representatives of the Health Authority access to these units for inspection as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(2\)\(d\)](#);

8. Replace existing facilities and equipment with facilities and equipment that comply with this Chapter if:

(i) The Health Authority directs the replacement because the facilities and equipment constitute a public health hazard or nuisance, or because they no longer comply with the criteria upon which the facilities and equipment were accepted;

(ii) The Health Authority directs the replacement of the facilities and equipment because of a change of ownership, if existing equipment cannot meet the following criteria:

(I) Equipment must be capable of being maintained in state of good repair and satisfactorily function for its intended purpose according to requirements of this Chapter;

(II) Equipment must be capable of being maintained in a sanitary condition as required by this Chapter; and

(III) Food-contact surfaces of equipment must remain nontoxic as required by this Chapter.

(iii) The facilities and equipment are replaced in the normal course of operation;

9. Comply with directives of the Health Authority including time frames for corrective actions specified in inspection reports, notices, orders, warnings, and other directives issued by the Health Authority; and

10. Accept notices issued and served by the Health Authority according to law.

(g) Notification of Menu Change. The Health Authority must be notified prior to adding any food item to the menu that:

1. Requires the installation of equipment or structural modification of the food service establishment;
2. Involves a food preparation process, which may consist of cooking, cooling or reheating food, that was not performed in the establishment prior to the menu change; or
3. Poses a health risk to consumers because it is a raw animal food served raw or undercooked.

(2) Mobile Food Service Unit. A food service permit will be issued to a mobile food service establishment in the county of origin where the base of operation is located. A separate "Mobile Food Service Unit Permit" will be issued for each mobile food service unit in the county of origin.

(a) Mobile food service units shall not operate as separate and independent entities apart from the authority of the active managerial control of the permit holder for its base of operation.

(b) Requirements. Mobile food service units operating in conjunction with a restaurant shall operate from a base of operation that meets the following:

1. A restaurant shall have a separate food service permit from the base of operation permit. A restaurant's fixed food service permit shall not serve as the base of operation permit for the mobile food service unit.

2. The following permits shall be required prior to mobile food service units operating in conjunction with a restaurant base of operation:

- (i) A fixed food service permit for restaurant operations; and
- (ii) A base of operation permit for mobile food service unit(s); and
- (iii) Permit for mobile food service unit(s).

(3) Application for a Permit.

(a) Requirements. The management of the food service establishment, including a mobile food service unit in the county of origin and an extended foodservice unit, shall submit to the local Health Authority an application for a permit at least ten business days prior to the anticipated date of opening and commencement of the operation of the food service establishment, mobile food service unit, or extended food service unit.

(b) Contents of the Application. The application shall include:

1. The name, birth date, mailing address, telephone number, and signature of the person applying for the permit and the name, mailing address, and location of the food service establishment;
2. Information specifying whether the food service establishment is owned by an association, corporation, individual, partnership, or other legal entity;
3. A statement specifying whether the food service establishment:
 - (i) Is mobile or stationary and temporary or permanent, and
 - (ii) Is an operation that includes one or more of the following:

(I) Prepares, offers for sale, or serves time /temperature control for safety food:

I. Only to order upon a consumer's request,

II. In advance in quantities based on projected consumer demand and discards food that is not sold or served at an approved frequency,

III. Using time as the public health control as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(6\)\(i\)](#), or

IV. Using a process or activity that may require a HACCP plan as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(7\)](#).

(II) Prepares time/temperature control for safety food in advance using a food preparation method that involves two or more steps, such as combining time/temperature control for safety food ingredients, cooking, cooling, reheating, hot or cold holding, freezing, or thawing;

(III) Prepares food as specified under paragraph 3(ii)(II) of this subsection for delivery to and consumption at a location off the premises of the food service establishment where it is prepared;

(IV) Prepares food as specified under paragraph 3(ii)(II) of this subsection for service to a highly susceptible population;

(V) Prepares only food that is not time/temperature control for safety food, or

(VI) Does not prepare, but offers for sale only prepackaged food that is not time/temperature control for safety food;

4. The name, title, address, and telephone number of the person directly responsible for the management of the food service establishment;

5. The name, title, address, and telephone number of the person who functions as the immediate supervisor of the person specified under paragraph 4 of this subsection such as the zone, district, or regional supervisor;

6. The names, titles, and addresses of:

(i) All persons who share legal ownership as specified under paragraph 2 of this subsection including owners, shareholders, members, or partners, and

(ii) The local resident agent if one is required based on the type of legal ownership;

7. A statement signed by the applicant that:

(i) Attests to the accuracy of the information provided in the application, and

(ii) Affirms that the applicant will:

(I) Comply with this Chapter, and

(II) Allow the Health Authority access to the establishment as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(2\)\(d\)](#) and to the records specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(3\)\(l\)](#) and DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(2\)\(q\)](#) and DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)\(d\)7](#); and

8. Other information required by the Health Authority.

(c) Duplicate Forms. The application shall be prepared in duplicate on forms provided by the Department. The original shall be forwarded to the local Health Authority and the copy retained by the management.

(d) Dates of Operation for Temporary Food Service Establishments. The application for a temporary food service establishment shall show the start and end dates of the proposed operation.

(e) Schedule of Vending Locations for Permitted Mobile Food Service Establishments. The completed application for a mobile food service establishment in the county of origin shall include a schedule of locations and times where the mobile food service unit(s) will be parked and operated. The completed application for each mobile food service unit permit will include the schedule of locations where the individual unit will be parked and operated. It will be the responsibility of the permit holder to update the Health Authority when a change in schedule is made as specified within paragraph (1)(f)(7) of this subsection.

(f) Schedule of Vending Locations for Mobile Food Service Establishments with an "Authorization to Operate". The completed application for authorization to operate outside the county of origin shall include a schedule of locations and times where the mobile food service unit(s) will be parked and operated. The completed application for mobile food service unit(s) will include the schedule of locations where the individual unit will be parked and operated. It will be the responsibility of the permit holder to update the Health Authority when a change in schedule is made as specified within paragraph (1)(f)(7) of this subsection.

(g) Schedule of County Locations for Mobile Food Service Establishments with an "Authorization to Operate". The completed application for authorization to operate outside the county of origin shall include a listing of any other counties where the mobile food service establishment intends to operate. The listing shall be updated by the mobile food service establishment when it operates in additional counties. Such information shall be submitted in a manner determined by the Health Authority, but an electronic format shall be available.

(4) Authorization to Operate Permitted Mobile Food Service Units outside the county of origin.

(a) A county board of health outside a mobile food service establishment's county of origin shall recognize the permit from the mobile food service establishment's county of origin. Such recognition shall authorize the mobile food service establishment to operate in an outside county subject to the ordinances of such county or city.

(b) A county board of health shall use the following process to recognize a permit from a mobile food service establishment's county of origin:

1. Prior to operating in a county outside the mobile food service establishment's county of origin, a mobile food service establishment shall submit to the county board of health in the outside county a copy of its mobile food service establishment permit from its county of origin, its permit for its base of operations, a listing of any other counties where it is authorized to operate, a listing of locations in the county where the mobile food service establishment intends to operate, a listing of the dates and times of intended operation, and any other documentation required by the county board of health. The listing of any other counties where the mobile food service establishment intends to operate shall be updated by the mobile food service establishment when it operates in additional counties. Such information shall be submitted in a manner determined by the county board of health, but an electronic delivery format shall be available; and

2. Upon receipt of all required information, the county board of health in the outside county shall verify on the Department of Public Health's permit inspection data base that the permit is in good standing in the county of origin and in any other counties where the mobile food service establishment has been authorized to operate. All county boards of health shall utilize the department's permit inspection data base.

- (i) The county board of health for such outside county may charge an administrative fee, limited to the costs incurred, to confirm the mobile food service establishment's standing in other counties where it is authorized to operate.

- (ii) Upon verification that the permit is in good standing and there are not public health or safety concerns, a county board of health shall recognize the permit and shall authorize the mobile food service establishment to operate in its jurisdiction and have jurisdiction over the mobile food service establishment.

(5) Refusal to recognize a Mobile Food Service Establishment. An outside county may refuse to recognize a mobile food service establishment's permit if the base of operation or mobile food service unit permit is not from another county in this state, if the base of operation or mobile food service unit permit is not in good standing in the county of origin or any county within which it is authorized to operate, or for public health and safety concerns. If the county refuses to recognize a mobile food service establishment's permit, the county shall provide the mobile food service establishment written notice regarding the basis for its refusal.

(6) When Plans Are Required.

(a) Approval of Plans. Properly prepared plans to scale and specifications must be submitted for review and approval when a food service establishment is constructed or extensively remodeled, or when an existing structure is converted to use as a food service establishment.^{PF}

(b) Submission of Plans. The plans and specifications shall be submitted to the Health Authority of the county in which the food service establishment will be constructed at least fourteen business days prior to beginning construction. The plans shall indicate the proposed menu, floor plan layout, arrangement of equipment, mechanical plans, construction materials and finish schedule, the type and model of proposed fixed equipment and facilities and the anticipated service volume per day.

(c) Review of Plans and Specifications. Plans and specifications shall be reviewed as per guidance provided within the most current version of the "Food Service Establishment Manual for Design, Installation and Construction" referenced within subsection (7) of this Rule.

(7) When a HACCP Plan is Required.

(a) Before engaging in an activity that requires a HACCP plan, a permit applicant or permit holder shall submit to the local Health Authority for joint review by the State Office of Environmental Health and the local Health Authority, a properly prepared HACCP plan as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#) and the relevant provisions of this Code if:

1. Submission of a HACCP plan is required according to the Chapter;

2. A variance is required as specified DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(5\)\(a\)4\(iv\)](#), [511-6-1-.04\(6\)\(j\)](#), or [511-6-1-.05\(2\)\(v\)2](#);

3. The local Health Authority determines that a food preparation or processing method requires a variance based on a plan submittal specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(4\)\(b\)](#), or an inspectional finding, or a variance request.

(b) Before engaging in Reduced Oxygen Packaging without a variance as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(6\)\(k\)](#), a permit applicant or permit holder shall submit a properly prepared HACCP plan to the Health Authority.

(8) Contents of a HACCP plan. For a food establishment that is required under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(7\)\(a\)](#) and [\(b\)](#) to have a HACCP plan, the plan and specifications shall indicate:

(a) Categorization of Foods. A categorization of the types of time/temperature control for safety foods that are specified in the menu such as soups and sauces, salads, and bulk solid foods such as meat roasts or other foods that are specified by the Health Authority;^{PF}

(b) Flow Diagram. A flow diagram by specific food or category type that identifies critical control points and provides information on ingredients, materials and equipment used in the preparation of that food and formulations or recipes that delineate methods and procedural control measures that address the food safety concerns involved;^{PF}

(c) Training Plan. Food employee and supervisory training plan that addresses the food safety issues of concern;^{PF}

(d) Standard Operating Procedures. A statement of standard operating procedures for the plan under consideration including clearly identifying:

1. Hazard analysis of menu items,^{PF}
2. Each critical control point,^{PF}
3. The critical limits for each critical control point,
4. The method and frequency for monitoring and controlling each critical control point by the food employee designated by the person in charge,^{PF}
5. Action to be taken by the person in charge if the critical limits for each critical control point are not met,^{PF} and
6. The method and frequency for the person in charge to routinely verify that the food employee is following standard operating procedures and monitoring critical control points,^{PF} and
7. Records to be maintained by the person in charge to demonstrate that the HACCP plan is properly operated and managed,^{PF} and

(e) Additional Scientific Data. Additional scientific data or other information, as required by the Health Authority, supporting the determination that food safety is not compromised by the proposal.^{PF}

(9) Requirements - Permit Issued. For food service establishments that are required to submit plans as specified under paragraph (6) of this Rule, the Health Authority shall issue a permit to the applicant after:

- (a) A properly completed application is submitted;
- (b) The required fee is submitted;
- (c) The required plans, specifications, and information are reviewed and approved; and
- (d) A preoperational inspection shows that the establishment is built or remodeled in accordance with the approved plans and specifications and that the establishment is in compliance with this Chapter. In addition, it may be used to verify that existing construction meets the requirements of the Chapter during a change in permit holder.

(10) Interpretation of this Chapter. This Chapter shall be interpreted by the Department. Interpretations and guidance may be found in the current editions of the "Interpretation Manual for the Georgia Rules and Regulations for Food Service" and "Food Service Establishment Manual for Design, Installation and Construction".

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 511-6-1-.02

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [26-2-371-373](#), 379, 31-2A-6.

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511-6-1-.03 [Effective 2/24/2023] Management and Personnel

(1) Demonstration of Knowledge. Based on the risk of foodborne illness inherent to the food service operation, during inspections and upon request, the person in charge shall demonstrate to the Health Authority knowledge of foodborne disease prevention, application of the Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point principles, and the requirements of this Chapter. The person in charge shall demonstrate this knowledge in one of the following ways:

- (a) Compliance with Chapter. Complying with this Chapter by having no violations of Priority Items during the current inspection;^{Pf}

(b) Certified Food Service Manager. Being a certified food service manager who has shown proficiency of required information through passing a test that is part of an accredited program;^{Pf} or

(c) Correct Answers to Food Safety Questions. Responding correctly to the inspector's questions as they relate to the specific food operation. The areas of knowledge include:

1. Describing the relationship between the prevention of foodborne disease and the personal hygiene of a food employee;^{Pf}

2. Explaining the responsibility of the person in charge for preventing the transmission of foodborne disease by a food employee who has a disease or medical condition that may cause foodborne disease;^{Pf}

3. Describing the symptoms associated with the diseases that are transmissible through food;^{Pf}

4. Explaining the significance of the relationship between maintaining the time and temperature of time/temperature control for safety food and the prevention of foodborne illness;^{Pf}

5. Explaining the hazards involved in the consumption of raw or undercooked meat, poultry, eggs, and fish;^{Pf}

6. Stating the required food temperatures and times for safe cooking of time/temperature control for safety food including meat, poultry, eggs, and fish;^{Pf}

7. Stating the required temperatures and times for the safe refrigerated storage, hot holding, cooling, and reheating of time/temperature control for safety food;^{Pf}

8. Describing the relationship between the prevention of foodborne illness and the management and control of the following:

(i) Cross contamination;^{Pf}

(ii) Hand contact with ready-to-eat foods;^{Pf}

(iii) Handwashing;^{Pf} and

(iv) Maintaining the food service establishment in a clean condition and in good repair;^{Pf}

9. Describing foods identified as major food allergens and the symptoms major food allergen could cause in a sensitive individual who has an allergic reaction;^{Pf}

10. Explaining the relationship between food safety and providing equipment that is:

(i) Sufficient in number and capacity;^{Pf} and

(ii) Properly designed, constructed, located, installed, operated, maintained, and cleaned;^{Pf}

11. Explaining correct procedures for cleaning and sanitizing utensils and food-contact surfaces of equipment;^{Pf}

12. Identifying the source of water used and measures taken to ensure that it remains protected from contamination such as providing protection from backflow and precluding the creation of cross connections;^{Pf}

13. Identifying poisonous or toxic materials in the food service establishment and the procedures necessary to ensure that they are safely stored, dispensed, used, and disposed of according to law;^{Pf}

14. Identifying critical control points in the operation from purchasing through sale or service that when not controlled may contribute to the transmission of foodborne illness and explaining steps taken to ensure that the points are controlled in accordance with the requirements of this Chapter;^{Pf}

15. Explaining the details of how the person in charge and food employees comply with the HACCP plan if a plan is required by the law, this Chapter, or an agreement between the Health Authority and the food service establishment;^{Pf}

16. Explaining the responsibilities, rights, and authorities assigned by this Chapter to the:

(i) Food employee;^{Pf}

(ii) Conditional employee;^{Pf}

(iii) Person in charge;^{Pf}

(iv) Health Authority;^{Pf} and

17. Explaining how the person in charge, food employees, and conditional employees comply with reporting responsibilities and exclusion or restriction of food employees.^{Pf}

(2) Responsibilities of the Person in Charge (PIC). There must be a person in charge on the premises of the food service establishment at all times. The person in charge shall ensure compliance with the following:

(a) Operations Not Conducted in Private Home. Food service establishment operations are not conducted in a private home or in a room used as living or sleeping quarters;^{Pf}

(b) Authorized Personnel Access. Persons unnecessary to the food service establishment operation are not allowed in the food preparation, food storage, or warewashing areas, except that brief visits and tours may be authorized by the person in charge if steps are taken to ensure that exposed food; clean equipment, utensils, and linens; and unwrapped single-service and single-use articles are protected from contamination;^{Pf}

(c) Authorized Persons Compliance. Employees and other persons such as delivery and maintenance persons and pesticide applicators entering the food preparation, food storage, and warewashing areas comply with this Chapter;^{Pf}

(d) Employee Handwashing. Employees are effectively cleaning their hands, by routinely monitoring the employees' handwashing;^{Pf}

(e) Monitoring of Receiving. Employees are visibly observing and verifying delivered foods as they are received to determine that they are from approved sources and are placed into appropriate storage locations, as required by this Chapter, such that they are received and maintained at the required temperatures, protected from contamination, unadulterated, and accurately presented, by routinely monitoring the employees' observations, maintaining receiving/corrective action records for deliveries during non-operating hours, and periodically evaluating foods upon their receipt as specified within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(3\)\(m\)](#);^{Pf}

(f) Proper Cooking Techniques. Employees are properly cooking cold/hot holding, and reheating for hot holding time/temperature control for safety food, being particularly careful in cooking, reheating, and holding those foods known to cause severe foodborne illness and death, such as eggs and comminuted meats, through daily oversight of the employees' routine monitoring of the cooking, holding, and reheating for hot holding temperatures using appropriate temperature measuring devices properly scaled and calibrated.^{Pf}

(g) Proper Cooling Methods. Employees are using proper methods to rapidly cool time/temperature control for safety food, that are not held hot or are not for consumption within four hours, through daily oversight of the employees' routine monitoring of food temperatures during cooling;^{Pf}

(h) Consumer Food Safety. Consumers who order raw or partially cooked ready-to-eat foods of animal origin are informed that the food is not cooked sufficiently to ensure its safety;^{Pf}

(i) Proper Sanitizing. Employees are properly sanitizing cleaned multiuse equipment and utensils before they are reused, through routine monitoring of solution temperature and exposure time for hot water sanitizing, and chemical concentration, pH, temperature, and exposure time for chemical sanitizing;^{Pf}

(j) Clean Tableware. Consumers are notified that clean tableware is to be used when they return to self-service areas such as salad bars and buffets;^{Pf}

(k) Bare Hand Contact. Unless the conditions specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(4\)\(a\)4](#) are met, employees are preventing cross-contamination of ready-to-eat food with bare hands by properly using suitable utensils such as deli tissue, spatulas, tongs, single-use gloves, or dispensing equipment;^{Pf}

(l) Food Safety Training. Employees are properly trained in food safety, including food allergy awareness, as it relates to their assigned duties;^{Pf}

(m) Reporting Responsibilities. Food employees and conditional employees are informed in a verifiable manner of their responsibility to report in accordance with the Chapter, to the person in charge, information about their health and activities as they relate to diseases that are transmissible through food;^{Pf} and

(n) Imminent Health Hazard. If an imminent health hazard exists because of an emergency such as a fire, flood, interruption of electrical or water service for two or more hours, sewage malfunction, misuse of poisonous or toxic materials, onset of an apparent foodborne illness outbreak, gross unsanitary occurrence or condition, or other circumstances that may endanger public health, then operations are immediately discontinued and the Health Authority is notified. P However, establishments may continue to operate based upon emergency guidance provided by the Health Authority or under an emergency operation plan that has been approved by the Health Authority prior to the occurrence of such emergency events.^{Pf}

(o) Procedures and Plans. Written procedures and plans, where specified by this Chapter and as developed by the food service establishment, are maintained and implemented as required.^{Pf}

(3) Certified Food Safety Manager.

(a) Food Safety Manager Certification. Food service establishments shall have in its employ a Certified Food Safety Manager (CFSM) as specified in paragraph (b) of this subsection to ensure food safety is being managed within the food service establishment during all hours of operation as specified within paragraph (d) of this subsection.^{Pf}

(b) Certification Requirements/Exemptions. At least one employee that has supervisory and management responsibility and the authority to direct and control food preparation and service shall be a certified food safety manager who has shown proficiency of required information through passing a test that is part of an accredited program that conforms to the national standards for organizations that certify individuals. Certified Food Safety Managers must be designated to one food service establishment only and maintain and renew certification in accordance with the requirements of the examination taken.

1. The following operations are not required to have a certified owner or manager:

(i) A mobile food service unit that does not process foods;

(ii) Food service establishments that serve non-time/temperature control for safety food that requires limited preparation, or those time/temperature control for safety foods which have been previously prepared in a permitted food service establishment; and

(iii) Temporary food service establishments in accordance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.08\(2\)\(a\)](#).

2. A food service establishment will have sixty days from the date of initial permit issuance, change of ownership permit issuance, or termination of employment of its CFSM to employ a new CFSM.

3. A food service establishment that operates without a CFSM shall notify the Health Authority within thirty days of the date that the establishment ceases to employ a CFSM with the name and certification number of the former CFSM and measures being taken to designate a new CFSM. Measures shall include:

- (i) Hiring a new CFSM;
- (ii) Designating an existing employee who is enrolled in an approved CFSM training course; or
- (iii) Hiring a new employee who is enrolled in an approved CFSM training course.

(c) Certification Documentation.

1. The original CFSM certificate shall be posted in public view in each food service establishment. An additional copy shall be retained on file at the food service establishment at all times, and shall be made available for inspection by the Health Authority.

2. A CFSM certificate which has expired, been revoked or suspended shall not be posted in the food service establishment.

3. All licenses, certificates, diplomas, or other similar credentials issued or granted to an owner or operator who has successfully completed an approved or accredited food safety certification course and exam shall expire on the expiration date determined by the credentialing organization. Within ninety days of the expiration of the CFSM certificate, the CFSM shall enroll in an approved food safety training course, pass an approved exam and obtain a new certificate.

4. The certification is not transferable between persons.

(d) Certified Food Safety Manager Responsibility.

1. The responsibility of the CFSM shall include the safety of food preparation and service by ensuring that all employees who handle, or have responsibility for handling, unpackaged foods of any kind, have sufficient knowledge of safe preparation and service of the food. The nature and extent of the knowledge that each employee is required to have may be tailored, as appropriate, to the employee's duties related to food safety issues.

2. The CFSM shall:

(i) Be the person-in-charge while on the premises of the food service establishment and shall designate someone else to be the person in charge when not on the premises;

(ii) Supervise and instruct food service employees in the techniques of sanitary food handling and proper maintenance of the facility;

(iii) Offer a training program for all food service employees to satisfy employee proficiency in their job responsibilities for food safety;

(iv) Communicate with representatives of the Health Authority about the effectiveness of employee training programs; and

(v) Assess training needs of the food service employees and request formal training as needed.

(4) Employee Health.

(a) Requirement to Report Symptoms, Diagnosis and History of Exposure. The permit holder shall require food employees and conditional employees to report to the CFSM and person in charge, information about their health and activities as they relate to diseases that are transmissible through food. A food employee or conditional employee shall report the information in a manner that allows the CFSM and person in charge to reduce the risk of

foodborne disease transmission, including providing necessary additional information, such as the date of onset of symptoms and an illness, or of a diagnosis without symptoms, if the food employee or conditional employee:

1. Has any of the following symptoms:

(i) Vomiting,^P

(ii) Diarrhea,^P

(iii) Jaundice,^P

(iv) Sore throat with fever,^P or

(v) A lesion containing pus such as a boil or infected wound that is open or draining and is:

(I) On the hands or wrists, unless an impermeable cover such as a finger cot or stall protects the lesion and a single-use glove is worn over the impermeable cover,^P

(II) On exposed portions of the arms, unless the lesion is protected by an impermeable cover,^P or

(III) On other parts of the body, unless the lesion is covered by a dry, durable, tight-fitting bandage;^P

2. Has an illness diagnosed by a health practitioner due to:

(i) Norovirus,^P

(ii) Hepatitis A virus,^P

(iii) Shigella spp.,^P

(iv) Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli,^P

(v) typhoid fever (caused by Salmonella Typhi);^P or

(vi) nontyphoidal Salmonella;^P

3. Had typhoid fever (caused by Salmonella Typhi), diagnosed by a health practitioner, within the past three months, without having received antibiotic therapy as determined by a health practitioner;^P

4. Had been exposed to, or is the suspected source of, a confirmed disease outbreak, because the food employee or conditional employee consumed or prepared food implicated in the outbreak, or consumed food at an event prepared by a person who is infected or ill with:

(i) Norovirus within the past 48 hours of the last exposure,^P

(ii) Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli, or Shigella spp. within the past three days of the last exposure,^P

(iii) typhoid fever (caused by Salmonella Typhi) within the past 14 days of the last exposure,^P or

(iv) Hepatitis A virus within the past 30 days of the last exposure;^P or

5. Has been exposed by attending or working in a setting where there is a confirmed disease outbreak, or living in the same household as, and has knowledge about, an individual who works or attends a setting where there is a confirmed disease outbreak, or living in the same household as, and has knowledge about, an individual diagnosed with an illness caused by:

- (i) Norovirus within the past 48 hours of the last exposure,^P
 - (ii) Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli*, or *Shigella* spp. within the past three days of the last exposure,^P
 - (iii) typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*) within the past 14 days of the last exposure,^P or
 - (iv) Hepatitis A virus within the past 30 days of the last exposure.^P
- (b) Responsibility of Person in Charge to Notify the Health Authority. The CFSM or person in charge shall notify the Health Authority when a food employee is:
- 1. Jaundiced,^{Pf} or
 - 2. Diagnosed with an illness due to Norovirus, Hepatitis A virus, *Shigella* spp., Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli*, or typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*).^P
- (c) Person in Charge's Responsibility to Prohibit a Symptomatic Conditional Employee. The person in charge shall ensure that a conditional employee:
- 1. Who exhibits or reports a symptom, or who reports a diagnosed illness as specified under subsection (4)(a)1 - 3 of this Rule, is prohibited from becoming a food employee until the conditional employee meets the criteria for the specific symptoms or diagnosed illness as specified under subsection (4)(h) of this Rule;^P and
 - 2. Who will work as a food employee in a food service establishment that serves as a highly susceptible population and reports a history of exposure as specified under subsections (4)(a)4 and 5 of this Rule, is prohibited from becoming a food employee until the conditional employee meets the criteria as specified under subsection (4)(h)10 of this Rule.^P
- (d) Person In Charge's Responsibility to Exclude or Restrict a Symptomatic Employee. The person in charge shall ensure that a food employee who exhibits or reports a symptom, or who reports a diagnosed illness or a history of exposure as specified under subsections (4)(a)1 through 5 of this Rule is excluded or restricted and in compliance with a removal, adjustment or retention of an exclusion or restriction.^P
- (e) Responsibility of Food Employee and Conditional Employee to Report. A food employee or conditional employee shall report to the person in charge the information as specified under subsection (4)(a) of this Rule.^{Pf}
- (f) Responsibility of Food Employee to Comply. A food employee shall comply with an exclusion or restriction and with a removal, adjustment or retention of an exclusion or restriction.^P
- (g) Exclusions and Restrictions. The person in charge shall exclude or restrict a food employee, from a food service establishment in accordance with the following:
- 1. Except when the symptom is from a noninfectious condition, exclude a food employee if the food employee is:
 - (i) Symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea;^P or
 - (ii) Symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea and diagnosed with an infection from Norovirus, *Shigella* spp., nontyphoidal *Salmonella*, or Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli*.^P
 - 2. Exclude a food employee who is:
 - (i) Jaundiced and the onset of jaundice occurred within the last seven calendar days, unless the food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner specifying that the jaundice is not caused by hepatitis A virus or other fecal-orally transmitted infection;^P

(ii) Diagnosed with an infection from hepatitis A virus within 14 calendar days from the onset of any illness symptoms, or within seven calendar days of the onset of jaundice;^P or

(iii) Diagnosed with an infection from hepatitis A virus without developing symptoms.^P

3. Exclude a food employee who is diagnosed with typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*), or reports a previous diagnosis of typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*) within the past three months, without having received antibiotic therapy.^P

4. Exclude a food employee that works in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population who is:

(i) Diagnosed with an infection from Norovirus and is asymptomatic;^P

(ii) Diagnosed with an infection from *Shigella* spp. and is asymptomatic;^P

(iii) Diagnosed with an infection from Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*, and is asymptomatic;^P or

(iv) Ill with symptoms of acute onset of sore throat with fever.^P

5. Restrict a food employee that works in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population who is:

(i) Diagnosed with an infection from Norovirus and is asymptomatic;^P

(ii) Diagnosed with an infection from *Shigella* spp. and is asymptomatic;^P

(iii) Diagnosed with an infection from Shiga toxin-producing *E. coli*, and is asymptomatic;^P or

(iv) Ill with symptoms of acute onset of sore throat with fever.^P

6. Restrict a food employee that is infected with a skin lesion containing pus such as a boil or infected wound that is open or draining and not properly covered.^P

7. Restrict a food employee that is exposed to a foodborne pathogen as specified under subsections (4)(a)4 or 5 of this Rule, if the food employee who works in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population.^P

8. Restrict a food employee that is diagnosed with an infection from nontyphoidal *Salmonella* and is asymptomatic who works in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population or in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population.

(h) Removal, Adjustment, or Retention of Exclusions and Restrictions. The person in charge may remove, adjust, or retain the exclusion or restriction of a food employee according to the following conditions:

1. Except when a food employee is diagnosed with an infection from hepatitis A virus or typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*):

(i) Reinstate a food employee who was excluded for being symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea if the food employee:

(I) Is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours;^P or

(II) Provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner that states the symptom is from a noninfectious condition.^P

(ii) If a food employee was diagnosed with an infection from Norovirus, and excluded for being symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea:

(I) Restrict the food employee, who is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and works in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population, until the conditions for reinstatement as specified under paragraphs 4(i) or (ii) of this subsection are met;^P or

(II) Retain the exclusion for the food employee, who is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and works in a food service establishment that serves a highly susceptible population, until the conditions for reinstatement as specified under paragraphs 4(i) or (ii) of this subsection are met.^P

(iii) If a food employee was diagnosed with an infection from Shigella, and excluded for being symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea:

(I) Restrict the food employee who is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and works in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population, until the conditions for reinstatement as specified under paragraphs 5(i) or (ii), of this subsection are met;^P or

(II) Retain the exclusion for the food employee, who is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and works in a food service establishment that serves a highly susceptible population, until the conditions for reinstatement as specified under paragraphs 5(i) or (ii), or 5(i) and 1(iii)(I) of this subsection are met.^P

(iv) If a food service employee was diagnosed with an infection from Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli and excluded for being symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea:

(I) Restrict the food service employee, who is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and works in a food service establishment not serving a high susceptible population, until the conditions for reinstatement as specified under paragraphs 6(i) or (ii) of this section are met;^P or

(II) Retain the exclusion for the food employee who is asymptomatic for at least 24 hours and works in a food service establishment that serves a highly susceptible population, until the conditions for reinstatement as specified under paragraphs (6)(i) or (ii) of this subsection are met.^P

(v) If food employee was diagnosed with an infection from nontyphoidal Salmonella and excluded for being symptomatic with vomiting or diarrhea:

(I) Restrict the food employee who is asymptomatic for at least 30 days until conditions for reinstatement specified under paragraphs (7)(i) or (ii) of this subsection are met.^P

(II) Retain the exclusion for the food employee who is symptomatic, until conditions for reinstatement under paragraphs (7)(i) or (ii) of this subsection are met.^P

2. Reinstatement of a food employee who was excluded as specified under paragraph (4)(g)2 of this Rule if the person in charge obtains approval from the Health Authority and one of the following conditions is met:

(i) The food employee has been jaundiced for more than seven calendar days;^P

(ii) The anicteric food employee has been symptomatic with symptoms other than jaundice for more than 14 calendar days;^P or

(iii) The food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner stating that the food employee is free of a hepatitis A virus infection.^P

3. Reinstatement of a food employee who was excluded for a diagnosis of typhoid fever (caused by Salmonella Typhi), or a previous infection of typhoid fever within the past 3 months without receiving antibiotic treatment if:

(i) The person in charge obtains approval from the Health Authority;^P and

(ii) The food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner that states the food employee is free from typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*).^P

4. Reinstate a food employee who was excluded for being symptomatic with Norovirus or asymptomatic with Norovirus and working in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population or who was restricted for being asymptomatic with Norovirus in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population if the person in charge obtains approval from the Health Authority and one of the following conditions is met:

(i) The excluded or restricted food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner stating that the food employee is free of a Norovirus infection;^P

(ii) The food employee was excluded or restricted after symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea resolved, and more than 48 hours have passed since the food employee became asymptomatic;^P or

(iii) The food employee was excluded or restricted and did not develop symptoms and more than 48 hours have passed since the food employee was diagnosed.^P

5. Reinstate a food employee who was excluded for being symptomatic with *Shigella* or asymptomatic with *Shigella* and working in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population or who was restricted for being asymptomatic with *Shigella* in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population if the person in charge obtains approval from the Health Authority and one of the following conditions is met:

(i) The excluded or restricted food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner stating that the food employee is free of a *Shigella* spp. infection based on test results showing two consecutive negative stool specimen cultures that are taken:

(I) Not earlier than 48 hours after discontinuance of antibiotics;^P and

(II) At least 24 hours apart;^P

(ii) The food employee was excluded or restricted after symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea resolved, and more than seven calendar days have passed since the food employee became asymptomatic;^P or

(iii) The food employee was excluded or restricted and did not develop symptoms and more than seven calendar days have passed since the food employee was diagnosed.^P

6. Reinstate a food employee who was excluded for being symptomatic with Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* or asymptomatic with Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* and working in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population or who was restricted for being asymptomatic with Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population if the person in charge obtains approval from the Health Authority and one of the following conditions is met:

(i) The excluded or restricted food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner stating that the food employee is free of an infection from Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* based on test results that show two consecutive negative stool specimen cultures that are taken:

(I) Not earlier than 48 hours after discontinuance of antibiotics;^P and

(II) At least 24 hours apart;^P

(ii) The food employee was excluded or restricted after symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea resolved and more than seven calendar days have passed since the food employee became asymptomatic;^P or

(iii) The food employee was excluded or restricted and did not develop symptoms and more than seven days have passed since the food employee was diagnosed.^P

7. Reinstate a food employee who was excluded for being symptomatic with nontyphoidal Salmonella or who was restricted for being asymptomatic with nontyphoidal Salmonella and working in a Highly Susceptible Population or a food service establishment not serving a Highly Susceptible Population if the Person in Charge obtains approval from the Health Authority and one of the following conditions is met:

(i) The excluded or restricted food employee provides to the Person in Charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner stating that the food employee is free of a nontyphoidal Salmonella infection based on test results showing 2 consecutive negative stool specimen cultures that are taken;

(I) Not earlier than 48 hours after discontinuance of antibiotics,^P and

(II) At least 24 hours apart;^P

(ii) The food employee was restricted after symptoms of vomiting or diarrhea resolved, and more than 30 days have passed since the food employee became asymptomatic;^P or

(iii) The food employee was excluded or restricted and did not develop symptoms and more than 30 days have passed since the food employee was diagnosed.

8. Reinstate a food employee who was excluded or restricted for being ill with symptoms of acute onset of sore throat with fever if the food employee provides to the person in charge written medical documentation from a health practitioner stating that the food employee meets one of the following conditions:

(i) Has received antibiotic therapy for Streptococcus pyogenes infection for more than 24 hours;^P

(ii) Has at least one negative throat specimen culture for Streptococcus pyogenes infection;^P or

(iii) Is otherwise determined by a health practitioner to be free of a Streptococcus pyogenes infection.^P

9. Reinstate a food employee who was restricted for a skin lesion containing pus such as a boil or infected wound that was open and draining if the skin, infected wound, cut, or pustular boil is properly covered with one of the following:

(i) An impermeable cover such as a finger cot or stall and a single-use glove over the impermeable cover if the infected wound or pustular boil is on the hand, finger, or wrist;^P

(ii) An impermeable cover on the arm if the infected wound or pustular boil is on the arm;^P or

(iii) A dry, durable, tight-fitting bandage if the infected wound or pustular boil is on another part of the body.^P

10. Reinstate a food employee who was restricted in a food service establishment serving a highly susceptible population due to exposure to one of the following pathogens as specified under subsection (4)(a)4 or 5 of this Rule:

(i) Norovirus and one of the following conditions is met:

(I) More than 48 hours have passed since the last day the food employee was potentially exposed;^P or

(II) More than 48 hours have passed since the food employee's household contact became symptomatic.^P

(ii) Shigella spp. or Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli and one of the following conditions is met:

(I) More than three calendar days have passed since the last day the food employee was potentially exposed;^P or

(II) More than three calendar days have passed since the food employee's household contact became asymptomatic.^P

(iii) Typhoid fever (caused by *Salmonella Typhi*) and one of the following conditions is met:

(I) More than 14 calendar days have passed since the last day the food employee was potentially exposed;^P or

(II) More than 14 calendar days have passed since the food employee's household contact became asymptomatic.^P

(iv) Hepatitis A virus and one of the following conditions is met:

(I) The food employee is immune to hepatitis A virus infection because of a prior illness from hepatitis A;

(II) The food employee is immune to hepatitis A virus infection because of vaccination against hepatitis A;^P

(III) The food employee is immune to hepatitis A virus infection because of IgG administration;^P

(IV) More than 30 calendar days have passed since the last day the food employee was potentially exposed;^P

(V) More than 30 calendar days have passed since the food employee's household contact became jaundiced;^P or

(VI) The food employee does not use an alternative procedure that allows bare hand contact with ready-to-eat food through a variance until at least 30 days after the potential exposure, and the food employee receives additional training about:

I. Hepatitis A symptoms and preventing the transmission of infection,^P

II. Proper handwashing procedures,^P and

III. Protecting ready-to-eat food from contamination introduced by bare hand contact.^P

(5) Personal Cleanliness:

(a) Clean Condition. Food employees shall keep their hands and exposed portions of their arms clean.^P

(b) Cleaning Procedure.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 4 of this subsection, food employees shall clean their hands and exposed portions of their arms, including surrogate prosthetic devices for hands or arms, for at least 20 seconds, using a cleaning compound in a handwashing sink that is properly equipped.^P

2. Food employees shall use the following cleaning procedure in the order stated to clean their hands and exposed portions of their arms, including surrogate prosthetic devices for hands and arms:

(i) Rinse under clean, running warm water;^P

(ii) Apply an amount of cleaning compound recommended by the cleaning compound manufacturer;^P

(iii) Rub together vigorously for at least 10 to 15 seconds while:

(I) Paying particular attention to removing soil from underneath the fingernails during the cleaning procedure,^P and

(II) Creating friction on the surfaces of the hands and arms or surrogate prosthetic devices for hands and arms, finger tips, and areas between the fingers;^P

(iv) Thoroughly rinse under clean, running warm water;^P and

(v) Immediately follow the cleaning procedure with thorough drying using disposable paper towels, a continuous towel system, or a heated-air hand drying device.^P

3. To avoid recontaminating their hands or surrogate prosthetic devices, food employees may use disposable paper towels or similar clean barriers when touching surfaces such as manually operated faucet handles on a handwashing sink or the handle of a restroom door.

4. If approved and capable of removing the types of soils encountered in the food operations involved, an automatic handwashing facility may be used by food employees to clean their hands or surrogate prosthetic devices.

(c) When to Wash.

1. Food employees shall clean their hands and exposed portions of their arms immediately before engaging in food preparation including working with exposed food, clean equipment and utensils, and unwrapped single-service and single-use articles^P and:

(i) After touching bare human body parts other than clean hands and clean, exposed arms;^P

(ii) After using the toilet room;^P

(iii) After caring for or handling service animals or aquatic animals;^P

(iv) After coughing, sneezing, using a handkerchief or disposable tissue, using tobacco, eating, or drinking, except for drinking from a closed beverage container and the container is handled to prevent contamination of the hands;^P

(v) After handling soiled equipment or utensils;^P

(vi) During food preparation, as often as necessary to remove soil and contamination and to prevent cross contamination when changing tasks;^P

(vii) When switching between working with raw food and working with ready-to-eat food;^P

(viii) Before donning gloves to initiate a task that involves working with food;^P and

(ix) After engaging in other activities that contaminate the hands.^P

2. All employees shall wash hands before leaving the restroom. All food employees leaving the restroom shall wash their hands again upon re-entering the food preparation area.^P

(d) Where to Wash. Food employees shall clean their hands in a handwashing sink or approved automatic handwashing facility and may not clean their hands in a sink used for food preparation or warewashing, or in a service sink or curbed cleaning facility used for the disposal of mop water and similar liquid waste.^{Pf}

(e) Hand Antiseptics.

1. A hand antiseptic used as a topical application, a hand antiseptic solution used as a hand dip, or a hand antiseptic soap shall:

(i) Comply with one of the following:

(I) Be an approved drug that is listed in the FDA publication, "Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations" as an approved drug based on safety and effectiveness,^{Pf} or

(II) Have active antimicrobial ingredients that are listed in the FDA monograph for OTC Health-Care Antiseptic Drug Products as an antiseptic handwash,^{Pf} and

(ii) Consist only of components which the intended use of each complies with one of the following:

(I) A threshold of regulation exemption as specified in [21 CFR 170.39](#) - Threshold of regulation for substances used in food-contact articles,^{Pf} or

(II) [21 CFR 178](#) - Indirect Food Additives: Adjuvants, Production Aids, and Sanitizers as regulated for use as a food additive with conditions of safe use,^{Pf} or

(III) A determination of generally recognized as safe (GRAS). Partial listings of substances with food uses that are GRAS may be found in [21 CFR 182](#) - Substances Generally Recognized as Safe, [21 CFR 184](#) - Direct Food Substances Affirmed as Generally Recognized as Safe, or [21 CFR 186](#) - Indirect Food Substances Affirmed as Generally Recognized as Safe for use in contact with food; and in FDA's Inventory of GRAS Notices,^{Pf} or

(IV) A prior sanction listed under [21 CFR 181](#) - Prior Sanctioned Food Ingredients,^{Pf} or

(V) A Food Contact Notification that is effective,^{Pf} and

(iii) Be applied only to hands that are clean.^{Pf}

2. If a hand antiseptic or a hand antiseptic solution used as a hand dip does not meet the criteria specified under paragraph 1(ii) of this subsection, use shall be:

(i) Followed by thorough hand rinsing in clean water before hand contact with food or by the use of gloves;^{Pf} or

(ii) Limited to situations that involve no direct contact with food by the bare hands.^{Pf}

3. A hand antiseptic solution used as a hand dip shall be maintained clean and at a strength Equivalent to at least 100 mg/L chlorine.^{Pf}

(f) Fingernails. Employees shall keep their fingernails clean and trimmed to no longer than the tips of the fingers.^{Pf} Unless wearing gloves in good repair, a food employee may not wear fingernail polish or artificial fingernails when working with exposed food.^{Pf}

(g) Jewelry. Except for a plain ring such as a wedding band food employees may not wear jewelry including medical information jewelry on their arms and hands while preparing food.

(h) Clothing. The outer layer of clothing of all employees shall be clean. Food employees shall wear clean outer clothing to prevent contamination of food, equipment, utensils, linen, and single-service and single-use articles.

(i) Hair Restraints.

1. Employees preparing or handling food shall use effective and clean, disposable or easily cleanable nets or other hair restraints approved by the Health Authority, worn properly to restrain loose hair including beards and mustaches longer than one half inch.

2. This does not apply to employees such as counter staff who only serve beverages and wrapped or packaged foods, hostesses, and wait staff if they present a minimal risk of contaminating exposed food, clean utensils and linens and unwrapped single-service and single-use articles.

1. A statement of the proposed variance of the Chapter requirement citing relevant rule and subsection numbers;^{Pf}

2. An analysis of the rationale for how the potential public health hazards and nuisances addressed by the relevant rules and subsections will be alternatively addressed by the proposal;^{Pf} and

3. A HACCP plan if required that includes the information specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#) as it is relevant to the variance requested.^{Pf}

(c) Conformance with Approved Procedures. If the Department grants a variance as specified in subsection (5)(a) of this Rule, or a HACCP plan is otherwise required as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(7\)](#), the permit holder shall:

1. Comply with the HACCP plans and procedures that are submitted and deemed in conformance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)\(a\) through \(e\)](#) as a basis for the modification or waiver;^P and

2. Maintain and provide to the Department, upon request, records specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#) that demonstrate that the following are routinely employed;

(i) Procedures for monitoring the critical control points,^{Pf}

(ii) Monitoring of the critical control points,^{Pf}

(iii) Verification of the effectiveness of the operation or process,^{Pf} and

(iv) Necessary corrective actions if there is failure at a critical control point.^{Pf}

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 511-6-1-.03

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [26-2-373](#), [379](#), [31-2A-6](#).

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511-6-1-.04 [Effective 2/24/2023] Food

(1) Condition. Food shall be safe, unadulterated, and honestly presented.^P

(2) Source.

(a) Compliance with Food Law.

1. Food shall be obtained from sources that comply with law.^P

2. Food prepared in a private home or received from a consumer may not be used or offered for human consumption in a food service establishment.^P

3. Packaged food shall be labeled as specified in law, including [21 CFR 101](#) Food Labeling, [9 CFR 317](#) Labeling, Marking Devices, and Containers, and [9 CFR 381](#) Subpart N Labeling and Containers, and as specified under subsections (3)(g) and (3)(h) of this Rule.^{Pf}

4. Fish, other than molluscan shellfish, that are intended for consumption in their raw or undercooked form may be offered for sale or service in a food service establishment not serving a highly susceptible population if they are obtained from a supplier that freezes the fish to destroy parasites or frozen on the premises and records are retained.

5. Whole-muscle, intact beef steaks that are intended for consumption in an undercooked form without a consumer advisory shall be:

(i) Obtained from a food processing plant that, upon request by the purchaser, packages the steaks and labels them, to indicate that the steaks meet the definition of whole-muscle, intact beef,^{Pf} or

(ii) Deemed acceptable by the Health Authority based on other evidence, such as written buyer specifications or invoices, that indicates that the steaks meet the definition of whole-muscle, intact beef,^{Pf} and

(iii) If individually cut in a food service establishment:

(I) Cut from whole-muscle intact beef that is labeled by a food processing plant as specified in paragraph 5(i) of this subsection or identified as specified in paragraph 5(ii) of this subsection,^{Pf}

(II) Prepared so they remain intact,^{Pf} and

(III) If packaged for undercooking in a food service establishment, labeled as specified in paragraph 5(i) of this subsection or identified as specified in paragraph 5(ii) of this subsection.^{Pf}

6. Meat and poultry that is not a ready-to-eat food, and is in a packaged form when it is offered for sale or otherwise offered for consumption, shall be labeled to include safe handling instructions as specified in law, including [9 CFR 317.2\(l\)](#) and [9 CFR 381.125\(b\)](#).

7. Eggs that have not been specifically treated to destroy all viable *Salmonellae* shall be labeled to include safe handling instructions as specified in law, including [21 CFR 101.17\(h\)](#).

(b) Food Received in a Hermetically Sealed Container. Food received in a hermetically sealed container shall be obtained from a food processing plant that is regulated by the food regulatory agency that has jurisdiction over the plant.^P

(c) Fluid Milk and Milk Products. Fluid milk and milk products shall be obtained from sources that comply with grade A standards as specified in law.^P

(d) Fish. Fish that are received for sale or service shall be commercially and legally caught or harvested; or approved for sale or service.^P

(e) Molluscan Shellfish.

1. Molluscan shellfish shall be obtained from sources according to law and the requirements specified in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Food and Drug Administration, National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish.^P

2. Molluscan shellfish received in interstate commerce shall be from sources that are listed in the Interstate Certified Shellfish Shippers List.^P

3. Molluscan shellfish that are recreationally caught may not be received for sale or service.^P

(f) Wild Mushrooms.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, mushroom species picked in the wild shall not be offered for sale or service by a food establishment unless the food service establishment has been approved to do so.^P

2. This subsection does not apply to:

(i) Cultivated wild mushroom species that are grown, harvested, and processed in an operation that is regulated by the food regulatory agency that has jurisdiction over the operation; or

(ii) Wild mushroom species if they are in packaged form and are the product of a food processing plant that is regulated by the food regulatory agency that has jurisdiction over the plant.

(g) Game Animals.

1. Game animals are received for sale or service shall be:

(i) Commercially raised for food^P and:

(I) Raised, slaughtered, and processed under a voluntary inspection program that is conducted by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction,^P or

(II) Under a routine inspection program conducted by a regulatory agency other than the agency that has animal health jurisdiction,^P and

(III) Raised, slaughtered, and processed according to:

I. Laws governing meat and poultry as determined by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction and the agency that conducts the inspection program,^P and

II. Requirements which are developed by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction and the agency that conducts the inspection program with consideration of factors such as the need for antemortem and postmortem examination by an approved veterinarian or veterinarian's designee;^P

(ii) Under a voluntary inspection program administered by the USDA for game animals such as exotic animals (reindeer, elk, deer, antelope, water buffalo, or bison) that are "inspected and approved" in accordance with [9 CFR 352](#) Exotic animals; voluntary inspection or rabbits that are "inspected and certified" in accordance with [9 CFR 354](#) voluntary inspection of rabbits and edible products thereof;^P

(iii) As allowed by law, for wild game animals that are live-caught:

(I) Under a routine inspection program conducted by a regulatory agency such as the agency that has animal health jurisdiction,^P and

(II) Slaughtered and processed according to:

(A) Laws governing meat and poultry as determined by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction and the agency that conducts the inspection program,^P and

I. Requirements which are developed by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction and the agency that conducts the inspection program with consideration of factors such as the need for antemortem and postmortem examination by an approved veterinarian or veterinarian's designee;^P or

II. As allowed by law, for field-dressed wild game animals under a routine inspection program that ensures the animals:

(I) Receive a postmortem examination by an approved veterinarian or veterinarian's designee,^P or

(II) Are field-dressed and transported according to requirements specified by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction and the agency that conducts the inspection program,^P and

(III) Are processed according to laws governing meat and poultry as determined by the agency that has animal health jurisdiction and the agency that conducts the inspection program.^P

2. A game animal may not be received for sale or service if it is a species of wildlife that is listed in [50 CFR 17](#) Endangered and threatened wildlife and plants.

(3) Specifications for Receiving.

(a) Temperature.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, refrigerated, time/temperature control for safety food shall be at a temperature of 41°F (5°C) or below when received.^P

2. If a temperature other than 41°F (5°C) for a time/temperature control for safety food is specified in law governing its distribution, such as laws governing milk and molluscan shellfish, the food may be received at the specified temperature.

3. Raw eggs shall be received in refrigerated equipment that maintains an ambient air temperature of 45°F (7°C) or less.^P

4. Time/temperature control for safety food that is cooked and received hot shall be at a temperature of 135°F (57°C) or above.^P

5. A food that is labeled frozen and shipped frozen by a food processing plant shall be received frozen.^{Pf}

6. Upon receipt, time/temperature control for safety food shall be inspected to ensure that there is no evidence of previous temperature abuse.^{Pf}

(b) Additives. Food may not contain unapproved food additives or additives that exceed amounts specified in [21 CFR 170-180](#) relating to food additives, generally recognized as safe or prior sanctioned substances that exceed amounts specified in [21 CFR 181-186](#), substances that exceed amounts specified in [9 CFR Subpart C Section 424.21\(b\)](#) Food ingredients and sources of radiation, or pesticide residues that exceed provisions specified in [40 CFR 180](#) Tolerances for pesticides chemicals in food, and exceptions.^P

(c) Eggs. Eggs shall be received clean and sound and may not exceed the restricted egg tolerances for U.S. Consumer Grade B as specified in United States Standards, Grades, and Weight Classes for Shell Eggs, AMS 56.200 et seq., administered by the Agricultural Marketing Service of USDA.^P

(d) Eggs and Milk Products, Pasteurized.

1. Egg products shall be obtained pasteurized.^P

2. Fluid and dry milk and milk products shall:

(i) Be obtained pasteurized;^P and

(ii) Comply with Grade A standards as specified in law.^P

3. Frozen milk products, such as ice cream, shall be obtained pasteurized as specified in [21 CFR 135](#) - Frozen desserts.^P

4. Cheese shall be obtained pasteurized unless alternative procedures to pasteurization are specified in [21 CFR 133](#) - Cheeses and related cheese products, for curing certain cheese varieties.^P

(e) Package Integrity. Food packages shall be in good condition and protect the integrity of the contents so that the food is not exposed to adulteration or potential contaminants.^{Pf}

(f) Ice. Ice for use as a food or a cooling medium shall be made from drinking water.^P

(g) Shucked Shellfish, Packaging and Identification.

1. Raw shucked shellfish shall be obtained in nonreturnable packages which bear a legible label that identifies the:^{Pf}

(i) Name, address, and certification number of the shucker, packer, or repacker of the molluscan shellfish;^{Pf} and

(ii) The "sell by" or "best if used by" date for packages with a capacity of less than one-half gallon (1.89 L) or the date shucked for packages with a capacity of one-half gallon (1.89 L) or more.^{Pf}

2. A package of raw shucked shellfish that does not bear a label or which bears a label which does not contain all the information as specified under paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be subject to a hold order, as allowed by law, or seizure and destruction in accordance with 21 CFR Subpart D - Specific Administrative Decisions Regarding Interstate Shipments, Section 1240.60(d) Molluscan shellfish.

(h) Shellstock Identification.

1. Shellstock shall be obtained in containers bearing legible source identification tags or labels that are affixed by the harvester or dealer that depurates, ships, or reships the shellstock, as specified in the National Shellfish Sanitation Program Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish, and that list:^{Pf}

(i) Except as specified under paragraph 3 of this subsection, on the harvester's tag or label, the following information in the following order:^{Pf}

(I) The harvester's identification number that is assigned by the shellfish control authority,^{Pf}

(II) The date of harvesting,^{Pf}

(III) The most precise identification of the harvest location or aquaculture site that is practicable based on the system of harvest area designations that is in use by the shellfish control authority and including the abbreviation of the name of the state or country in which the shellfish are harvested,^{Pf}

(IV) The type and quantity of shellfish,^{Pf} and

(V) The following statement in bold, capitalized type: "This tag is required to be attached until container is empty or retagged and thereafter kept on file for 90 days;"^{Pf} and

(ii) Except as specified in paragraph 4 of this subsection, on each dealer's tag or label, the following information in the following order:^{Pf}

(I) The dealer's name and address, and the certification number assigned by the shellfish control authority,^{Pf}

(II) The original shipper's certification number including the abbreviation of the name of the state or country in which the shellfish are harvested,^{Pf}

(III) The same information as specified for a harvester's tag under paragraphs 1(i)(II) through (IV) of this subsection,^{Pf} and

(IV) The following statement in bold, capitalized type: "This tag is required to be attached until container is empty and thereafter kept on file for 90 days."^{Pf}

2. A container of shellstock that does not bear a tag or label or that bears a tag or label that does not contain all the information as specified under paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be subject to a hold order, as allowed by law, or seizure and destruction in accordance with 21 CFR Subpart D - Specific Administrative Decisions Regarding Interstate Shipments, Section 1240.60(d).

3. If a place is provided on the harvester's tag or label for a dealer's name, address, and certification number, the dealer's information shall be listed first.

4. If the harvester's tag or label is designed to accommodate each dealer's identification as specified under paragraphs 1(ii)(I) and (II) of this subsection, individual dealer tags or labels need not be provided.

(i) Shellstock, Condition. When received by a food service establishment, shellstock shall be reasonably free of mud, dead shellfish, and shellfish with broken shells. Dead shellfish or shellstock with badly broken shells shall be discarded.

(j) Juice Treated. Pre-packaged juice shall:

1. Be obtained from a processor with a HACCP system as specified in 21CFR Part 120 Hazard Analysis and Critical Control (HACCP) Systems;^{Pf} and
2. Be obtained pasteurized or otherwise treated to attain a 5-log reduction of the most resistant microorganism of public health significance as specified in 21 CFR Part 120.24 Process Controls.^P

(k) Molluscan Shellfish, Original Container.

1. Except as specified in paragraphs 2 through 4 of this subsection, Molluscan shellfish may not be removed from the container in which they are received until immediately before sale or preparation for service.
2. For display purposes, shellstock may be removed from the container in which they are received, displayed on drained ice, or held in a display container, and a quantity specified by a consumer may be removed from the display or display container and provided to the consumer if:

(i) The source of the shellstock on display is identified and recorded; and

(ii) The shellstock are protected from contamination.

3. Shucked shellfish may be removed from the container in which they were received and held in a display container from which individual servings are dispensed upon a consumer's request if:

(i) The labeling information for the shellfish on display is retained and correlated to the date when, or dates during which, the shellfish are sold or served; and

(ii) The shellfish are protected from contamination.

4. Shucked shellfish may be removed from the container in which they were received and repacked in consumer self service containers where allowed by law if:

(i) The labeling information for the shellfish is on each consumer self service container;

(ii) The labeling information is retained and correlated with the date when, or dates during which, the shellfish are sold or served;

(iii) The labeling information and dates specified under paragraph 4(ii) of this subsection are maintained for 90 days; and

(iv) The shellfish are protected from contamination.

(l) Shellstock, Maintaining Identification.

1. Except as specified under paragraphs 3 (ii) of this subsection, shellstock tags shall remain attached to the container in which the shellstock are received until the container is empty.^{Pf}

2. The date when the last shellstock from the container is sold or served shall be recorded on the tag or label.^{Pf}

3. The identity of the source of shellstock that are sold or served shall be maintained by retaining shellstock tags or labels for 90 calendar days from the date that is recorded on the tag or label, as specified under paragraph 2 of this subsection, by:^{Pf}

(i) Using an approved record keeping system that keeps the tags or labels in chronological order correlated to the date when, or dates during which, the shellstock are sold or served; and

(ii) If shellstock are removed from their tagged or labeled container:

(I) Preserving source identification by using a record keeping system that keeps the tags or labels in chronological order correlated to the date when, or dates during which, the shellstock are sold or served;^{Pf} and

(II) Ensuring that shellstock from one tagged or labeled container are not commingled with shellstock from another container with different certification numbers; different harvest dates; or different growing areas as identified on the tag or label before being ordered by the consumer.^{Pf}

(m) After Business Hours of Operations - Key Drop Deliveries. The Health Authority may allow a food service establishment to receive deliveries after the business hours of the operation, if the following criterion is found to be in compliance by the Health Authority:

1. The permit holder or person in charge of the food service establishment notifies the local Health Authority that key drop deliveries will be received after its business operating hours;^{Pf}

2. For purposes of enforcing this Chapter, an entity performing work under contract for the establishment shall be considered to be an employee of the establishment as defined in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.01\(45\)](#);^{Pf}

3. The business entity providing key drop deliveries to the establishment shall certify in writing to the establishment that the products delivered will be under its control throughout the delivery process to the establishment, and that all products will be delivered to the establishment during the key drop delivery hours pursuant to the secured access arrangement set by the food service establishment complies with paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of this subsection;^{Pf} and

4. The entity providing the key drop deliveries shall ensure that all products are stored within the food service establishment and not left on loading docks or in an area accessible by the public. Food products shall be stored in compliance with applicable provisions of DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04](#) and as follows:^P

(i) Food products requiring temperature control for safety shall be immediately stored within approved temperature control storage equipment verified by the food service establishment management that is capable of maintaining food product temperatures of:^P

(I) 41°F (5°C) or less, if held cold;^P or

(II) 135°F (57°C) or higher if held hot;^P or

(III) frozen if delivered frozen;^P and

(ii) All food shall be placed within appropriate storage facilities of the establishment to maintain food safety and security so as to protect against contamination and adulteration;^{Pf}

5. The food service establishment shall maintain records of the written agreement as specified in subsection (3)(m)3 of this Rule as well as records that show the delivery condition and temperature of the products upon receipt of delivery. Records shall be made available upon request by the Health Authority;^{Pf} and

6. Receipt of delivery by the food service establishment must be immediately verified by its employees.^{Pf}

(4) Protection From Contamination After Receiving.

(a) Preventing Contamination from Hands.

1. Food employees shall wash their hands as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(5\)](#).

2. Except when washing fruits and vegetables or as specified under subsection (a)4, food employees shall not contact exposed, ready-to-eat food with their bare hands and shall use suitable utensils such as deli tissue, spatulas, tongs, single-use gloves, or dispensing equipment.^P

3. Food employees shall minimize bare hand and arm contact with exposed food that is not in a ready-to-eat form.^{Pf}

4. Paragraph (a)2. of this subsection does not apply to a food employee that contacts exposed, ready-to-eat food with bare hands at the time the ready-to-eat food is being added as an ingredient to a food that:

(i) contains a raw animal food and is to be cooked in the food service establishment to heat all parts of the food to at least the minimum time/temperatures specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(5\)\(a\)1 and 2](#) and DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(5\)\(b\)](#);^P or

(ii) does not contain a raw animal food but is to be cooked in the food service establishment to heat all parts of the food to a time/temperature of at least 145°F (63°C);^P and

(iii) the ready-to-eat food must be identified for cooking use only and kept separate from other ready-to-eat food that will not be cooked as specified in paragraphs 4. (i) and (ii) of this subsection.^{Pf}

(b) Preventing Contamination When Tasting. A food employee may not use a utensil more than once to taste food that is to be sold or served.^P

(c) Packaged and Unpackaged Food - Separation, Packaging, and Segregation.

1. Food shall be protected from cross contamination by:

(i) Except as specified in paragraph (i)(III) of this subsection, separating raw animal foods during storage, preparation, holding, and display from:

(I) Raw ready-to-eat food including other raw animal food such as fish for sushi or molluscan shellfish, or other raw ready-to-eat food such as fruits and vegetables;^P and

(II) Cooked ready-to-eat food;^P and

(III) Frozen, commercially processed and packaged raw animal food may be stored or displayed with or above frozen, commercially processed and packaged, ready-to-eat food.

(ii) Except when combined as ingredients, separating types of raw animal foods from each other such as beef, fish, lamb, pork, and poultry during storage, preparation, holding, and display by:

(I) Using separate equipment for each type;^P or

(II) Arranging each type of food in equipment so that cross contamination of one type with another is prevented;^P and

(III) Preparing each type of food at different times or in separate areas;^P

(iii) Cleaning and sanitizing equipment and utensils;

(iv) Except as specified under paragraph 2. of this subsection and when cooling as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(6\)\(e\)2.\(ii\)](#), storing the food in packages, covered containers, or wrappings, except for loosely covered or uncovered containers in which food is being cooled if protected from overhead contamination;

(v) Cleaning hermetically sealed containers of food of visible soil before opening;

(vi) Protecting food containers that are received packaged together in a case or overwrap from cuts when the case or overwrap is opened;

(vii) Storing damaged, spoiled, or recalled food being held in the food service establishment separate from food, equipment, utensils, linens and single-service and single-use articles; or

(viii) Separating fruits and vegetables, before they are washed from ready-to-eat food.

2. The requirement in paragraph 1(iv) of this subsection does not apply to:

(i) Whole, uncut, raw fruits and vegetables and nuts in the shell that require peeling or hulling before consumption;

(ii) Primal cuts, quarters, or sides of raw meat or slab bacon that are hung on clean, sanitized hooks or placed on clean, sanitized racks;

(iii) Whole, uncut, processed meats such as country hams, and smoked or cured sausages that are placed on clean, sanitized racks;

(iv) Food being cooled in cooling or cold holding equipment loosely covered, or uncovered if protected from overhead contamination; or

(v) Shellstock.

(d) Food Storage Containers, Identified with Common Name of Food. Except for containers holding food that can be readily and unmistakably recognized, such as dry pasta, working containers holding food or food ingredients that are removed from their original packages for use in the food establishment, such as cooking oils, flour, herbs, potato flakes, salt, spices, and sugar shall be clearly and legibly identified, in English, with the common name of the food.

(e) Pasteurized Eggs, Substitute for Raw Eggs for Certain Recipes. Pasteurized eggs or egg products shall be substituted for raw eggs in the preparation of foods such as Caesar salad, hollandaise or Béarnaise sauce, mayonnaise, meringue, eggnog, ice cream, and egg-fortified beverages if raw eggs are not cooked to the required temperatures specified under subsection (5)(a)1(i) or (ii) of this Rule or served with a consumer advisory in a food establishment that serves a population that is not a highly susceptible population.

(f) Protection from Unapproved Additives.

1. As specified in subsection (3)(b) of this Rule, food shall be protected from contamination that may result from the addition of:

(i) Unsafe or unapproved food or color additives;^P and

(ii) Unsafe or unapproved levels of approved food and color additives.^P

2. A food employee may not:

(i) Apply sulfiting agents to fresh fruits and vegetables intended for raw consumption or to a food considered to be a good source of vitamin B1;^P or

(ii) Except for grapes, serve or sell food specified under paragraph 2(i) of this subsection that is treated with sulfiting agents before receipt by the food service establishment.^P

(g) Washing Fruits and Vegetables.

1. Except as specified in paragraphs (g)2 and 3 of this subsection and except for whole, raw fruits and vegetables that are intended for washing by the consumer before consumption, raw fruits and vegetables shall be thoroughly washed in water, in a sink designated for that purpose only, to remove soil and other contaminants before being cut, combined with other ingredients, cooked, served, or offered for human consumption in ready-to-eat form.

2. Fruits and vegetables may be washed by using chemicals as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.07\(6\)\(h\)](#).

3. Ready-to-eat food such as potatoes, soups, chili, sauces, etc., may be thawed, rehydrated, or cooled after cooking in the sink if the sink is cleaned and sanitized before ready-to-eat food is placed in the sink and again before washing whole, raw fruits and vegetables. This does not apply to ready-to-eat food that is served as raw or undercooked animal foods.

4. Devices used for on-site generation of chemicals meeting the requirements specified in [21 CFR 173.315](#), Chemicals used in the washing or to assist in the peeling of fruits and vegetables, for the washing of raw, whole fruits and vegetables shall be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.^{Pf}

(h) Ice Used as Exterior Coolant, Prohibited as Ingredient. Ice may not be used as food after it has been used as a medium for cooling the exterior surfaces of food such as melons or fish, packaged foods such as canned beverages, or cooling coils and tubes of equipment.^P

(i) Storage or Display of Food in Contact with Water or Ice.

1. Packaged food may not be stored in direct contact with ice or water if the food is subject to the entry of water because of the nature of its packaging, wrapping, or container or positioning in the ice or water.

2. Except as specified in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this subsection, unpackaged food may not be stored in direct contact with undrained ice.

3. Whole, raw fruits or vegetables; cut, raw vegetables such as celery or carrot sticks or cut potatoes; and tofu may be immersed in ice or water.

4. Raw poultry and raw fish that are received immersed in ice in shipping containers may remain in that condition while in storage awaiting preparation, display, service, or sale.

(j) Food Contact with Equipment and Utensils. Food shall only contact surfaces of:

1. Equipment and utensils that are cleaned and sanitized as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(7\) and \(8\)](#);^P or

2. Single-service and single-use articles;^P or

3. Linens, such as cloth napkins, that have been laundered as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(9\)](#).

(k) Storage of In-Use Utensils. During pauses in food preparation or dispensing, food preparation and dispensing utensils shall be stored:

1. Except as specified under paragraph 2 of this subsection, in the food with their handles above the top of the food and the container;

2. In food that is not time/temperature control for safety food with their handles above the top of the food within containers or equipment that can be closed, such as bins of sugar, flour, or cinnamon;

3. On a clean portion of the food preparation table or cooking equipment only if the in-use utensil and the food-contact surface of the food preparation table or cooking equipment are cleaned and sanitized at a frequency specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(7\)\(b\) and \(8\)\(a\)](#);

4. In running water of sufficient velocity to flush particulates to the drain, if used with moist food such as ice cream or mashed potatoes;

5. In a clean, protected location if the utensils, such as ice scoops, are used only with a food that is not time/temperature control for safety food; or

6. In a container of water if the water is maintained at a temperature of at least 135°F (57°C) and the container is cleaned at a frequency specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(7\)\(b\)3\(vi\)](#).

(l) Linens and Napkins, Use Limitation. Linens, such as cloth napkins, may not be used in contact with food unless they are used to line a container for the service of foods and the linens and napkins are replaced each time the container is refilled for a new consumer.

(m) Wiping Cloths, Use Limitation.

1. Cloths in-use for wiping food spills from tableware and carry-out containers that occur as food is being served shall be:

(i) Maintained dry; and

(ii) Used for no other purpose.

2. Cloths in-use for wiping counters and other equipment surfaces shall be:

(i) Held between uses in a chemical sanitizer solution at a concentration specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(6\)\(n\)](#); and

(ii) Laundered daily.

3. Cloths in-use for wiping surfaces in contact with raw animal foods shall be kept separate from cloths used for other purposes.

4. Dry wiping cloths and the chemical sanitizing solutions in which wet wiping cloths are held between uses shall be free of food debris and visible soil.

5. Containers of chemical sanitizing solutions in which wet wiping cloths are held between uses shall be stored off the floor and used in a manner that prevents contamination of food, equipment, utensils, linens, single-service, or single-use articles.

6. Single-use disposable sanitizer wipes shall be used in accordance with EPA-approved manufacturer's label use instructions.

(n) Gloves, Use Limitation.

1. If used, single-use gloves shall be used for only one task such as working with ready-to-eat food or with raw animal food, used for no other purpose, and discarded when damaged or soiled, or when interruptions occur in the operation.^P

2. Except as specified in paragraph 3 of this subsection, slash-resistant gloves that are used to protect the hands during operations requiring cutting shall be used in direct contact only with food that is subsequently cooked as specified under subsection (5) such as frozen food or a primal cut of meat.

3. Slash-resistant gloves may be used with ready-to-eat food that will not be subsequently cooked if the slash-resistant gloves have a smooth, durable, and nonabsorbent outer surface; or if the slash-resistant gloves are covered with a smooth, durable, nonabsorbent glove, or a single-use glove.

4. Cloth gloves may not be used in direct contact with food unless the food is subsequently cooked, such as frozen food or a primal cut of meat.

(o) Using Clean Tableware for Second Portions and Refills.

1. Except for refilling a consumer's drinking cup or container without contact between the pouring utensil and the lip-contact area of the drinking cup or container, food employees may not use tableware, or single-service articles, soiled by the consumer, to provide second portions or refills.
2. Except as specified in paragraph 3 of this subsection, self-service consumers may not be allowed to use soiled tableware, including single-service articles, to obtain additional food from the display and serving equipment.
3. Drinking cups and containers may be reused by self-service consumers if refilling is a contamination-free process.

(p) Refilling Returnables.

1. Except as specified in paragraphs 2. and 5. of this subsection, empty containers returned to a food service establishment for cleaning and refilling with food shall be cleaned and refilled in a regulated food processing plant.

2. A take-home food container returned to a food service establishment may be refilled at a food service establishment with food if the food container is:

(i) Designed and constructed for reuse and in accordance with the requirements as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(1\) and \(2\)](#);^P

(ii) One that was initially provided by the food service establishment to the consumer, either empty or filled with food by the food service establishment, for the purpose of being returned, for reuse;

(iii) Returned to the food service establishment by the consumer after use;

(iv) Visually inspected by a food employee to verify that the container, as returned meets the requirements in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(1\) and \(2\)](#), and is cleaned and sanitized before being refilled with food^P; and

3. A take-home food container returned to a food service establishment may be refilled at a food service establishment with beverage if:

(i) The beverage is not a Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food;

(ii) The design of the container and of the rinsing equipment and the nature of the beverage, when considered together, allow effective cleaning at home or in the food service establishment;

(iii) Facilities for rinsing before refilling returned containers with fresh, hot water that is under pressure and not recirculated are provided as part of the dispensing system or by the food service establishment if the consumer is notified by signage;

(iv) The consumer-owned container returned to the food service establishment for refilling is refilled for sale or service only to the same consumer; and

(v) The container is refilled by:

(I) An employee of the establishment, or

(II) The owner of the container if the beverage system includes a contamination-free transfer process as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(2\)\(p\)1.](#), 2., and 4. that cannot be bypassed by the container owner.

4. Consumer-owned, personal take-out beverage containers, such as thermally insulated bottles, nonspill coffee cups, and promotional beverage glasses, may be refilled by employees or the consumer if refilling is a contamination-free process as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-16-1-.05\(2\)\(p\)1.](#), 2., and 4.

5. Consumer-owned containers that are not food-specific may be filled at a water vending machine or system.

(q) Food Storage.

1. Except as specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this subsection, food shall be protected from contamination by storing the food:

(i) In a clean, dry location;

(ii) Where it is not exposed to splash, dust, or other contamination; and

(iii) At least 6 inches (15 cm) above the floor.

2. Food in packages and working containers may be stored less than 6 inches (15 cm) above the floor on case lot handling equipment if the equipment can be moved by hand or by conveniently available apparatuses such as hand trucks and forklifts.

3. Pressurized beverage containers, cased food in waterproof containers such as bottles or cans, and milk containers in plastic crates may be stored on a floor that is clean and not exposed to floor moisture.

(r) Food Storage, Prohibited Areas. Food may not be stored in the following areas:

1. Locker rooms;

2. Toilet rooms;

3. Dressing rooms;

4. Garbage rooms;

5. Mechanical rooms;

6. Under sewer lines that are not shielded to intercept potential drips;

7. Under leaking water lines, including leaking automatic fire sprinkler heads, or under lines on which water has condensed;

8. Under open stairwells; or

9. Under other sources of contamination.

(s) Vended Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food, Original Container. Time/temperature control for safety food dispensed through a vending machine shall be in the package in which it was placed at the food service establishment or food processing plant at which it was prepared.

(t) Food Preparation. During preparation, unpackaged food shall be protected from environmental sources of contamination.

(u) Food Display.

1. Except for nuts in the shell and whole, raw fruits and vegetables that are intended for hulling, peeling, or washing by the consumer before consumption, food on display shall be protected from contamination by the use of packaging; counter, service line, or salad bar food guards, display cases, or other effective means.^P

2. Protective devices for counters, serving lines, salad bars and other similar food displays in food service establishments shall be designed and constructed so as to intercept contaminants which may be expelled from the customer's mouth or nose.

3. All food, whether on display, being prepared for service or placed for consumer self-service must be protected from contamination from consumers standing or sitting within eight feet of the food, except that table side finishing as approved by the Health Authority and hibachi grills will be allowed when food preparation is for immediate service.

(v) Condiments, Protection.

1. Condiments shall be protected from contamination by being kept in dispensers that are designed to provide protection, protected food displays provided with the proper utensils, original containers designed for dispensing, or individual packages or portions.

2. Condiments at a vending machine location shall be in individual packages or provided in dispensers that are filled at an approved location, such as the food service establishment that provides food to the vending machine location, a food processing plant that is regulated by the agency that has jurisdiction over the operation, or a properly equipped facility that is located on the site of the vending machine location.

(w) Consumer Self-Service Operations.

1. Raw, unpackaged animal food, such as beef, lamb, pork, poultry, and fish may not be offered for consumer self-service. This paragraph does not apply to:

(i) Consumer self-service of ready-to-eat foods at buffets or salad bars that serve foods such as sushi or raw shellfish;

(ii) Ready-to-cook individual portions for immediate cooking and consumption on the premises such as consumer-cooked meats or consumer-selected ingredients for Mongolian barbecue; or

(iii) Raw, frozen, shell-on shrimp, or lobster.

2. Consumer self-service operations for ready-to-eat foods shall be provided with suitable utensils or effective dispensing methods that protect the food from contamination.^{Pf}

3. Clean tableware shall be provided to consumers returning to the self-service area for additional food. A public notice informing consumers to use clean tableware shall be posted in a conspicuous place in the self-service area. Beverage cups and glasses, and flatware including forks, knives and spoons are exempt from this requirement.^{Pf}

4. When refilling containers of Time/Temperature Control for safety (TCS) foods on a self-service display, the new food product shall not be mixed with the old food product unless:

(i) The displayed product is holding at 41°F or below or 135°F or above;^{Pf} and

(ii) The self-service operation is being monitored by employees trained in safe operating procedures;^{Pf} and

(iii) The date and time of the earliest food prepared shall either be marked on the container, or documented by an alternate method acceptable to the Health Authority.^{Pf}

5. All unwrapped foods on a self-service buffet or salad bar shall be disposed of at the end of the business day or after a maximum of 24 hours. Written procedures for tracking the total accumulative time that unwrapped food is displayed shall be prepared in advance, maintained within the food service establishment, and made available to the Health Authority upon request. Those written procedures shall specify:^{Pf}

(i) How displayed foods will be identified;^{Pf}

(ii) How food shall be monitored in regards to tracking time during display for each food item;^{Pf} and

(iii) Corrective action to be taken should a total accumulative display time as specified in subsection (4)(w)5 above is exceeded.^{Pf}

6. Family-style of self-service may be allowed in facilities that do not serve a highly susceptible population as long as the following provisions are met:^{Pf}

(i) The permit holder shall fully disclose how the family-style of service will be provided to consumers prior to their being seated for service. Disclosure shall be in the form of a prominently displayed sign containing descriptive language of a letter height of at least 1 inch so as to be easily readable by consumers at the location where consumers wait to be seated and then again, verbally by the host, hostess or server prior to consumers being seated;^{Pf}

(ii) A group of consumers will be seated at a table for one sitting;^{Pf}

(iii) Each container of food shall have its own serving utensils as required within paragraph 2 of this subsection;^{Pf}

(iv) All food will be placed in bulk on a table, and served to only one sitting of people;^{Pf}

(v) Any food served to a consumer shall not later be offered as food for human consumption to other consumers.^{Pf}

(x) Returned Food and Re-Service of Food.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, after being served or sold and in the possession of a consumer, food that is unused or returned by the consumer may not be offered as food for human consumption.^P

2. Except for food served to patients or clients who are under contact precautions or protective environment isolation in a facility serving a highly susceptible population, a container of food that is not time/temperature control for safety food may be re-served from one consumer to another if:

(i) The food is dispensed so that it is protected from contamination and the container is closed between uses, such as a narrow-neck bottle containing catsup, steak sauce, or wine; or

(ii) The food, such as crackers, salt, or pepper, is in an unopened original package and is maintained in sound condition.

(y) Outdoor Cooking and Service of Food.

1. For special events, foods requiring only cooking may be prepared, if served immediately, in an outside area on the premises of a permitted food service establishment. Prior approval must be obtained from the Health Authority.^P

2. The presentation of food orders and limited table side finishing, such as tossing salad and flaming desserts, is permissible from a permitted food service establishment in an adjoining outdoor seating area. Outdoor salad bars or unenclosed dessert carts are prohibited.^P

3. Outdoor barbeque pits or barbeque cookers may be allowed on the premises of a food service establishment with the approval of the Health Authority if the following requirements are met:^{Pf}

(i) The cooking equipment is used only for cooking bulk volume of meats and poultry such as hams, chicken or beef and not as a grill for cooking individual orders;^P

(ii) Within the food service establishment, all meats and poultry will be placed within clean and sanitized containers and then covered prior to being carried to the cooking equipment;^P

(iii) All of the meat and poultry will be placed at one time onto cooking surfaces of cooking equipment that has been preheated and then cooked as required in subsection (5) of this Rule. Once meats have completed the cooking process, they will be placed in a clean and sanitized food grade container, using separate utensils from handling raw

meats and poultry and then covered and transported into the food service establishment for further processing and service. No food preparation other than seasoning will be allowed at outdoor barbeque pits or barbeque cookers;^P

(iv) Utensils and food shall not be left outside of the cooking equipment or outside of the food service establishment;^P

(vi) Outdoor barbeque pits or barbeque cookers shall be protected with permanent overhead protection and placed on an easily cleanable surface such as smooth finished concrete;^{Pf}

(vii) Outdoor barbeque pits or barbeque cookers shall be equipped with closable lids and kept closed except for cleaning and working with food such as turning and seasoning;^{Pf}

(viii) The outside cooking area shall be designed and constructed so as to control the presence of vermin;^{Pf} and

(ix) The outside cooking area shall be designed and constructed so as to facilitate the ease of routine cleaning and to promote good sanitation.^{Pf}

(z) Miscellaneous Sources of Contamination. Food shall be protected from contamination that may result from a factor or source not specified under paragraphs (a) through (y) of this subsection.

(5) Pathogen Destruction.

(a) Raw Animal Foods.

1. Except as specified under paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of this subsection, raw animal foods such as eggs, fish, meat, poultry, and foods containing these raw animal foods, shall be cooked to heat all parts of the food to a temperature and for a time that complies with one of the following methods based on the food that is being cooked:

(i) 145°F (63°C) or above for 15 seconds for:^P

(I) Raw eggs that are broken and prepared in response to a consumer's order and for immediate service;^P and

(II) Except as specified under paragraphs 1(ii) and (iii), 2, and 3 of this subsection, fish and meat including game animals commercially raised for food or under a voluntary inspection program;^P

(ii) 155°F (68°C) for 15 seconds or the temperature specified in the following chart that corresponds to the holding time for ratites, mechanically tenderized, and injected meats; the following if they are comminuted: fish, meat, game animals raised for food, and commercially game animals or under a voluntary inspection program; and raw eggs that are not prepared to a consumer's order and for immediate service;^P or

Minimum	
Temperature °F (°C)	Time
145 (63)	3 minutes
150 (66)	1 minute
158 (70)	<1 second (instantaneous)

(iii) 165°F (74°C) or above for 15 seconds for poultry, baluts, wild game animals, stuffed fish, stuffed meat, stuffed pasta, stuffed poultry, stuffed ratites, or stuffing containing fish, meat, poultry, or ratites.^P

2. Whole meat roasts including beef, corned beef, lamb, pork, and cured pork roasts such as ham shall be cooked:

(i) In an oven that is preheated to the temperature specified for the roast's weight in the following chart and that is held at that temperature.^{Pf}

Oven Type	Oven Temperature Based on Roast Weight	
	Less than 10 lbs (4.5 kg)	10 lbs (4.5 kg) or More
Still Dry	350°F (177°C) or more	250°F (121°C) or more
Convection	325°F (163°C) or more	250°F (121°C) or more
High Humidity ¹	250°F (121°C) or less	250°F (121°C) or less
¹ Relative humidity greater than 90% for at least 1 hour as measured in the cooking chamber or exit of the oven; or in a moisture-impermeable bag that provides 100% humidity.		

and

(ii) As specified in the following chart, to heat all parts of the food to a temperature and for the holding time that corresponds to that temperature:^P

Temperature °F (°C)	Time ¹ in Minutes	Temperature °F (°C)	Time ¹ in Seconds
130 (54.4)	112	147 (63.9)	134
131 (55.0)	89	149 (65.0)	85
133 (56.1)	56	151 (66.1)	54
135 (57.2)	36	153 (67.2)	34
136 (57.8)	28	155 (68.3)	22
138 (58.9)	18	157 (69.4)	14
140 (60.0)	12	158 (70.0)	0
142 (61.1)	8		
144 (62.2)	5		
145 (62.8)	4		
¹ Holding time may include postoven heat rise.			

3. A raw or undercooked whole-muscle, intact beef steak may be served or offered for sale in a ready-to-eat form if:

(i) The food service establishment serves a population that is not a highly susceptible population, and

(ii) The steak is labeled by the producer or supplier to indicate that it meets the definition of "whole-muscle, intact beef", and

(iii) The steak is cooked on both the top and bottom to a surface temperature of 145°F (63°C) or above and a cooked color change is achieved on all external surfaces.

4. A raw animal food such as raw egg, raw fish, raw-marinated fish, raw molluscan shellfish, or steak tartare; or a partially cooked food such as lightly cooked fish, soft cooked eggs, or rare meat other than whole-muscle, intact beef steaks as specified in paragraph 3 of this subsection, may be served or offered for sale upon consumer request or selection in a ready-to-eat form if:

(i) The food service establishment serves a population that is not a highly susceptible population; and

(ii) The food, if served or offered for service by consumer selection from a children's menu, does not contain comminuted meat,^{Pf} and

(iii) The consumer is informed that to ensure its safety, the food should be cooked as specified under paragraphs 1 or 2 of this subsection; or

(iv) The Health Authority grants a variance from paragraphs 1 or 2 of this subsection as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(5\)\(a\)](#) based on a HACCP plan that:

(I) Is submitted by the permit holder and granted as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(5\)\(b\)](#), and

(II) Documents scientific data or other information showing that a lesser time and temperature regimen results in a safe food, and

(III) Verifies that equipment and procedures for food preparation and training of food employees at the food service establishment meet the conditions of the variance.

(b) Microwave Cooking. Raw animal foods cooked in a microwave oven shall be:

1. Rotated or stirred throughout or midway during cooking to compensate for uneven distribution of heat;
2. Covered to retain surface moisture;
3. Heated to a temperature of at least 165°F (74°C) in all parts of the food;^P and
4. Allowed to stand covered for 2 minutes after cooking to obtain temperature equilibrium.

(c) Plant Food Cooking for Hot Holding. Fruits and vegetables that are cooked for hot holding shall be cooked to a temperature of 135°F (57°C).^{Pf}

(d) Non-Continuous Cooking of Raw Animal Foods. Raw animal foods that are cooked using a non-continuous cooking process shall be:

1. Subject to an initial heating process that is no longer than sixty minutes in duration;^P
2. Immediately after initial heating, cooled according to the time and temperature parameters as specified in subsection (6)(d) of this Rule for cooked time/temperature control for safety food;^P
3. After cooling, held frozen or cold, as specified for time/temperature control for safety food as specified in subsection (6)(f) of this Rule;^P
4. Prior to sale or service, cooked using a process that heats all parts of the food to a temperature for a time as specified under subsection (5)(a)1-3 of this Rule;^P
5. Cooled according to the time and temperature parameters specified for cooked time/temperature control for safety food as specified in 2 of this subsection if not either hot held as specified in subsection (6)(f) of this Rule, served immediately, or held using time as a public health control as specified in subsection (6)(i) of this Rule after complete cooking;^P and
6. Prepared and stored according to written procedures that:

(i) Have obtained prior approval from the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(ii) Are maintained in the food service establishment and are available to the Health Authority upon request;^{Pf}

(iii) Describe how the requirements specified in paragraphs 1 through 5 of this subsection are to be monitored and documented by the permit holder and the corrective actions to be taken if the requirements are not met;^{Pf}

(iv) Describe how the foods, after initial heating, but prior to complete cooking, are to be marked or otherwise identified as foods that must be cooked as specified in paragraph 4 of this subsection prior to being offered for sale or service;^{Pf} and

(v) Describe how the foods, after initial heating but prior to cooking as specified in paragraph 4 of this subsection, are to be separated from ready-to-eat foods as specified in subsection (4)(c)1 of this Rule.^{Pf}

(e) Parasite Destruction.

1. Before service or sale in ready-to-eat form, raw, raw-marinated, partially cooked, or marinated-partially cooked fish shall be:

(i) Frozen and stored at a temperature of -4°F (-20°C) or below for a minimum of 7 days (168 hours) in a freezer;^P

(ii) Frozen at -31°F (-35°C) or below until solid and stored at -31°F (-35°C) or below for a minimum of 15 hours;^P
or

(iii) Frozen at -31°F (-35°C) or below until solid and stored at -4°F (-20°C) or below for a minimum of 24 hours.^P

2. The requirement in paragraph 1 of this subsection does not apply to:

(i) Molluscan shellfish;

(ii) A scallop product consisting only of the shucked adductor muscle;

(iii) Tuna of the species *Thunnusalalunga*, *Thunnusalbacares* (Yellowfin tuna), *Thunnusatlanticus*, *Thunnusmaccoyii* (Bluefin tuna, Southern), *Thunnusobesus* (Bigeye tuna), or *Thunnusthynnus* (Bluefin tuna, Northern); or

(iv) Aquacultured fish, such as salmon, that:

(I) If raised in open water, are raised in net-pens, or

(II) Are raised in land-based operations such as ponds or tanks, and

(III) Are fed formulated feed, such as pellets, that contains no live parasites infective to the aquacultured fish.

(v) Fish eggs that have been removed from the skein and rinsed.

(f) Records, Creation and Retention.

1. Except as specified in subsections (2) and (5)(e) of this Rule. If raw, raw-marinated, partially cooked, or marinated-partially cooked fish are served or sold in ready-to-eat form, the person in charge shall record the freezing temperature and time to which the fish are subjected and shall retain the records of the food service establishment for 90 calendar days beyond the time of service or sale of the fish.^{Pf}

2. If the fish are frozen by a supplier, a written agreement or statement from the supplier stipulating that the fish supplied are frozen to a temperature and for a time specified under subsection (5)(e) of this Rule may substitute for the records specified under paragraph 1 of this subsection.

3. If raw, raw-marinated, partially cooked, or marinated-partially cooked fish are served or sold in ready-to-eat form, and the fish are raised and fed as specified in subsection (5)(e)2(iv) of this Rule, a written agreement or statement from the supplier or aquaculturist stipulating that the fish were raised and fed as specified in subsection (5)(e)2(iv) of this Rule shall be obtained by the person in charge and retained in the records of the food service establishment for 90 calendar days beyond the time of service or sale of the fish.^{Pf}

(g) Preparation for Immediate Service. Cooked and refrigerated food that is prepared for immediate service in response to an individual consumer order, such as a roast beef sandwich au jus, may be served at any temperature.

(h) Reheating for Hot Holding.

1. Except as specified under paragraphs 2, 3, and 5 of this subsection, time/temperature control for safety food that is cooked, cooled, and reheated for hot holding shall be reheated so that all parts of the food reach a temperature of at least 165°F (74°C) for 15 seconds.^P

2. Except as specified under paragraph 3 of this subsection, time/temperature control for safety food reheated in a microwave oven for hot holding shall be reheated so that all parts of the food reach a temperature of at least 165°F (74°C) and the food is rotated or stirred, covered, and then allowed to stand covered for 2 minutes after reheating.^P

3. Ready-to-eat time/temperature control for safety food that has been commercially processed and packaged in a food processing plant that is inspected by the food regulatory authority that has jurisdiction over the plant, shall be heated to a temperature of at least 135°F (57°C) for hot holding.^P

4. Reheating for hot holding shall be done rapidly and the time the food is between the temperatures of 41°F (5°C) and 165°F (74°C) and 41°F (5°C) and 135°F (57°C) for commercially processed food, may not exceed 2 hours.^P

5. Remaining unsliced portions of meat roasts that are cooked as specified under subsection (5)(a)2 of this Rule may be reheated for hot holding using the same oven parameters and minimum time and temperature conditions under which it was cooked.

(i) Treating Juice. Juice packaged in a food service establishment shall be:

1. Treated under a HACCP plan to attain a 5-log reduction, which is equal to a 99.999% reduction, of the most resistant microorganism of public health significance;^P or

2. Labeled, if not treated to yield a 5-log reduction of the most resistant microorganism of public health significance;^{Pf}

(i) As specified under subsection (7)(c) of this Rule,^{Pf} and

(ii) As specified in [21 CFR 101.17\(g\)](#) Food labeling, warning, notice, and safe handling statements, juices that have not been specifically processed to prevent, reduce, or eliminate the presence of pathogens with the following, "WARNING: This product has not been pasteurized and, therefore, may contain harmful bacteria that can cause serious illness in children, the elderly, and persons with weakened immune systems."^{Pf}

(6) Limiting the Growth of Pathogens

(a) Frozen Food. Stored frozen foods shall be maintained frozen.

(b) Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food, Slacking. Frozen time/temperature control for safety food that is slacked to moderate the temperature shall be held:

1. Under refrigeration that maintains the food temperature at 41°F (5°C) or less; or

2. At any temperature if the food remains frozen.

(c) Thawing. Except as specified in paragraph 4 of this subsection, time/temperature control for safety food shall be thawed:

1. Under refrigeration that maintains the food temperature at 41°F (5°C) or less; or

2. Completely submerged under running water:

(i) At a water temperature of 70°F (21°C) or below,

(ii) With sufficient water velocity to agitate and float off loose particles in an overflow, and

(iii) For a period of time that does not allow thawed portions of ready-to-eat food to rise above 41°F (5°C), or

(iv) For a period of time that does not allow thawed portions of a raw animal food requiring cooking to be above 41°F (5°C), for more than 4 hours including:

(I) The time the food is exposed to the running water and the time needed for preparation for cooking, or

(II) The time it takes under refrigeration to lower the food temperature to 41°F (5°C);

3. As part of a cooking process if the food that is frozen is:

(i) Cooked as specified under subsections (5)(a)1 or 2 or (5)(b) of this Rule, or

(ii) Thawed in a microwave oven and immediately transferred to conventional cooking equipment, with no interruption in the process; or

4. Using any procedure if a portion of frozen ready-to-eat food is thawed and prepared for immediate service in response to an individual consumer's order.

5. Reduced oxygen packaged fish that bears a label indicating that it is to be kept frozen until time of use shall be removed from the reduced oxygen environment:

(i) Prior to its thawing under refrigeration that maintains the food temperature at 41°F (5°C) or less; or

(ii) Prior to, or immediately upon completion of its thawing, using procedures to completely submerge in running water as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection.

(d) Cooling.

1. Cooked time/temperature control for safety food shall be cooled:

(i) Within 2 hours from 135°F (57°C) to 70°F (21°C);^P and

(ii) Within a total of 6 hours from 135°F (57°C) to 41°F (5°C) or less.^P

2. Time/temperature control for safety food shall be cooled within 4 hours to 41°F (5°C) or less if prepared from ingredients at ambient temperature, such as reconstituted foods and canned tuna.^P

3. Except as specified under paragraph 4 of this subsection, a time/temperature control for safety food received in compliance with laws allowing a temperature above 41°F (5°C) during shipment from the supplier shall be cooled within 4 hours to 41°F (5°C).^P

4. Raw eggs shall be received and immediately placed in refrigerated equipment that maintains an ambient air temperature of 45°F (7°C) or less.^P

(e) Cooling Methods.

1. Cooling shall be accomplished in accordance with the time and temperature criteria specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(6\)\(d\)](#) by using one or more of the following methods depending on the type of food being cooled:

(i) Placing the food in shallow pans;^{Pf}

(ii) Separating the food into smaller or thinner portions;^{Pf}

(iii) Using rapid cooling equipment;^{Pf}

(iv) Stirring the food in a container placed in an ice water bath;^{Pf}

(v) Using containers that facilitate heat transfer;^{Pf}

(vi) Adding ice as an ingredient;^{Pf} or

(vii) Other effective methods.^{Pf}

2. When placed in cooling or cold holding equipment, food containers in which food is being cooled shall be:

(i) Arranged in the equipment to provide maximum heat transfer through the container walls; and

(ii) Loosely covered, or uncovered if protected from overhead contamination during the cooling period to facilitate heat transfer from the surface of the food.

(f) Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food, Hot and Cold Holding. Except during preparation, cooking, or cooling, or when time is used as the public health control, time/temperature control for safety food shall be maintained at 41°F (5°C) or below or 135°F (57°C) or above, except that roasts cooked to a temperature and for a time specified in subsection (5)(a)2 of this Rule and reheated using the same temperature and time conditions as cooking may be held at a temperature of 130°F (54°C) or above.^P

(g) Ready-to-Eat Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food, Date Marking.

1. Except when packaging food using a reduced oxygen packaging method, and except as specified in paragraphs 4 and 5 of this subsection, refrigerated, ready-to-eat, time/temperature control for safety food prepared and held in a food establishment for more than 24 hours shall be clearly marked to indicate the date or day by which the food shall be consumed on the premises, sold, or discarded, when held at a temperature of 41°F (5°C) or below for a maximum of 7 days. The day of preparation shall be counted as Day 1.^{Pf}

2. Except as specified in paragraphs 4 through 6 of this subsection, refrigerated, ready-to-eat, time/temperature control for safety food prepared and packaged by a food processing plant shall be clearly marked, at the time the original container is opened in a food service establishment and if the food is held for more than 24 hours, to indicate the date or day by which the food shall be consumed on the premises, sold, or discarded, when held at a temperature of 41°F (5°C) or below for a maximum of 7 days after the original container is opened. The day the original container is opened in the food service establishment shall be counted as Day 1, except, the day or date marked by the food service establishment may not exceed a manufacturer's use by date if the manufacturer determined the use-by date based on food safety;^{Pf}

3. A refrigerated, ready-to-eat, time/temperature control for safety food ingredient or a portion of a refrigerated, ready-to-eat, time/temperature control for safety food that is subsequently combined with additional ingredients or portions of food shall retain the date marking of the earliest-prepared or first-prepared ingredient.^{Pf}

4. A date marking system that meets the criteria stated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection may include:

(i) Using a method approved by the Health Authority for refrigerated, ready-to-eat time/temperature control for safety food that is frequently rewrapped, such as lunchmeat or a roast, or for which date marking is impractical, such as soft serve mix or milk in a dispensing machine;

(ii) Marking the date or day of preparation, with a procedure to discard the food on or before the last date or day by which the food must be consumed on the premises, sold, or discarded;

(iii) Marking the date or day the original container is opened in a food service establishment, with a procedure to discard the food on or before the last date or day by which the food must be consumed on the premises, sold, or discarded; or

(iv) Using calendar dates, days of the week, color-coded marks, or other effective marking methods, provided that the marking system is disclosed to the Health Authority upon request.

5. The requirements in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection do not apply to individual meal portions served or repackaged for sale from a bulk container upon a consumer's request.

6. The requirements in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection do not apply to shellstock.

7. The requirement in paragraph 2 of this subsection does not apply to the following foods prepared and packaged by a food processing plant inspected by a Health Authority:

(i) Deli salads, such as ham salad, seafood salad, chicken salad, egg salad, pasta salad, potato salad, and macaroni salad, manufactured in accordance with [21 CFR 110](#) Current good manufacturing practice in manufacturing, packing, or holding human food;

(ii) Hard cheeses containing not more than 39% moisture as defined in [21 CFR 133](#) Cheeses and related cheese products, such as cheddar, gruyere, parmesan and reggiano, and romano;

(iii) Semi-soft cheeses containing more than 39% moisture, but not more than 50% moisture, as defined in [21 CFR 133](#) Cheeses and related cheese products, such as blue, edam, gorgonzola, gouda, and monterey jack;

(iv) Cultured dairy products as defined in [21 CFR 131](#) Milk and cream, such as yogurt, sour cream, and buttermilk;

(v) Preserved fish products, such as pickled herring and dried or salted cod, and other acidified fish products defined in [21 CFR 114](#) Acidified foods;

(vi) Shelf stable, dry fermented sausages, such as pepperoni and Genoa salami; and

(vii) Shelf stable salt-cured products, such as prosciutto and Parma ham.

(h) Ready-to-Eat, Time/Temperature Control for Safety Food, Disposition.

1. A food that requires datemarking shall be discarded if it:

(i) Exceeds 7 days, not including the time that the product is frozen;^P

(ii) Is in a container or package that does not bear a date or day;^P or

(iii) Is appropriately marked with a date or day that exceeds 7 days.^P

2. Refrigerated, ready-to-eat, time/temperature control for safety food prepared in a food service establishment and dispensed through a vending machine with an automatic shutoff control shall be discarded if it exceeds 7 days.^P

(i) Time as a Public Health Control.

1. Except as specified under paragraph 4 of this subsection, if time without temperature control is used as the public health control for a working supply of time/temperature control for safety food before cooking, or for ready-to-eat time/temperature control for safety food that is displayed or held for sale or service, written procedures shall be prepared in advance, maintained in the food service establishment, and made available to the regulatory authority upon request that specify:^{Pf}

(i) Methods of compliance with paragraphs 2(i) - (iii) or 3(i) through (v) of this subsection; and

(ii) Methods of compliance with the cooling of time/temperature control for safety food that is prepared, cooked, and refrigerated before time is used as a public health control.^{Pf}

2. If time without temperature control is used as the public health control up to a maximum of 4 hours:

(i) The food shall have an initial temperature of 41°F (5°C) or less when removed from cold holding temperature control, or 135°F (57°C) or greater when removed from hot holding temperature control;^P

(ii) The food shall be marked or otherwise identified to indicate the time that is 4 hours past the point in time when the food is removed from temperature control;^{Pf}

(iii) The food shall be cooked and served, served at any temperature if ready-to-eat, or discarded, within 4 hours from the point in time when the food is removed from temperature control;^P and

(iv) The food in unmarked containers or packages, or marked to exceed a 4-hour limit shall be discarded.^P

3. If time without temperature control is used as the public health control up to a maximum of 6 hours:

(i) The food shall have an initial temperature of 41°F (5°C) or less when removed from temperature control and the food temperature may not exceed 70°F (21°C) within a maximum time period of 6 hours;^P

(ii) The food shall be monitored to ensure the warmest portion of the food does not exceed 70°F (21°C) during the 6-hour period, unless an ambient air temperature is maintained that ensures the food does not exceed 70°F (21°C) during the 6-hour holding period;^{Pf}

(iii) The food shall be marked or otherwise identified to indicate:^{Pf}

(I) The time when the food is removed from 41°F (5°C) or less cold holding temperature control;^{Pf} and

(II) The time that is 6 hours past the point in time when the food is removed from cold holding temperature control;

(iv) The food shall be:

(I) Discarded if the temperature of the food exceeds 70°F (21°C),^P or

(II) Cooked and served, served at any temperature if ready-to-eat, or discarded within a maximum of 6 hours from the point in time when the food is removed from 41°F (5°C) or less cold holding temperature control;^P and

(v) The food in unmarked containers or packages, or marked with a time that exceeds the 6-hour limit shall be discarded.^P

4. A food service establishment that serves a highly susceptible population may not use time as the public health control for raw eggs.

(j) Variance Requirement. A food service establishment shall obtain a variance from the Health Authority as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(5\)\(a\) and \(5\)\(b\)](#) before.^{Pf}

1. Smoking food as a method of food preservation rather than as a method of flavor enhancement;^{Pf}

2. Curing food;^{Pf}

3. Using food additives or adding components such as vinegar;^{Pf}

(i) As a method of food preservation rather than as a method of flavor enhancement,^{Pf} or

(ii) To render a food so that it is not time/temperature control for safety food;^{Pf}

4. Operating a molluscan shellfish life-support system display tank used to store or display shellfish that are offered for human consumption;^{Pf}

5. Packaging time/temperature control for safety food using a reduced oxygen packaging method except where the growth and toxin formation of *Clostridium botulinum* and growth of *Listeria monocytogenes* are controlled as specified under (k) of this Rule;^{Pf}

6. Custom processing animals that are for personal use as food and not for sale or service in a food service establishment;^{Pf}

7. Preparing food by another method that is determined by the Health Authority to require a variance;^{Pf} or

8. Sprouting seeds or beans.^{Pf}

(k) Reduced Oxygen Packaging Without a Variance But HACCP Plan Required, Criteria.

1. Except for a food service establishment that obtains a variance as specified under (j) of this Rule, a food service establishment that packages time/temperature control for safety food using a reduced oxygen packaging method shall control the growth and toxin formation of *Clostridium botulinum* and the growth of *Listeria monocytogenes*.^P

2. Except as specified under paragraph 6 of this subsection, a food service establishment that packages time/temperature control for safety food using a reduced oxygen packaging method shall implement a HACCP plan that contains the information specified under DPH Rule [511-5-14-.02\(6\)\(b\) and \(d\)](#) and that:^{Pf}

(i) Identifies the food to be packaged;^{Pf}

(ii) Except as specified under paragraphs 3 through 5 of this subsection, requires that the packaged food shall be maintained at 41°F (5°C) or less and meet at least one of the following criteria:^{Pf}

(I) Has an aw of 0.91 or less,^{Pf}

(II) Has a pH of 4.6 or less,^{Pf}

(III) Is a meat or poultry product cured at a food processing plant regulated by the USDA using substances specified in [9 CFR 424.21](#), Use of food ingredients and sources of radiation, and is received in an intact package,^{Pf} or

(IV) Is a food with a high level of competing organisms such as raw meat, raw poultry, or raw vegetables;^{Pf}

(iii) Describes how the package shall be prominently and conspicuously labeled on the principal display panel in bold type on a contrasting background, with instructions to:^{Pf}

(I) Maintain the food at 41°F (5°C) or below,^{Pf} and

(II) Discard the food if within 30 calendar days of its packaging if it is not served for on-premises consumption, or consumed if served or sold for off-premises consumption;^{Pf}

(iv) Limits the refrigerated shelf life to no more than 30 calendar days from packaging to consumption, except the time the product is maintained frozen, or the original manufacturer's "sell by" or "use by" date, whichever occurs first;^P

(v) Includes operational procedures that:

(I) Prohibit contacting ready-to-eat food with bare hands,^{Pf}

(II) Identify a designated work area and the method by which:^{Pf}

(A) Physical barriers or methods of separation of raw foods and ready-to-eat foods minimize cross contamination,^{Pf} and

(B) Access to the processing equipment is limited to responsible trained personnel familiar with the potential hazards of the operation,^{Pf} and

(III) Delineate cleaning and sanitization procedures for food-contact surfaces;^{Pf} and

(vi) Describes the training program that ensures that the individual responsible for the reduced oxygen packaging operation understands the.^{Pf}

(I) Concepts required for a safe operation,^{Pf}

(II) Equipment and facilities,^{Pf} and

(III) Procedures specified under paragraph 2(v) of this subsection and DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)\(b\) and \(d\)](#).^{Pf}

3. Except for fish that is frozen before, during, and after packaging, a food service establishment may not package fish using a reduced oxygen packaging method.^P

4. Except as specified under paragraph 3 of this subsection and subsection (I) of this Rule, a food service establishment that packages food using a cook-chill or sous vide process shall:

(i) Prior to implementation, provide a HACCP plan that contains the information as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)\(b\) and \(d\)](#) to the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(ii) Ensure the food is:

(I) Prepared and consumed on the premises, or prepared and consumed off the premises but within the same business entity with no distribution or sale of the bagged product to another business entity or the consumer,^{Pf}

(II) Cooked to heat all parts of the food to a temperature and for a time as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(5\)\(a\)](#),^P

(III) Protected from contamination before and after cooking as specified within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(4\) and \(5\)](#) of this Rule,^P

(IV) Placed in a package with an oxygen barrier and sealed before cooking, or placed in a package and sealed immediately after cooking and before reaching a temperature below 135°F (57°C),^P

(V) Cooled to 41°F (5°C) in the sealed package or bag as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(6\)\(d\)](#) of this Rule and subsequently:^P

I. Cooled to 34°F (1°C) within 48 hours of reaching 41°F (5°C) and held at that temperature until consumed or discarded within 30 days after the date of packaging;^P

II. Held at 41°F (5°C) or less for no more than 7 days, at which time the food must be consumed or discarded;^P or

III. Held frozen with no shelf life restriction while frozen until consumed or used.^P

(VI) Held in a refrigeration unit that is equipped with an electronic system that continuously monitors time and temperature and is visually examined for proper operation twice daily,^{Pf}

(VII) If transported off-site to a satellite location of the same business entity, equipped with verifiable electronic monitoring devices to ensure that times and temperatures are monitored during transportation,^{Pf} and

(VIII) Labeled with the product name and the date packaged,^{Pf} and

(iii) Maintain the records required to confirm that cooling and cold holding refrigeration time/temperature parameters are required as part of the HACCP plan for at least six months and, make such records available to the Health Authority upon request,^{Pf}

(iv) Implement written operational procedures as specified under paragraph 2(v) of this subsection and a training program as specified under paragraph 2(vi) of this subsection.^{Pf}

5. Except as specified under subsection (l) below, a food service establishment that packages cheese using a reduced oxygen packaging method shall:

(i) Limit the cheeses packaged to those that are commercially manufactured in a food processing plant with no ingredients added in the food service establishment and that meet the Standards of Identity as specified in [21 CFR 133.150](#) Hard cheeses, [21 CFR 133.169](#) pasteurized process cheese or [21 CFR 133.187](#) Semisoft Cheeses;^P

(ii) Have a HACCP plan that contains the information specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(6\)\(b\) and \(d\)](#) and as specified under paragraphs 2(i), (iii)(I), (v), and (vi) of this subsection;^{Pf}

(iii) Label the package on the principal display panel with a "use by" date that does not exceed 30 days from its packaging or the original manufacturer's "sell by" or "use by" date, whichever occurs first;^{Pf} and

(v) Discard the reduced oxygen packaged cheese if it is not sold for off-premises consumption or consumed within 30 calendar days of its packaging.^{Pf}

(l) Reduced Oxygen Packaging Without a Variance and no HACCP Plan Required, Criteria.

A HACCP Plan is not required when a food service establishment uses a reduced oxygen packaging method to package time/temperature control for safety food that is always:

1. Labeled with the production time and date,
2. Held at 41°F (5°C) or less during refrigerated storage, and
3. Removed from its package in the food service establishment within 48 hours after packaging.

(7) Food Identity, Presentation, and On-Premises Labeling.

(a) Standards of Identity. Packaged food shall comply with standard of identity requirements in [21 CFR 131-169](#) and [9 CFR 319](#) Definitions and standards of identity or composition, and the general requirements in [21 CFR 130](#) Food Standards: General and [9 CFR 319](#) Subpart A - General.

(b) Honestly Presented.

1. Food shall be offered for human consumption in a way that does not mislead or misinform the consumer.
2. Food or color additives, colored overwraps, or lights may not be used to misrepresent the true appearance, color, or quality of a food.

(c) Food Labels.

1. Food packaged in a food service establishment, shall be labeled as specified in law, including [21 CFR 101](#) - Food labeling, and [9 CFR 317](#) Labeling, marking devices, and containers.

2. Label information shall include:

- (i) The common name of the food, or if there is no common name, an adequately descriptive identity statement;
- (ii) If made from two or more ingredients, a list of ingredients and sub-ingredients in descending order of predominance by weight, including a declaration of artificial color or flavors and chemical preservatives, if contained in the food;

- (iii) An accurate declaration of the net quantity of contents;
- (iv) The name and place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor; and
- (v) The name of the food source for each major food allergen contained in the food unless the food source is already part of the common or usual name of the respective ingredient.^{Pf}
- (vi) Except as exempted in the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act § 403(Q)(3) - (5), nutrition labeling as specified in [21 CFR 101](#) - Food Labeling and [9 CFR 317](#) Subpart B Nutrition Labeling.
- (vii) For any salmonid fish containing canthaxanthin or astaxanthin as a color additive, the labeling of the bulk fish container, including a list of ingredients, displayed on the retail container or by other written means, such as a counter card, that discloses the use of canthaxanthin or astaxanthin.

3. Bulk food that is available for consumer self-dispensing shall be prominently labeled with the following information in plain view of the consumer:

- (i) The manufacturer's or processor's label that was provided with the food; or
- (ii) A card, sign, or other method of notification that includes the information specified under paragraphs 2(i), (ii), and (vi) of this subsection.

4. Bulk, unpackaged foods such as bakery products and unpackaged foods that are portioned to consumer specification need not be labeled if:

- (i) A health, nutrient content, or other claim is not made;
- (ii) There are no state or local laws requiring labeling; and
- (iii) The food is manufactured or prepared on the premises of the food service establishment or at another food service establishment or a food processing plant that is owned by the same person and is regulated by the food regulatory agency that has jurisdiction.

(d) Other Forms of Information.

1. If required by law, consumer warnings shall be provided.

2. Food service establishment or manufacturers' dating information on foods may not be concealed or altered.

(e) Consumption of Animal Foods that are Raw, Undercooked, or Not Otherwise Processed to Eliminate Pathogens.

1. Except as specified in subsections (5)(a)3, and (5)(a)(iv), and (9)(a)3 of this Rule, if an animal food such as beef, eggs, fish, lamb, pork, poultry, or shellfish is served or sold raw, undercooked, or without otherwise being processed to eliminate pathogens, either in ready-to-eat form or as an ingredient in another ready-to-eat food, the permit holder shall inform consumers of the significantly increased risk of consuming such foods by way of a disclosure and reminder, as specified in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this subsection using brochures, deli case or menu advisories, label statements, table tents, placards, or other effective written means. The disclosure and reminder statements shall be worded in legible type in all capital letters and no smaller than font size #8, or if displayed on a menu board shall be printed no smaller than the smallest lettering used for a menu item.^{Pf}

2. Disclosure shall include:

- (i) A description of the animal-derived foods, such as "oysters on the half shell (raw oysters)," "raw-egg Caesar salad," and "hamburgers (can be cooked to order);"^{Pf} or

(ii) Identification of the animal-derived foods by asterisking them to a footnote that states that the items are served raw or undercooked, or contain (or may contain) raw or undercooked ingredients.^{Pf}

3. The reminder shall include asterisking the animal-derived foods requiring disclosure to a footnote that states:

(i) Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness;^{Pf} or

(ii) Consuming raw or undercooked meats, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of foodborne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions.^{Pf}

(8) Contaminated Food.

(a) Discarding or Reconditioning Unsafe, Adulterated, or Contaminated Food.

1. A food that is unsafe, adulterated, or not honestly presented shall be discarded or reconditioned according to an approved procedure.^P

2. Food that is not from an approved source shall be discarded.^P

3. Ready-to-eat food that may have been contaminated by an employee who has been restricted or excluded shall be discarded.^P

4. Food that is contaminated by food employees, consumers, or other persons through contact with their hands, bodily discharges, such as nasal or oral discharges, or other means shall be discarded.^P

(b) Expired Foods. Prepackaged sandwiches, eggs, infant formula, shucked oysters, milk, and time/temperature control safety foods that are labeled as "keep refrigerated" and that are for sale or service to the consumer or used as an ingredient in other foods shall be immediately discarded and shall not be sold, served, or used after the manufacturer's expiration date or the sell-by date.^P

(9) Special Requirements for Highly Susceptible Populations (Pasteurized Foods, Prohibited Re-Service, and Prohibited Food).

(a) In a food service establishment that serves a highly susceptible population:

1. The following criteria apply to juice:

(i) For the purposes of this paragraph only, children who are age 9 or less and receive food in a school, day care setting, or similar facility that provides custodial care are included as highly susceptible populations;

(ii) Prepackaged juice or a prepackaged beverage containing juice, that bears a warning label as specified in [21 CFR, 101.17\(g\)](#) Food labeling, warning, notice, and safe handling statements, juices that have not been specifically processed to prevent, reduce, or eliminate the presence of pathogens, or a packaged juice or beverage containing juice, that bears a warning label may not be served or offered for sale;^P and

(iii) Unpackaged juice that is prepared on the premises for service or sale in a ready-to-eat form shall be processed under a HACCP plan that contains the information specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(6\)\(b\) through \(e\)](#) and as specified in 21 CFR Part 120 - Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) Systems, Subpart B Pathogen Reduction 120.24 Process controls.^P

2. Pasteurized eggs or egg products shall be substituted for raw eggs in the preparation of:

(i) Foods such as Caesar salad, hollandaise or Béarnaise sauce, mayonnaise, meringue, eggnog, ice cream, and egg-fortified beverages,^P and

(ii) Except as specified in paragraph 6 of this subsection, recipes in which more than one egg is broken and the eggs are combined;^P

3. The following foods may not be served or offered for sale in a ready-to-eat form:^P

(i) Raw animal foods such as raw fish, raw-marinated fish, raw molluscan shellfish, and steak tartare;^P

(ii) A partially cooked animal food such as lightly cooked fish, rare meat, soft-cooked eggs that are made from raw eggs, and meringue;^P and

(iii) Raw seed sprouts.^P

4. Except when washing fruits and vegetables, food employees shall handle ready to eat food as specified under (4)(a)2. of this Rule.^P

5. Time only, as the public health control may not be used for raw eggs.^P

6. The requirement in paragraph 2(ii) of this subsection does not apply if:

(i) The raw eggs are combined immediately before cooking for one consumer's serving at a single meal, cooked to 145°F (63°C) for 15 seconds, and served immediately, such as an omelet, soufflé, or scrambled eggs;

(ii) The raw eggs are combined as an ingredient immediately before baking and the eggs are thoroughly cooked to a ready-to-eat form, such as a cake, muffin, or bread; or

(iii) The preparation of the food is conducted under a HACCP plan that:

(I) Identifies the food to be prepared,

(II) Prohibits contacting ready-to-eat food with bare hands,

(III) Includes specifications and practices that ensure:

I. Salmonella Enteritidis growth is controlled before and after cooking, and

II. Salmonella Enteritidis is destroyed by cooking the eggs to 155°F (68°C) for 15 seconds or

(IV) Contains the information specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)\(d\)](#) including procedures that:

I. Control cross contamination of ready-to-eat food with raw eggs, and

II. Set forth cleaning and sanitization procedures for food-contact surfaces, and

(v) Describes the training program that ensures that the food employee responsible for the preparation of the food understands the procedures to be used.

7. Except as specified in paragraph 8 of this subsection, food may be re-served if the food is dispensed so that it is protected from contamination and the container is closed between uses, such as a narrow-neck bottle containing catsup, steak sauce, or wine; or the food, such as crackers, salt, or pepper, is in an unopened original package and is maintained in sound condition.

8. Food may not be re-served under the following conditions:

(i) Any food served to patients or clients who are under contact precautions in medical isolation or quarantine, or protective environment isolation may not be re-served to others outside.

(ii) Packages of food from any patients, clients, or other consumers should not be re-served to persons in protective environment isolation.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 511-6-1-.04

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [26-2-373](#); [31-2A-4](#).

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Amended: F. Jan. 25, 2023; eff. Feb. 24, 2023, as specified by the Agency.

511-6-1-.06 [Effective 2/24/2023] Sanitary Facilities and Controls

(1) Water Supply.

(a) Approved System. Enough potable water for the needs of the food service establishment shall be provided from an approved source that is a public water system; p or a nonpublic water system that is constructed, maintained and operated according to applicable state or local codes as amended.^p

(b) System Flushing and Disinfection. A potable water system shall be flushed and disinfected before being placed in service after construction, repair, or modification and after an emergency situation, such as a flood, or water interruption event that may introduce contaminants to the system.^p

(c) Bottled Drinking Water. Bottled and packaged potable water shall be obtained from a source that complies with all laws and shall be handled and stored in a way that protects it from contamination.^p Bottled and packaged potable water shall be dispensed from the original container.

(d) Standards. Except as specified under subsection (1)(e) of this Rule:

1. Water from a public water system shall meet [40 CFR 141](#) - National Primary Drinking Water Regulations and state drinking water quality standards;^p and

2. Water from a nonpublic water system shall meet state drinking water quality standards or as applicable as established by the department.^p

(e) Nondrinking Water. A non-potable water supply may be used for nonculinary purposes such as air conditioning, nonfood equipment cooling, fire protection, and irrigation.^p

(f) Non-Public Water Supply - Approved Wells.

1. Sampling. Except when used as specified under subsection (1)(e) of this Rule water from a non-public water system shall be sampled and tested in accordance with requirements as established by the department,^{Pf} and

2. Sampling Report. The most recent sample report for the non-public water system shall be retained on file in the food service establishment or the report shall be maintained as specified by the Department.

(g) Capacity.

1. The water source and system shall be of sufficient capacity to meet the peak water demands of the food service establishment.^{Pf}

2. Hot water generation and distribution systems shall be sufficient to meet the peak hot water demands throughout the food service establishment.^{Pf}

(h) Pressure. Water under pressure shall be provided to all fixtures, equipment, and nonfood equipment that are required to use water except that water supplied as specified under subsection(1)(k)1 and 2 to a temporary food service operation or in response to a temporary interruption of a water supply need not be under pressure.^{Pf}

(i) System. Water shall be received from the source through the use of:

1. An approved public water main;^{Pf} or

2. One or more of the following that shall be constructed, maintained, and operated according to law:^{Pf}

(i) Nonpublic water main, water pumps, pipes, hoses, connections, and other appurtenances,^{Pf}

(ii) Water transport vehicles,^{Pf} or

(iii) Water containers.^{Pf}

(j) Alternative Water Supply. Water meeting the requirements specified under subsections (1)(a) - (i) of this Rule shall be made available for a mobile food service establishment's base of operation, for a temporary food service establishment without a permanent water supply, and for a food service establishment with a temporary interruption of its water supply through:

1. A supply of containers of commercially bottled drinking water;^{Pf}

2. One or more closed portable water containers;^{Pf}

3. An enclosed vehicular water tank;^{Pf}

4. An on-premises water storage tank;^{Pf} or

5. Piping, tubing, or hoses connected to an adjacent approved source.^{Pf}

(2) Plumbing System.

(a) Approved.

1. A plumbing system and hoses conveying water shall be constructed and repaired with approved materials according to law.^P

2. A water filter shall be made of safe materials.^{Pf}

(b) Approved System and Cleanable Fixtures.

1. A plumbing system shall be designed, constructed, and installed according to law.^P

2. A plumbing fixture such as a handwashing sink, toilet, or urinal shall be easily cleanable.

(c) Handwashing Sink Installation.

1. A handwashing sink shall be equipped to provide tempered water at a temperature of at least 100°F (38°C) through a mixing valve or combination faucet.^{Pf}

2. A steam mixing valve may not be used at a handwashing sink.

3. A self-closing, slow-closing, or metering faucet shall provide a flow of water for at least 15 seconds without the need to reactivate the faucet.

4. An automatic handwashing facility shall be installed in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

(d) Backflow Prevention, Air Gap. An air gap between the water supply inlet and the flood level rim of the plumbing fixture, equipment or nonfood equipment shall be at least twice the diameter of the water supply inlet and may not be less than 1 inch (25 mm).^P

(e) Backflow Prevention Device, Design Standard. A backflow or backsiphonage prevention device installed on a water supply system shall meet American Society of Sanitary Engineering (A.S.S.E.) standards for construction, installation, maintenance, inspection, and testing for that specific application and type of device.^P

(f) Conditioning Device, Design. A water filter, screen, and other water conditioning device installed on water lines shall be located to facilitate disassembly for periodic servicing and cleaning. A water filter element shall be of the replaceable type.

(g) Handwashing Sinks, Numbers and Capacities.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, at least one handwashing sink, a number of handwashing sinks necessary for their convenient use by employees in areas specified under subsection (2)(l) of this Rule, and not fewer than the number of handwashing sinks required by law shall be provided.^{Pf}

2. If approved and capable of removing the types of soils encountered in the food operations involved, automatic handwashing facilities may be substituted for handwashing sinks in a food service establishment that has at least one handwashing sink.

(h) Toilets and Urinals, Numbers and Capacities.

1. Toilet facilities shall be provided for food employees.

2. All toilet facilities shall be installed in accordance with applicable State or local plumbing code as amended, and shall be the number required by such code.

3. In toilet facilities that have exit doors with handles or knobs that must be touched to open, sanitary towels must be provided.

4. In all establishments with dining facilities on the premises and permitted since July 31, 1995, patrons' toilet facilities shall be provided. Access to patrons' toilet facilities shall not be through food service, preparation, storage, or warewashing areas.

5. Toilets shall be located on or within 200 feet of the premises. Off-premises toilets must be approved by the Health Authority.

(i) Service Sinks, Numbers and Capacities. At least one service sink or one curbed cleaning facility equipped with a floor drain shall be provided and conveniently located for the cleaning of mops or similar wet floor cleaning tools and for the disposal of mop water and similar liquid waste. Toilets and urinals may not be used as a service sink for the disposal of mop water and similar liquid waste.

(j) Backflow Prevention Device, When Required. A plumbing system shall be installed to preclude backflow of a solid, liquid, or gas contaminant into the water supply system at each point of use at the food service establishment, including on a hose bib if a hose is attached or on a hose bib if a hose is not attached and backflow prevention is required by law, by:

1. Providing an air gap;^P or

2. Installing an approved backflow prevention devices.^P

(k) Backflow Prevention Device, Carbonator.

1. If not provided with an air gap as specified under subsection (2)(d) of this Rule a double check valve with an intermediate vent preceded by a screen of not less than 100 mesh to 1 inch (100 mesh to 25.4 mm) shall be installed upstream from a carbonating device and downstream from any copper in the water supply line.^P

2. A single or double check valve attached to the carbonator need not be of the vented type if an air gap or vented backflow prevention device has been otherwise provided as specified under paragraph 1 of this subsection.

(l) Handwashing Sinks, Location and Placement. A handwashing sink shall be located:

1. To allow convenient use by employees in food preparation, food dispensing, and warewashing areas;^{Pf} and

2. In, or immediately adjacent to, toilet rooms.^{Pf}

(m) Backflow Prevention Device, Location. A backflow prevention device shall be located so that it may be serviced and maintained.

(n) Conditioning Device, Location. A water filter, screen, and other water conditioning device installed on water lines shall be located to facilitate disassembly for periodic servicing and cleaning.

(o) Using a Handwashing Sink.

1. A handwashing sink shall be maintained so that it is accessible at all times for employee use.^{Pf}

2. A handwashing facility may not be used for purposes other than handwashing.^{Pf}

3. An automatic handwashing facility shall be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.^{Pf}

(p) Prohibiting a Cross Connection.

1. A person may not create a cross connection by connecting a pipe or conduit between the drinking water system and a nondrinking water system or a water system of unknown quality.^P

2. The piping of a nondrinking water system shall be durably identified so that it is readily distinguishable from piping that carries drinking water.^{Pf}

(q) Scheduling Inspection and Service for a Water System Device. A device such as a water treatment device or backflow preventer shall be scheduled for inspection and service, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and as necessary to prevent device failure based on local water conditions, and records demonstrating inspection and service shall be maintained by the person in charge.^{Pf}

(r) System Maintained in Good Repair. A plumbing system shall be repaired according to law;^P and maintained in good repair.

(3) Mobile Water Tank and Mobile Food Service Unit Water Tanks.

(a) Approved. Materials that are used in the construction of a mobile water tank, mobile food service unit water tank, and appurtenances shall be:

1. Safe;^P

2. Durable, corrosion-resistant, and nonabsorbent; and

3. Finished to have a smooth, easily cleanable surface.

(b) Enclosed System, Sloped to Drain. A mobile water tank shall be:

1. Enclosed from the filling inlet to the discharge outlet; and

2. Sloped to an outlet that allows complete drainage of the tank.

(c) Inspection and Cleaning Port, Protected and Secured. If a water tank is designed with an access port for inspection and cleaning, the opening shall be in the top of the tank and:

1. Flanged upward at least one-half inch (13 mm); and

2. Equipped with a port cover assembly that is:

- (i) Provided with a gasket and a device for securing the cover in place, and

- (ii) Flanged to overlap the opening and sloped to drain.

(d) "V" Type Threads, Use Limitation. A fitting with "V" type threads on a water tank inlet or outlet shall be allowed only when a hose is permanently attached.

(e) Tank Vent, Protected. If provided, a water tank vent shall terminate in a downward direction and shall be covered with:

1. 16 mesh to 1 inch (16 mesh to 25.4 mm) screen or equivalent when the vent is in a protected area; or

2. A protective filter when the vent is in an area that is not protected from windblown dirt and debris.

(f) Inlet and Outlet, Sloped to Drain.

1. A water tank and its inlet and outlet shall be sloped to drain.

2. A water tank inlet shall be positioned so that it is protected from contaminants such as waste discharge, road dust, oil, or grease.

(g) Hose, Construction and Identification. A hose used for conveying drinking water from a water tank shall be:

1. Safe;^P

2. Durable, corrosion-resistant, and nonabsorbent;

3. Resistant to pitting, chipping, crazing, scratching, scoring, distortion, and decomposition;

4. Finished with a smooth interior surface; and

5. Clearly and durably identified as to its use if not permanently attached.

(h) Filter, Compressed Air. A filter that does not pass oil or oil vapors shall be installed in the air supply line between the compressor and drinking water system when compressed air is used to pressurize the water tank system.^P

(i) Protective Cover or Device. A cap and keeper chain, closed cabinet, closed storage tube, or other approved protective cover or device shall be provided for a water inlet, outlet, and hose.

(j) Mobile Food Service Unit Tank Inlet. A mobile food service unit's water tank inlet shall be:

1. Three-fourths inch (19.1 mm) in inner diameter or less; and

2. Provided with a hose connection of a size or type that will prevent its use for any other service.

(k) System Flushing and Sanitization. A water tank, pump, and hoses shall be flushed and sanitized before being placed in service after construction, repair, modification, and periods of nonuse.^P

(l) Using a Pump and Hoses, Backflow Prevention. A person shall operate a water tank, pump, and hoses so that backflow and other contamination of the water supply are prevented.

(m) Protecting Inlet, Outlet, and Hose Fitting. If not in use, a water tank and hose inlet and outlet fitting shall be protected using a cover or device as specified under subsection (3)(i) of this Rule.

(n) Tank, Pump, and Hoses, Dedication.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, a water tank, pump, and hoses used for conveying drinking water shall be used for no other purpose.^P

2. Water tanks, pumps, and hoses approved for liquid foods may be used for conveying drinking water if they are cleaned and sanitized before they are used to convey water.

(4) Sewage, Other Liquid Waste, and Rainwater.

(a) Mobile Holding Tank, Capacity and Drainage. A sewage holding tank on a mobile food service unit shall be:

1. Sized 15 percent larger in capacity than the water supply tank; and

2. Sloped to a drain that is 1 inch (25 mm) in inner diameter or greater, equipped with a shut-off valve.

(b) Establishment Drainage System. Food service establishment drainage systems, including grease traps, that convey sewage shall be designed and installed as specified under subsection (2)(b)1 of this Rule.

(c) Backflow Prevention.

1. Except as specified in paragraphs 2, 3, and 4 of this subsection, a direct connection may not exist between the sewage system and a drain originating from equipment in which food, portable equipment, or utensils are placed.^P

2. The requirement in paragraph 1 of this subsection does not apply to floor drains that originate in refrigerated spaces that are constructed as an integral part of the building.

3. If allowed by law, a warewashing machine may have a direct connection between its waste outlet and a floor drain when the machine is located within 5 feet (1.5 m) of a trapped floor drain and the machine outlet is connected to the inlet side of a properly vented floor drain trap.

4. If allowed by law, a warewashing or culinary sink may have a direct connection.

(d) Grease Trap. If used, a grease trap shall be located to be easily accessible for cleaning.

(e) Conveying Sewage. Sewage shall be conveyed to the point of disposal through an approved sanitary sewage system or other system, including use of sewage transport vehicles, waste retention tanks, pumps, pipes, hoses, and connections that are constructed, maintained, and operated according to law.^P

(f) Removing Mobile Food Service Wastes. Sewage and other liquid wastes shall be removed from a mobile food service unit at an approved waste servicing area in such a way that a public health hazard or nuisance is not created.^{Pf}

(g) Flushing a Waste Retention Tank. A tank for liquid waste retention shall be thoroughly flushed and drained in a sanitary manner during the servicing operation.

(h) Approved Sewage Disposal System. Sewage shall be disposed through an approved facility that is:

1. A public sewage treatment plant;^P or
2. An individual sewage disposal system that is sized, constructed, maintained, and operated according to law.^P

(i) Other Liquid Wastes and Rainwater. Condensate drainage and other nonsewage liquids and rainwater shall be drained from point of discharge to disposal according to law.

(5) Refuse, Recyclables, And Returnables.

(a) Indoor Storage Area. If located within the food service establishment, a storage area for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall meet the requirements specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.07\(1\) and \(2\)](#).

(b) Outdoor Storage Surface. An outdoor storage surface for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be constructed of nonabsorbent material such as concrete or asphalt and shall be smooth, durable, and sloped enough to drain to prevent the collection of surface water.

(c) Outdoor Enclosure. If used, an outdoor enclosure for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be constructed of durable and cleanable materials.

(d) Receptacles.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables and for use with materials containing food residue shall be durable, cleanable, insect- and rodent-resistant, leakproof, and nonabsorbent.

2. Plastic bags and wet strength paper bags may be used to line receptacles for storage inside the food service establishment, or within closed outside receptacles.

(e) Receptacles in Vending Machines. Except for a receptacle for beverage bottle crown closures, a refuse receptacle may not be located within a vending machine.

(f) Outside Receptacles.

1. Receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables used with materials containing food residue and used outside the food service establishment shall be designed and constructed to have tight-fitting lids, doors, or covers.

2. Receptacles and waste handling units for refuse and recyclables such as an on-site compactor shall be installed so that accumulation of debris and insect and rodent attraction and harborage are minimized and effective cleaning is facilitated around and, if the unit is not installed flush with the base pad, under the unit.

(g) Storage Areas, Rooms, and Receptacles, Capacity and Availability.

1. An inside storage room and area, outside storage area and enclosure, and receptacles shall be of sufficient capacity to hold refuse, recyclables, and returnables that accumulate.

2. A receptacle shall be provided in each area of the food service establishment or premises where refuse is generated or commonly discarded, or where recyclables or returnables are placed.

3. If disposable towels are used at handwashing sinks, a waste receptacle shall be located at each handwashing sink or group of adjacent sinks.

(h) Toilet Room Receptacle, Covered. A toilet room used by females shall be provided with a covered receptacle for sanitary napkins.

(i) Cleaning Implements and Supplies.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, suitable cleaning implements and supplies such as high pressure pumps, hot water, steam, and detergent shall be provided as necessary for effective cleaning of receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables.

2. If approved, off-premises-based cleaning services may be used if on-premises cleaning implements and supplies are not provided.

(j) Storage Areas, Redeeming Machines, Receptacles and Waste Handling Units, Location.

1. An area designated for refuse, recyclables, returnables, and, except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, a redeeming machine for recyclables or returnables shall be located so that it is separate from food, equipment, utensils, linens, and single-service and single-use articles and a public health hazard or nuisance is not created.

2. A redeeming machine may be located in the packaged food storage area or consumer area of a food service establishment if food, equipment, utensils, linens, and single-service and single-use articles are not subject to contamination from the machines and a public health hazard or nuisance is not created.

3. The location of receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables may not create a public health hazard or nuisance or interfere with the cleaning of adjacent space.

(k) Storing Refuse, Recyclables, and Returnables. Refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be stored in receptacles or waste handling units so that they are inaccessible to insects and rodents.

(l) Areas, Enclosures, and Receptacles, Good Repair. Storage areas, enclosures, and receptacles for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be maintained in good repair.

(m) Outside Storage Prohibitions.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, refuse receptacles not meeting the requirements specified under subsection (5)(d)1 of this Rule such as receptacles that are not rodent-resistant, unprotected plastic bags and paper bags, or baled units that contain materials with food residue may not be stored outside.

2. Cardboard or other packaging material that does not contain food residues and that is awaiting regularly scheduled delivery to a recycling or disposal site may be stored outside without being in a covered receptacle if it is stored so that it does not create a rodent harborage problem.

(n) Covering Receptacles. Receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be kept covered:

1. Inside the food service establishment if the receptacles and units:

(i) Contain food residue and are not in continuous use; or

(ii) After they are filled; and

2. With tight-fitting lids or doors if kept outside the food service establishment.

(o) Using Drain Plugs. Drains in receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall have drain plugs in place.

(p) Maintaining Refuse Areas and Enclosures. A storage area and enclosure for refuse, recyclables, or returnables shall be maintained free of unnecessary items and clean.

(q) Cleaning Receptacles.

1. Receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be thoroughly cleaned in a way that does not contaminate food, equipment, utensils, linens, or single-service and single-use articles, and waste water shall be disposed of as specified under subsection (4)(e) of this Rule.

2. Soiled receptacles and waste handling units for refuse, recyclables, and returnables shall be single-use articles.^P

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 511-6-1-.06

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [26-2-373](#), [379](#), [31-2A-6](#).

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511-6-1-.08 [Effective 2/24/2023] Special Food Service Operations

(1) Mobile Food Service Units and Extended Food Service Units.

(a) Compliance Required. Mobile food service units and extended food service units shall comply with the requirements of this Chapter, except as otherwise provided in this subsection and as specified under subsection (1)(b) of this Rule.^{Pf} After review of a proposed menu, plans and specifications, and the proposed method of operation, the Health Authority may:

1. Impose additional requirements to protect against health hazards related to the conduct of the food service establishment as a mobile operation;

2. Prohibit the sale of some or all time/temperature control for safety food, or

3. When no health hazard will result, modify requirements of this Rule relating to physical facilities, except those requirements specified under subsections (1)(e) and (f) of this Rule.

(b) Exceptions to Compliance for Mobile and Extended Food Service Units.

1. General. Mobile food service units, such as vehicle vendors, and extended food service units may be exempt from the requirements of this Chapter pertaining to the necessity of water and sewage systems and to those requirements pertaining to the cleaning and sanitization, if the following conditions are met:

(i) The required equipment for cleaning and sanitization exists at their permitted base of operation;^{Pf} and

(ii) Menus shall be limited to food that is prepared, prepackaged and labeled in individual servings, transported and stored; or

(iii) Beverages that are not time/temperature control for safety foods that are dispensed from covered urns or other protected equipment all under conditions meeting the requirements of the Chapter.^P

2. Push Carts. Push carts may be exempted from the requirements of subsection (1)(g)1 of this Rule if the following conditions for push carts are met:

(i) The menu shall be limited to only service of commercially prepared and prepackaged time/temperature control for safety foods such as frankfurters, precooked encased sausages, and similar approved foods requiring heating only;^P

(ii) All food shall be protected from customer handling, coughing, sneezing or other contamination by wrapping, using food shields or other effective barriers. Condiments must be dispensed in single service type packaging, in pump-style dispensers, or in protected squeeze bottles, shakers, or similar dispensers which prevent contamination of the food items by food employees, consumers, insects, or other sources of contamination;^P

(iii) No cooking equipment shall be allowed at the food vending location of carts. Heating equipment will be limited to steam or hot water heating equipment that meets the requirements of this Chapter;^{Pf}

(iv) At a minimum, overhead protection such as an umbrella large enough to fully cover and protect the entirety of the cart, employee and any cart associated equipment such as food storage, handwashing, etc., shall be provided for the cart's onsite operation;^{Pf}

(v) Properly installed and equipped handwashing facilities meeting the requirements of this Chapter must be installed on carts. Potable hot and cold running water under pressure with suitable hand cleaner, dispensed paper towels, and a waste receptacle must be provided at or near the handwashing facility;^{Pf} However, certified commercially manufactured, portable hand washing stations may be allowed for onsite operational use with the cart upon approval by the Health Authority.

(vi) With the approval of the Health Authority, accessory components such as hard plastic coolers that are NSF listed or certified for commercial use with sufficient ice for cold time/temperature control for safety foods and NSF listed;^{Pf}

(vii) In use equipment and utensils must be cleaned and sanitized at least every 4 hours; therefore, carts shall be equipped with at least a 3-compartmented sink dedicated for the purpose of cleaning and sanitizing of equipment and utensils. However, in lieu of the 3-compartmented sink being installed on the cart and as deemed acceptable by the Health Authority, the permit holder may provide an adequate supply of clean and sanitized equipment and utensils stored in such a way on the cart so as to protect them from contamination, if the required equipment for cleaning and sanitization exists at its base of operation;^{Pf}

(viii) Push Carts must be designed, constructed and built to at least NSF Standard 59;^{Pf} and

(ix) Push Carts must be supplied with one day's operational supply of hot and cold potable water under pressure and waste water storage capacity of 15% larger than that of the potable water tank. The potable water storage tank shall have at least 10 gallons storage capacity and may be required by the Health Authority to have a larger storage volume depending on length of time in which the cart is used away from the base of operation.^P

(x) Stored food, utensils and equipment, single-service and single-use supplies, and hand washing supplies shall be protected from environmental contamination during transportation of the Push Cart from location to location.^{Pf}

(c) Equipment and Supplies Required for Onboard Preparation of more complex menus.

1. Units preparing time/temperature control for safety foods on the unit other than the limited menu items stated within subsection (1)(b) of this Rule shall utilize thermostatically controlled heating, cooling, and freezing equipment for those foods stored or displayed on the unit requiring controlled heating or refrigeration.^{Pf}

2. Indicating thermometers for immersion into food or cooking media shall be of metal stem type construction, numerically scaled, and accurate to ± 2 degrees Fahrenheit.^{Pf}

3. Each unit must have two separate types of sinks, one for hand-washing and the other for warewashing.^{Pf}

4. Mobile food service units and extended food service units shall provide only individually wrapped single-service articles for use by the consumer.^{Pf}

(d) Water System.

1. A mobile food service unit and extended food service unit requiring a water system shall have a potable water system as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(1\)](#), and the water system shall be under pressure.^{Pf}

2. Mobile water tanks and mobile food service unit water tanks shall meet all the requirements specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(3\)](#) as it relates to materials, design, construction, installation, numbers and capacities, and operation and maintenance of these tanks.^{Pf}

3. The system shall be of sufficient capacity to furnish enough hot and cold water for food preparation, utensil cleaning and sanitizing, and handwashing in accordance with the requirements of this regulation.^{Pf}

(e) Liquid Waste. The sewage holding tanks for all mobile food service units and extended food service units, and all sewage and liquid waste resulting from the operation of a mobile food service unit or extended food service units shall meet the requirements of and be handled as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(4\)\(a\), \(e\), \(f\), \(g\), \(h\) and \(i\)](#) as it relates to capacity, drainage, design, construction, installation, operation, maintenance and sewage disposal.^{Pf}

(f) Operation.

1. A mobile food service unit shall operate from its permitted base of operation and report daily or more often if needed to such location to service their unit for supplies, fresh water, cleaning, waste water disposal, and any other and servicing operations.^P

2. An extended food service unit shall operate as an extension of its permitted base of operation.^P

3. An extended food service unit shall be serviced daily from the base of operation.

4. The base of operation or fixed food service establishment used as a base of operation for mobile food units and extended food service units shall be constructed and operated in conjunction with the mobile food service unit or extended food service unit under the active managerial control of a single permit holder to be in compliance with the requirements of this Chapter.^P

5. Toilet facilities must be available for employee's use and, as applicable, consumer use along the route of food vending locations as per requirements found in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(2\)\(h\)](#). In addition and to the satisfaction of the Health Authority, the permit holder must maintain and provide a list of toilet facilities available to the unit food vending locations.^{Pf}

6. When not in use, mobile food service units shall be properly stored at the base of operation or other location approved by the Health Authority.^{Pf}

(g) Construction Based Upon Menu.

1. Units preparing and serving time/temperature control for safety foods other than that stated in subsection (1)(b) of this Rule shall be so constructed that the operator must prepare and serve food from within the protective environment of a fully enclosed area of the unit such as that provided for in a fully enclosed trailer.^P Except that units preparing non-time/temperature control for safety foods such as snow cones and popcorn shall be constructed so that the food preparation and service areas are protected from potential contamination by means of closable cabinets.^{Pf}

2. The service area requirements are as follows:

(i) A mobile food service unit servicing area shall be available at its base of operation; except, a servicing area will not be required where only packaged food is placed on the mobile food service unit or where mobile food units do not contain waste retention tanks as stated in subsection (1)(b)1 of this Rule;^{Pf}

(ii) Except for areas used only for the loading of water or the discharge of sewage and other liquid waste through the use of a closed system of hoses, servicing areas shall be provided with overhead protection;^{Pf}

(iii) There shall be a location and equipment for the flushing and drainage of liquid wastes separate from the location and equipment provided for water servicing and for the loading and unloading of food and related supplies.^{Pf} Requirements for sizing and location of equipment for flushing and drainage of liquid wastes and for equipment to provide potable water servicing of units shall be as specified within the most current editions of the Interpretative Manuals as referenced within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(10\)](#);

(iv) The surface of the servicing area shall be constructed of a smooth, nonabsorbent material, such as concrete or machine-laid and sealed asphalt and shall be maintained in good repair, kept clean, and be graded to drain; and

(v) The construction of the walls and ceilings of the servicing areas is exempted from the provisions of DPH Rule [511-6-1-.07\(2\)\(a\) through \(f\)](#).

(vi) Toilet and handwashing facilities that meet the requirements of this Chapter shall be available for employees at the servicing area.^{Pf}

(h) Identification.

1. All mobile food service units and extended food service units shall be identified by a sign or lettering indicating the name and address of the owner, the operator and the permit number. Letters and numbers must be at least two inches high.

2. The permit, or copy thereof, and the current inspection report must be displayed for public view and protected from inclement weather.

3. The mobile food service unit authorization to operate shall be made available by the permit holder and shall be provided to the Health Authority upon request.

(i) Food Vending Location.

1. Food vending location requirements are as follows:

(i) Listings for mobile food service unit and extended food service unit food vending locations shall be maintained by the permit holder and shall be provided to the Health Authority. Permit holders shall notify the Health Authority at least 7 days prior to any changes in food vending locations.^{Pf}

(ii) The operator must provide evidence of legal access and use of the premises for food vending; and

(iii) If applicable, permit applicants must provide documentation of compliance with another jurisdiction's requirements.

2. Those units functioning under permits granted to food service establishments and operating on their premises as an extension thereof may be allowed, at the Health Authority's discretion to meet lesser restrictions if sanitation, temperature control, and sanitization requirements for operation of the unit are satisfactorily met at the food service establishment.

(j) Compliance with Other Regulations. The operation must comply with all applicable regulations and ordinances.^{Pf}

(k) Home Prepared Foods Prohibited. Home prepared foods or condiments may not be sold, served, or used on mobile food service units.^P

(2) Temporary Food Service Establishments.

(a) Operation, Permit Application, Responsibilities.

1. A temporary food service establishment means a food service establishment that operates at the same location for a period of no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration.^P

2. The application for a special food service permit shall indicate the inclusive dates of the proposed operation and must be submitted at least 30 days prior to the event.^{Pf}

3. The following applies to a vendor application:

(i) Any person desiring to operate a temporary food service establishment shall make written application for a permit on forms provided by the Health Authority at least 30 days prior to the event and pay applicable fees at the time of application.

(ii) The application shall include the name and address of each applicant, the location and type of the proposed temporary food service establishment, a list of all menu items and the signature of the applicant.

4. The organizer's responsibility is the following:

(i) Ensure that only vendors permitted by the Health Authority are allowed to participate in the event,^P

(ii) The organizer and property owner must notify the Health Authority 30 days prior to the event taking place and provide a list of food vendors who will be allowed by that organizer to participate in the event.^{Pf}

(iii) Ensure that any unauthorized or unpermitted vendor found participating in an event shall immediately leave the event premises and shall be charged with a violation of this Rule.^P

(b) Inspections.

1. Prior to issuance of a permit, the Health Authority shall inspect the proposed temporary food service establishment. The Health Authority shall only issue a permit to the applicant if the inspection reveals that the proposed temporary food service establishment complies with this Rule.

2. Temporary food service inspections will be conducted as often as necessary to ensure compliance with this Rule.

3. The permit, or copy thereof, and the current inspection report must be displayed for public view and protected from inclement weather.

(c) Operations.

1. A temporary food service establishment which does not comply fully with Rules .03 through .07 of this Chapter may be permitted to operate when food preparation, service and the operation meet fully the requirements set forth in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.08\(2\)\(a\) through \(h\)](#).^P

2. The Health Authority may impose additional requirements to protect against health hazards related to the conduct of the temporary food service establishment.

3. Preparation processes for time/temperature control for safety foods will be approved by the Health Authority based on a plan review that shows adequate holding, preparation and service facilities.^{Pf}

4. For special events, foods requiring only cooking may be prepared, if served immediately, in an outside area on the premises of a permitted food service establishment. Prior approval must be obtained from the Health Authority.^P

(d) Preparation and Service - Time/Temperature Control for Safety Foods - Prohibited Menu Items.

1. Fixed Permitted Food Service Establishments. Any time/temperature control for safety food that has been prepared, stored and transported under conditions meeting the requirements of this Chapter, is stored at a

temperature of 41°F (5°C) or below or at a temperature of 135°F (57°C) or above in facilities meeting the requirements of this Chapter may be served.^P

2. Temporary Onsite Preparation and Service. All food prepared and served onsite of a temporary establishment must comply with the following:

(i) Only those time/temperature control for safety foods requiring limited preparation, such as hamburgers and frankfurters that only require seasoning and cooking, may be prepared or served;^P

(ii) Once cooked, time/temperature control for safety foods shall not be touched by employee bare hands and must be maintained at 135°F or higher until served;^P

(iii) Prior to service to the consumer, commercially prepared, precooked, and prepackaged time/temperature control for safety foods may be reheated thoroughly to at least 135°F for 15 seconds;^P and

(iv) Time as a Public Health Control shall not be allowed in a temporary food service establishment.^P

3. Menu Item Prohibition. The preparation or service of the following menu items are prohibited from service onsite of a temporary establishment:

(i) Except for paragraph 2 of this subsection, other ready-to-eat, time/temperature control for safety foods, including pastries filled with cream or synthetic cream, custards, and similar products, and salads or sandwiches containing meat, poultry, eggs, or fish is prohibited.^P This prohibition does not apply to any time/temperature control for safety food that has been prepared and packaged under conditions meeting the requirements of this Chapter, is obtained in individual servings at 135°F (57°C) or above, or 41°F (5°C) or below in facilities meeting the requirements of this Chapter, and is served directly to the consumer in the unopened container in which it was packaged.^P

(ii) Home prepared foods or condiments may not be sold, served, or used in temporary food service unit establishments.^P

(e) Equipment and Supplies Required.

1. Indicating thermometers for immersion into food or cooking media shall be of metal stem type construction, numerically scaled, and accurate to ± 2 degrees Fahrenheit.

2. Enough potable water shall be available at the event for consumption and in the establishment for food preparation, cleaning, and sanitizing utensils and equipment, and for handwashing.^P

3. Ice shall be handled as follows:

(i) Ice that is consumed or that contacts food shall be made under conditions meeting the requirements of this Chapter.^P

(ii) The ice shall be obtained only in chipped, crushed, or cubed form and in single-use safe plastic or wet strength paper bags filled and sealed at the point of manufacture.^P

(iii) The ice shall be held in these bags until it is dispensed in a way that protects it from contamination,^P and

(iv) Storage of packaged or wrapped food in contact with water or undrained ice is prohibited.^P

4. Temporary food service operations shall provide only individually wrapped single-service articles for use by the consumer.^{Pf}

5. A heating facility capable of producing enough hot water shall be provided on the premises.^{Pf}

6. Equipment shall be located and installed in a way that prevents food contamination and that also facilitates cleaning the establishment.^{Pf}

7. Food-contact surfaces of equipment shall be protected from contamination by consumers and other contaminating agents. Effective shields for such equipment shall be provided, as necessary, to prevent contamination.^P

8. Facilities for cleaning and sanitizing utensils and equipment shall be provided at the temporary site or permitted base of operation. Such items shall be cleaned and sanitized at least daily or more often if prescribed by the Health Authority.^{Pf}

9. When food is prepared on the site, a system capable of producing enough hot water for cleaning and sanitizing utensils and equipment shall be provided on the premises. Such systems shall consist of:

(i) a water heater properly sized according to the needs of the establishment as established by interpretative and guidance manuals referenced within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#);^{Pf} or

(ii) a gas or electric stove or burner with a container of water;^{Pf} or

(iii) other means as determined by the Health Authority.^{Pf}

10. A convenient handwashing facility shall be available for employee handwashing. This facility shall consist of, at least, a catch bucket, a pressurized or gravity fed supply of warm water, soap, and individual paper towels at the service site.^{Pf}

(f) Liquid Waste. All sewage including liquid waste shall be disposed of as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(4\)\(h\) and \(i\)](#).^P

(g) Construction.

1. Floors within food preparation and display areas shall be constructed of concrete, asphalt, tight wood, or other similar material, and shall be kept clean in good repair.

2. Doors to food preparation areas shall be solid or screened and shall be self-closing or as otherwise approved by the Health Authority.

3. Screening material used for walls, doors, or windows shall be at least 16 mesh to the inch.

4. Air curtains shall be properly designed and installed, and approved by the Health Authority.

5. Ceilings shall be made of wood or other material that protects the interior of the establishment from the weather.^{Pf}

6. Walls and ceilings of food preparation areas shall be constructed in a way that prevents the entrance of insects.

(h) Protection from Contamination.

1. Approved means of excluding insect and vermin from food preparation, service areas and from waste storage areas must be provided commensurate with the type and scope of food service permitted.^{Pf}

2. Counter-service openings shall not be larger than necessary for the particular operation conducted.

3. Counter-service openings shall be provided with effective means to restrict the entrance of flying insects.

4. Counter-service openings shall be kept closed when not in actual use, except that these openings may remain open if air curtains are provided as deemed adequate by the Health Authority.

5. All food preparation and food display areas shall be adequately protected from dust, contamination by patrons, and from insects by provision of walls, ceilings, shields, screens or other approved barriers or devices.^{Pf}

6. Open, unprotected display or service of food is prohibited.^P

(3) Incubator Food Service Operations. A permit holder or a permit applicant may seek a variance from the provisions in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(1\)\(a\)4](#), in order to operate an incubator food service establishment only if, as an alternative to DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(1\)\(a\)4](#), the permit holder or permit applicant provides a written management plan along with the necessary supportive documentation that specifies standard operating procedures (SOP) in detail to the satisfaction of the Health Authority as to how active managerial control of risk-factors and public health interventions for foodborne illness along with maintenance of equipment and facilities will be maintained to the requirements of this Chapter.^P Incubator food service operations shall comply with other requirements of this Chapter in addition to the requirements of one of the following business models:^P

(a) Business Model A. The permit holder must ensure the following:

1. Submit to the Health Authority for review and approval a written management plan that contains a Standard Operating Plan (SOP) and supporting documents that adequately provides: managerial oversight of contractual employees activities, control of risk factors for foodborne illness, handwashing policy, employee health policies, the prevention of any potential cross-contamination of equipment and food resulting from multiuse of food service equipment and utensils, and the ability for the Health Authority to conduct trace back in the event of a foodborne illness involving the establishment. The written managerial plan or SOP must include the following minimum items:^P

(i) Incubatee/member Contract. A written contract between the permit holder and the incubatee/member must be signed by the permit holder and each incubatee/member prior to incubatee/member being allowed access to the establishment. This written contract must include the following items:^P

(I) The permit holder must acknowledge its responsibility for all food produced within its establishment from the time that it receives the food and supplies up to and including the service of prepared food to its consumers;^P

(II) The permit holder may not disclaim any liability for food prepared within the food service establishment;^P

(III) The Active Managerial Control Plan (SOP) along with supporting documents must be made, directly or by reference, part of the written contract.^P

(ii) Active Managerial Control Plan and SOP. The SOP will contain not less than the following items:

(I) A statement as to the maximum number of incubatees/members that will use the establishment per day or per shift;^{Pf}

(II) A statement as to the ratio of management staff to the number of incubatees/members using the establishment per day or per shift;^{Pf}

(III) A statement as to how incubatees/members and their subsidiary employees will be identified. Records listing names and contact information for each incubatee/member and their subsidiary employees must be maintained at the establishment and such records shall be made available for review upon request by the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(IV) A statement as to how separation in space and time will be maintained so as no other activities, such as bakery or food processing plant activity, will be conducted at the same time food service operations are being conducted. Separation of time and space may be accomplished by equipment and facilities being physically separated into areas or rooms separated from each other by walls or partitions as acceptable to the Health Authority. In addition, separation in time and space may be accomplished by scheduling of incubators/members as acceptable to the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(V) A statement as to how all employees, including any contractual employees and their subsidiary employees, will be managed so their activities will comply with this Chapter;^{Pf}

(VI) A statement as to how the food service management will provide oversight of food processing from receiving to service to the consumer to ensure compliance with this Chapter. As part of this oversight but not limited to the following: food temperature control records must be maintained by the permit holder of the establishment. Food temperature charts for food product temperature control listing the date and time and temperature of food as it leaves the establishment to when it is delivered to the consumer will be maintained for review upon the request of the Health Authority. Food temperature charts shall be maintained by management within the establishment for no less than 90 days from the date of any event or service;^{Pf}

(VII) A statement as to how the food service management will track consumers so they will be easily identifiable in the event of a foodborne illness outbreak investigation. Records of events and service will be maintained within the establishment for a minimum of 90 days from the date of each event or service and will be made available upon request for review by the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(VIII) A statement as to how management of the food service establishment will track and manage menus to be in compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-14-.02\(1\)\(g\)](#). The most current menu or menus for each incubatee/member will be maintained on record at the establishment and such menu or menus will be made available for review upon request by the Health Authority. Management of the food service establishment will notify the Health Authority of menu changes as specified in DPH Rule [511-5-14-.02\(1\)\(g\)](#);^{Pf}

(IX) A statement that only those incubatees/members under active contract will be allowed access to the facilities of the establishment. Food preparation for non-commercial use such as home use will not be allowed. Non-contractual, incubatee/member use of the establishment facilities is prohibited;^{Pf}

(X) A list of incubatees/members scheduled for each day must be maintained at the establishment and made available for review by the Health Authority upon request. Only these listed incubatees/members are to be present within the establishment for each scheduled day's operation;^{Pf}

(XI) A statement that the permit holder shall directly employ all management of the establishment. The person in charge and the certified food safety manager (CFSM) shall be a direct employee of the permit holder;^P

(XII) A statement as to who will monitor activities within the food service establishment must be clearly stated. Enough certified food safety managers must be present whenever the establishment is in operation. There must be shown to be adequate coverage of management or persons in charge to ensure compliance with this Chapter.^{Pf} Incubatees/members cannot serve as managers, certified food safety managers (CFSMs) or as the person in charge;^P

(XIII) A complete written plan detailing how the activities of incubatees/members will be monitored and what corrective actions will be taken should risk factors be found out of control must be included with the SOP. The activities of members must be monitored from the receiving of food and supplies to the service of food to the consumer;^{Pf}

(XIV) A written employee health policy must be included within the SOP. This written employee health policy must be in compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(4\)](#) and it must include all employees of the establishment including incubatee/members;^{Pf}

(XV) A cleaning plan for all nonfood-contact surfaces of equipment. In addition, this cleaning plan shall include cleaning and sanitizing procedures and schedules for food-contact surfaces of equipment and utensils to ensure that food-contact surfaces are being cleaned and sanitized between incubatee/members use and as often as needed to be in compliance with the requirements of this Chapter;^{Pf}

(XVI) A written food safety training plan for employees and incubatees/members;^{Pf} and

(XVII) A floor plan showing equipment layout and food flow according to proposed menus. All areas, rooms and equipment are to be identified as to use and function. All food service plans and specifications must be reviewed and

approved by the local Health Authority prior to any commencement of construction as specified within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(6\)](#).^{Pf}

(b) Business Model B. The permit holder must ensure the following:

1. Submit to the Health Authority for review and approval a written management plan that contains a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and supporting documents that adequately provides: managerial oversight of contractual employees activities, control of risk factors for foodborne illness, handwashing policies, employee health policies, the prevention of any potential cross-contamination of equipment and food resulting from multiuse of food service equipment and utensils, and the ability for the Health Authority to conduct trace back in the event of a foodborne illness involving the establishment. The written managerial plan or SOP must include the following minimum items:^P

(i) Incubatee/member Contract. A written contract between the permit holder and the incubatee/member must be signed by the permit holder and each incubatee/member prior to incubatee/member being allowed access to the establishment. This written contract must include the following items:^P

(I) The permit holder must acknowledge its responsibility for all food produced within its establishment from the time that it receives the food and supplies up to and including the service of prepared food to its consumers;^P

(II) The permit holder may not disclaim any liability for food prepared within the food service establishment;^P

(III) The Active Managerial Control Plan (SOP) along with supporting documents must be made, directly or by reference, part of the written contract.^P

(ii) Active Managerial Control Plan and SOP. The SOP shall not contain less than the following items:

(I) A statement as to the maximum number of incubatees/members that will use the individual build out units per day or per shift;^{Pf}

(II) A statement as to the ratio of management staff to the number of incubatees/members using the establishment per day or per shift;^{Pf}

(III) A statement as to how incubatees/members and their subsidiary employees will be identified. Records listing names and contact information for each incubatee/member and their subsidiary employees must be maintained at the establishment and such records shall be made available for review upon request by the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(IV) A statement as to how separation in space or time will be maintained so as to ensure that all food service operations are conducted within each individual incubatee/member's build-out unit. Separation of all activities, such as bakery or food processing plant activity must be accomplished by equipment and facilities being physically separated into areas or rooms separated from each other by walls or partitions as acceptable to the Health Authority. In addition, separation in time and space may be accomplished by scheduling of incubators/members as acceptable to the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(V) A statement as to how all employees, including any contractual employees and their subsidiary employees, will be managed so their activities will comply with this Chapter;^{Pf}

(VI) A statement as to how the food service management will provide oversight of food processing from receiving to service to the consumer to ensure compliance with this Chapter. As part of this oversight but not limited to the following: food temperature control records must be maintained by the permit holder of the establishment. Food temperature charts for food product temperature control listing the date, time, and temperature of food as it leaves the establishment to when it is delivered to the consumer shall be maintained by management for review upon the request of the Health Authority for no less than 6 months from the date of any event or service;^{Pf}

(VII) A statement as to how the food service management will track consumers so they will be easily identifiable in the event of a foodborne illness outbreak investigation. Records of events and service will be maintained within the

establishment for a minimum of 90 days from the date of each event or service and will be made available upon request for review by the Health Authority;^{Pf}

(VIII) A statement as to how management of the food service establishment will track and manage menus to be in compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(1\)\(g\)](#) The most current menu or menus for each incubatee/member will be maintained on record at the establishment and such menu or menus will be made available for review upon request by the Health Authority. Management of the food service establishment will notify the Health Authority of menu changes as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(1\)\(g\)](#);^{Pf}

(IX) A statement that only those incubatees/members under active contract will be allowed access to the facilities of the establishment. Food preparation for non-commercial use such as home use will not be allowed. Non-contractual, incubatee/member use of the establishment facilities is prohibited;^{Pf}

(X) A list of incubatees/members scheduled for each day according to the build-out unit they will use must be maintained at the establishment and made available for review by the Health Authority upon request. Only these listed incubatees/members are to be present within the establishment for each scheduled day's operation;^{Pf}

(XI) A statement that the permit holder shall directly employ all management of the establishment. The person in charge and the certified food safety manager (CFSM) shall be a direct employee of the permit holder;^P

(XII) A statement as to who will monitor activities within the food service establishment must be clearly stated. Enough certified food safety managers must be present whenever the establishment is in operation. There must be shown to be adequate coverage of management or persons in charge to ensure compliance with this Chapter.^{Pf} Incubatees/members cannot serve as managers, certified food safety managers (CFSMs) or as the person in charge;^P

(XIII) A complete written plan detailing how the activities of incubatees/members will be monitored and what corrective actions will be taken should risk factors be found out of control must be included with the SOP. The activities of members must be monitored from the receiving of food and supplies to the service of food to the consumer;^{Pf}

(XIV) A written employee health policy must be included within the SOP. This written employee health policy must be in compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(4\)](#) and it must include all employees of the establishment including incubatee/members;^{Pf}

(XV) A cleaning plan for all nonfood-contact surfaces of equipment. In addition, this cleaning plan shall include cleaning and sanitizing procedures and schedules for food-contact surfaces of equipment and utensils to ensure that food-contact surfaces are being cleaned and sanitized between incubatee/members use and as often as needed to be in compliance with the requirements of this Chapter;^{Pf}

(XVI) A written food safety training plan for employees and incubatees/members;^{Pf} and

(XVII) A floor plan showing equipment layout and food flow according to proposed menus. All areas, rooms and equipment are to be identified as to use and function. All food service plans and specifications must be reviewed and approved by the local Health Authority prior to any commencement of construction as specified within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(6\)](#).^{Pf}

(XVIII) Each incubatee/member shall show the incubator food service establishment permit holder proof of a valid permit issued by the Health Authority to a food service facility unit specified in the permit application prior to being allowed access to the specified food service building unit;^P

(XIX) A permit will be valid for one food service build-out unit per incubatee/member and not multiple food service build-out units;^P and

(XX) The Health Authority will be notified of food service facility build-out schedule changes.

(4) Catering Food Service Establishments.

(a) Operations.

1. Catering food service establishments shall fully comply with the requirements of DPH Rules [511-6-1-.03](#) through [.07](#) in addition to the following:^P

(I) Catering operations shall be permitted and operated separately from "food sales establishments" as defined in O.C.G.A. Section [26-2-21](#);^{Pf} and

(II) For purposes of inspection of the base of operation and upon request by the Health Authority, catering food service establishments shall provide a quarterly schedule of events to be catered.^{Pf}

2. When the catering operation involves only the preparation and delivery of food to a private party, special event, or motion picture filming location and does not include the handling of tableware and utensils or any preparation, service, or restocking of non-prepackaged foods on location at the service site, no hand washing facility is required at the service site.^{Pf}

3. When the catering operation involves the handling of tableware and utensils and/or the preparation, service, or restocking of non-prepackaged foods on location at the service site, adequate handwashing facilities are required and shall consist of at least a catch bucket, a pressurized or gravity fed supply of warm water at least 100°F, soap, individual paper towels, and waste receptacle(s) that are available and conveniently located for employees' use in the areas used for food preparation, food service, and warewashing.^{Pf}

4. For the duration of the catering operation, all foods, display and service utensils, and other food-contact surfaces shall be adequately protected from dust, weather conditions, insects, and human contamination through the use of walls, ceiling, shields, screens, or other approved barriers or devices.^{Pf}

5. Floors within food preparation and display areas shall be constructed of concrete, asphalt, tight wood, or other similar material approved by the Health Authority, and shall be kept clean and in good repair.

6. Catered food shall not be used as an ingredient in another food or be offered for re-service or sale to another consumer. Such catered food is to be discarded to waste or may be left in the possession of the consumer for which the catered food was contracted.^P

7. When outdoor cooking equipment is used to prepare food at the service site, such equipment shall be located adjacent to a fully enclosed food preparation area and shall comply with all applicable provisions of law. Cookers, grills, ovens or any other type of equipment used for outdoor cooking shall have a lid or other design approved by the Health Authority which protects the food from dust, weather conditions, insects, and human contamination during the cooking process. No food preparation other than seasoning shall be allowed at outdoor cooking equipment.

8. Toilet facilities must be available at the service site for employee use and, if applicable, consumer use, as provided in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(2\)\(h\)](#).

9. Except as provided in subparagraph (4)(a)(10.), supplies and equipment used at the service site shall be cleaned and serviced daily at the catering food service establishment's permitted base of operation. The shared use of facilities or equipment by two separate permit holders is prohibited.

10. A catering food service establishment that services a site, such as a filming location, more than 60 miles from its permitted base of operation for an extended period of time during which a daily return to the base of operation for service and restocking is impracticable, shall:

(i) Utilize an on-site warewashing method for washing, rinsing, and sanitizing utensils and equipment in accordance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.05\(2\), \(3\), and \(6\)](#), which shall consist of either a portable dish washing trailer or a pre-approved, three-compartment basin system that is large enough to accommodate complete submersion of the largest utensil used at the service site; and

(ii) Maintain and provide to the Health Authority, upon request, written procedures which:

(I) Outline the methods of compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.04\(2\) and \(3\)](#) for deliveries received in the field;

(II) Outline the methods of compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(1\)\(j\)](#) with regard to an alternative water supply;

(III) Outline the methods of compliance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(4\)\(e\) and \(f\)](#) with regard to proper sewage disposal; and

(IV) Describe how solid waste material and refuse from the food service operation will be stored and handled.

11. When not in use, all mobile catering units, equipment and all other supplies shall be properly stored at the base of operation or other location approved by the Health Authority.

(b) Design and Construction of Mobile Catering Units. Mobile catering units must comply with the requirements for mobile food service units set forth in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.08\(1\)\(a\) through \(e\), \(g\), \(h\), \(j\), and \(k\)](#).

(c) Identification. All mobile catering units used in conjunction with catering operations for which food is prepared all or in part at the service site shall:

1. Display an adhesive sticker provided by the Department indicating that the mobile catering unit has been approved by the Health Authority for catering operations within the State of Georgia. The sticker must be located in a readily visible area on the unit and maintained in good condition; or

2. Maintain and provide to the Health Authority, upon request, a copy of the catering food service establishment's permit, which shall list the Vehicle Identification Number for each mobile catering unit used by the permit holder for the catering operation.

(d) Catering Location. A catering food service establishment shall maintain a record of each catering operation, including date, location, and menu, for at least six months after the catering operation takes place. Such records shall be provided to the Health Authority upon request.

(e) Inspections.

1. The Health Authority in the county that issued a permit to the catering food service establishment shall be responsible for conducting inspections in accordance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(2\)](#).

2. The Health Authority in a county where a service site is located shall be authorized to enter any catering operation, at any reasonable time and upon proper identification, for the purpose of conducting a complaint investigation. Any food safety Risk Factor violations shall be immediately corrected on-site; and, if an imminent health hazard is discovered, food service operations may be temporarily suspended by the local Health Authority until the imminent health hazard is corrected. The permit holder shall be entitled to appeal any such suspension to the local District Health Director in accordance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(1\)\(b\)](#).

3. Upon completion of the complaint investigation, the person in charge shall sign the report form provided by the local Health Authority. The signature of the person in charge shall not necessarily indicate agreement with any findings noted during the complaint investigation. A copy of the signed report shall be given to the person in charge and a copy shall be sent to the Health Authority in the county that issued the permit. A score shall not be given for a complaint investigation conducted in a county where a service site, but not the permitted base of operation, is located; however, blatant or repeated food safety compromises found during such complaint investigations may lead to permit suspension or revocation by the Health Authority in the county that issued the permit.

(5) "Pop-Up" Food Service Operations.

(a) Food service establishments participating in "pop-up" food service operations shall fully comply with the requirements of DPH Rules [511-6-1-.03](#) through .07 in addition to the following:^P

1. Unless the food service establishment is already permitted for catering operations, it must obtain a letter of approval from the Health Authority prior to engaging in "pop-up" food service operations.
2. A food service establishment participating in a "pop-up" food service operation shall operate from its permitted base of operation.^P
3. A food service establishment shall not operate more than 3 hours in one day at any "pop-up" location without first obtaining a mobile food service vending permit, and shall be limited to no more than 2 days per calendar week at any one "pop-up" location.
4. Only ready-to-eat foods that have been prepared, cooked, and properly containerized for transport at the permitted base of operation may be served and sold at the "pop-up" location.
5. Time/Temperature Control for Safety (TCS) foods to be served and sold at the "pop-up" location must be maintained at the following temperatures during transport and kept in approved NSF certified containers:
 - (i) 41°F or less if held cold;^P or
 - (ii) 135°F or more if held hot.^P
6. All food shall be protected from coughing, sneezing, customer handling, or other contamination through the use of effective barriers such as wrapping or food shields. Condiments shall be dispensed in single-service type packaging, in pump-style dispensers, or in protected squeeze bottles, shakers, or similar dispensers which prevent contamination of the food items by food employees, consumers, insects, or other sources.^P
7. "Pop-up" food service operations shall provide only individually wrapped single-service tableware for use by the consumer.^{Pf}
8. No cooking equipment shall be allowed at the "pop-up" food service location. Hot-holding and cold-holding equipment shall be limited to steam or hot water heating equipment or refrigerated equipment that meets the requirements of this Chapter. With the approval of the Health Authority, accessory components such as hard plastic coolers that are NSF listed or certified for commercial use and contain sufficient ice for cold TCS foods may be used; however, packaged or wrapped food shall not be stored in contact with water or undrained ice, except for commercially packaged beverages such as canned or bottled soda or water.^{Pf}
9. A food service establishment participating in a "pop-up" food service operation shall bring an adequate supply of clean and sanitized food service equipment and utensils and store them at the "pop-up" location in a way that ensures they are protected from contamination. Only food service equipment and utensils that belong to the permitted food service establishment operating at the "pop-up" location shall be used by that food service establishment during the operation. At no time shall food service equipment or utensils be shared between food service establishments.^{Pf}
10. Adequate handwashing facilities are required at the "pop-up" location and shall consist of at least a catch bucket, a pressurized or gravity fed supply of warm water at least 100°F, soap, individual paper towels, and a waste receptacle that is conveniently located for use by food employees at the "pop-up" location. Wastewater from the "pop-up" food service operation shall be disposed of according to law.^{Pf}
11. Copies of the permit and the current inspection report for the food service establishment's base of operation must be displayed for public view at the "pop-up" food service location.
12. Inspections of "pop-up" food service operations may be conducted as often as necessary to ensure compliance with this Rule.

13. Except for unopened commercially packaged beverages, food not sold or consumed at the "pop-up" location shall not be used as an ingredient in another food or be offered for re-service or sale to another consumer. All food from a "pop-up" food service operation shall be discarded to waste after service at the "pop-up" location has concluded for that day. P

(b) The facilitator of a "pop-up" food service operation shall obtain a letter of approval from the local Health Authority for the "pop-up" location by providing the following information at least ten business days prior to the anticipated date of operating at the selected "pop-up" location:

1. The name, title, address, and telephone number of the person directly responsible for the management of the facilitator;

2. The address of the proposed "pop-up" food service operation;

3. The method, such as an electronic ticket or other tracking method, that will be used to identify patrons purchasing food at the "pop-up" location for trace back purposes in the event of a foodborne illness;

4. A statement signed by the facilitator or authorized agent that:

(i) Attests to the accuracy of the information provided in the application; and

(ii) Affirms that the applicant will fulfill the obligations of a facilitator as outlined in this subsection; and

5. If the facilitator is not the owner of the proposed location of the "pop-up" food service operation, a written statement signed by the owner or authorized agent of the proposed location, giving permission for the "pop-up" food service operation to take place;

(c) A "pop-up" food service operation shall not take place in a location where the food is subject to overhead or environmental contamination,^{Pf} or in a building which serves a highly susceptible population. A "pop-up" food service operation shall comply with all applicable regulations and ordinances, including access to toilet facilities which meet the requirements of DPH Rule [511-6-1-.06\(2\)\(h\)](#).

(d) The local Health Authority shall be notified prior to any change in the facilitator of a "pop-up" food service operation.

(e) The facilitator shall maintain and make available to the local Health Authority, upon request, a list of the food service establishments participating in the "pop-up" food service operation, which shall include:

(i) the address and food service permit number of each food service establishment;

(ii) the dates and times of operation for each food service establishment at the "pop-up" location; and

(iii) the menu of foods offered by each food service establishment at the "pop-up" location.

(f) The local Health Authority may, in its discretion, suspend or revoke a letter of approval for a "pop-up" food service operation if it is determined that the requirements of this Rule have not been met.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 511-6-1-.08

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [26-2-373](#), 379, 31-2A-6.

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Amended: F. Jan. 25, 2023; eff. Feb. 24, 2023, as specified by the Agency.

511-6-1-.10 [Effective 2/24/2023] Inspections and Compliance Procedures

(1) Suspension or Revocation of Permits. The Health Authority shall have the power to suspend or revoke a permit if the permit holder is unwilling or unable to comply with these regulations, the regulations of the local Health Authority, the provisions of O.C.G.A. Section [26-2-370](#) et seq., or if a violation is not corrected within a reasonable time. The notice of suspension or revocation shall be in writing and shall state the reasons in support of the action. The notice shall be delivered to the permit holder by mail or in person or, if the permit holder cannot be located, by tacking a copy to the front door of the food service establishment and mailing a copy to the permit holder's last known address.

(a) There shall be a rebuttable presumption that a permit holder is unwilling or unable to comply if he or she refuses to allow the Health Authority to enter upon and inspect the premises of the food service establishment at any reasonable time and in a reasonable manner, or if any particular violation is found to be uncorrected upon the third consecutive inspection.

(b) Except as specified in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(2\)\(n\)](#), a permit may be summarily suspended upon the discovery of an imminent health hazard. The permit holder may seek immediate review of a summary suspension by written request to the District Health Director. The matter shall be heard by the District Health Director, or a supervisory level employee designated by the District Health Director who was not personally involved in the inspection, acting as a review official. The Health Authority shall make every effort to arrange a hearing within 72 hours of the request. The hearing shall be conducted informally and without application of the rules of evidence. Both the inspector and the permit holder shall be given an opportunity to present any arguments or evidence in support of their positions. The review official may uphold the summary suspension, or may modify or lift the suspension on such conditions as may be appropriate.

(c) In lieu of suspension or revocation of a permit, the Health Authority may in its discretion allow a food service establishment to voluntarily close all or part of the premises until such time as violations are corrected, and upon such additional restrictions as the Health Authority may deem appropriate.

(d) The permit holder may appeal any suspension or revocation to the Department in accordance with O.C.G.A. Section [31-5-3](#) by sending written notice within ten days, by certified mail or statutory overnight delivery, addressed to the Department of Public Health, Office of General Counsel, with a copy to the Health Authority official that suspended or revoked the permit. Within ten days of receiving the notice, the Health Authority shall provide the Department with a copy of its entire file on the inspections and actions that led to the suspension or revocation. The Department shall schedule a hearing within 20 days of receiving the notice, and shall decide the matter upon the arguments of the parties and the administrative record.

(e) If operations of a food service establishment are discontinued due to the order or action of the Health Authority, the permit holder shall obtain approval from the Health Authority before resuming operations.

(f) The Health Authority may, in its discretion, allow the owner to voluntarily close all or part of the food service establishment in lieu of suspending or revoking a permit. Such action will not prohibit the Health Authority from taking such further action as it may deem necessary to protect employees or members of the public.

(g) If at any time a mobile food service establishment's permit is no longer in good standing in any jurisdiction, a county may revoke the establishment's authorization to operate in its jurisdiction.

(2) Inspections.

(a) Risk Categorization. Inspections of a food service establishment shall be conducted based on risk categorization. The risk type shall be determined by the menu items served, the food preparation processes performed, and the

previous food safety history in the food service establishment. Each establishment shall be grouped in one of the following categories:

1. Risk Type I. Frequency of inspection will be one time per year for establishments that do not cook any foods. This includes establishments that may reheat commercially precooked ingredients or foods such as hotdogs and sausages;
2. Risk Type II. Frequency of inspection will be two times per year for establishments that cook and/or hold and reheat foods that are prepared onsite; or
3. Risk Type III. Frequency of inspection will be three times per year for establishments that have a required HACCP plan that is deemed in conformance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#). One of these inspections will be a scheduled inspection to meet with the Certified Food Safety Manager.

(b) Inspection Frequency.

1. The Health Authority shall conduct one or more construction inspections for newly constructed or extensively remodeled establishments to verify that the food service establishment is constructed and equipped in accordance with the approved plans and specifications, and is in compliance with law and this Chapter. In addition, the Health Authority may conduct one or more preoperational inspections to verify compliance with the construction and equipment requirements of this Chapter at the time of a change in the permit holder of an existing food service establishment.
2. An initial inspection will be conducted in an establishment prior to the food permit being issued.
3. To allow the permit holder of the food service establishment sufficient time to fully train employees as specified in of DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(3\)\(d\)1](#) and 2, the first routine inspection will be conducted within sixty days after the opening of the establishment; and, it will mark the beginning of the establishment's compliance history with this Chapter.
4. After the first routine inspection, establishments maintaining an "A" food safety grade shall be inspected based on the risk categorization specified in subsection (2)(a)1. through 3. of this Rule.
5. Establishments that receive a "C" or "U" food safety grade will have at least one additional routine inspection added in a twelve month period, and may have more inspections at the discretion of the Health Authority.
6. If an establishment maintains an "A" food safety rating on three consecutive routine inspections, then the Health Authority may, in its discretion, reduce the frequency of routine inspections to one time per year for Risk Type II establishments and to two times per year for Risk Type III establishments.
7. The reduced inspection frequency may continue until the food service establishment incurs a grade of a "B", "C" or "U". The routine inspection frequency will then resume to the number specified for Risk Type, but may be more frequent as deemed necessary for the enforcement of this Chapter by the Health Authority.

(c) Follow-up Inspections. Follow-up inspections may be conducted at anytime at the discretion of the Health Authority, but must be conducted within ten days after an establishment receives a grade "U".

(d) Access.

1. Representatives of the Health Authority, after proper identification, shall be permitted to enter any food service establishment or operation at any reasonable time for the purpose of making inspections and review of pertinent records to determine compliance with this Chapter. Should access be denied, an inspection warrant may be obtained as authorized in O.C.G.A. § [31-5](#), Article 2.
2. If a person denies access to the Health Authority, the Health Authority shall:

(i) Inform the person that:

(I) The permit holder is required to allow access to the Health Authority,

(II) Access is a condition of the acceptance and retention of a food service establishment permit to operate, and

(III) If access is denied, an inspection warrant, issued by the appropriate authority to order access, may be obtained according to law; and

(ii) Make a final request for access.

(e) Inspection of Mobile Food Service Units. The local Health Authority in the county of origin and the local Health Authority in additional counties in which the mobile food service unit operates shall exchange information regarding their inspection of mobile food service establishments. When inspecting a mobile food service unit in a county other than the county of origin, the local Health Authority shall consult the DPH permit and inspection database to find out the violations received during the last inspection of the base of operation. These violations will be noted as violations during the inspection of each mobile food service unit.

(f) Inspection of Mobile Food Service Units outside of the county of origin.

1. The mobile food service establishment may be subject to periodic and unannounced inspections in any outside county where its permit has been recognized. County boards of health shall utilize discretion when inspecting mobile food service establishments that have been authorized to operate in multiple jurisdictions to ensure they are not inspected more frequently than necessary to protect public health and safety. A mobile food service establishment shall allow the county board of health access for inspection when the mobile food service establishment is physically operating in such county.

2. Fees for inspections conducted in outside counties shall be paid in full by the next business day. Failure to pay for inspections in outside counties will result in termination of authorization to operate in that county. The inspection fee shall be limited to the administrative costs incurred by the county to complete the inspection.

3. If any such inspection results in a violation, any outside county shall notify the county of origin and any other counties where the mobile food service establishment is authorized to operate of the violation. Any county where the mobile food service establishment operates may issue a court citation, terminate authorization for the mobile food service establishment to operate in the county, or require implementation of a remediation plan for the violation.

4. A mobile food service establishment shall stay current with its annual inspection fees in its county of origin and shall provide any outside counties where it is authorized to operate proof of currency before operating in that county.

(g) Report of Inspection.

1. The Health Authority shall document on the Department's current approved "Food Service Establishment Inspection Report" form and "Food Service Inspection Report Addendum" form(s):

(i) Administrative information about the food service establishment's legal owner, street and mailing addresses, type of establishment and operation, inspection date, and other information which may include such information as type of water supply and sewage disposal, status of the permit, and personnel certificates that may be required;

(ii) Specific factual observations of violations or other deviations from this Chapter that require correction by the permit holder including:

(I) Failure of the person in charge to demonstrate the knowledge of foodborne illness prevention, application of HACCP principles, and the requirements of this Chapter as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(1\)\(a\) through \(c\)](#),

(II) Failure of food employees, conditional employees, and the person in charge to report a disease or medical condition as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.03\(4\)\(b\)](#),

(III) Nonconformance with Priority items and priority foundation items of this Chapter,

(IV) Failure of the appropriate food employees to comply with or demonstrate their knowledge of the procedural, monitoring, verification, and corrective action practices required by the Health Authority for a variance or HACCP Plan,

(V) Failure of the person in charge to provide records required by the Health Authority for determining conformance with a HACCP plan as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#),

(VI) Nonconformance with critical limits of a HACCP plan; and

(iii) The numerical score and equivalent grade, based on debiting the appropriate points for violations and repeat violations of code provisions found or observed during the inspection.

2. Upon the completion of the inspection, the evaluating official shall have the person in charge sign the inspection report form. The person in charge's signature shall not necessarily indicate agreement with the findings noted on the inspection.

(h) Violation Categories.

1. Violations of this Chapter are categorized according to their potential for creating a health risk to the consumer. All violations shall be recorded on the current inspection report and addendum(s). Violations are divided into two categories, Risk Factors/Public Health Interventions (RF/PHI) Categories and Good Retail Practices (GRP) Categories. In addition and for purposes of prioritization of corrective action, items in these categories are designated as priority items, priority foundation items, or core items as defined in DPH Rule [511-6-1-.01](#).

2. Violation of Risk Factors/Public Health Interventions (RF/PHI) categories are prominent on the inspection report because they are vital to preventing foodborne illness. These items are numbered 1 to 9 on the inspection report and divided into Subcategory "1" and "2" as follows:

(i) Subcategory "1" items cover provisions of the code, that when applied would directly prevent, eliminate or reduce hazards to a safe level to protect consumer health. Because the probability of occurrence and severity of a hazard is greater when these provisions are out of compliance, the incidence and impact of foodborne illness is increased and therefore a point value is assigned for a violation of any subcategory "1" item of nine points, and

(ii) Subcategory "2" items cover provisions of the code, that when applied, would indirectly prevent, eliminate or reduce hazards to a safe level to protect consumer health. Because the probability of occurrence and severity of a hazard is lower than subcategory "1" when these provisions are out of compliance, the incidence and impact of foodborne illness is not as great and therefore a point value is assigned for a violation of any subcategory "2" item of four points.

3. Risk Factors and Public Health Interventions (RF/PHI) Categories include:

(i) Supervision.

(ii) Employee health, good hygienic practices, preventing contamination by hands.

(iii) Approved source.

(iv) Protection from contamination.

(v) Cooking of time/temperature control for safety foods, consumer advisory.

(vi) Holding and date-marking of time/temperature control for safety foods.

(vii) Highly susceptible populations.

(viii) Chemicals.

(ix) Conformance with approved procedures.

4. Good Retail Practices (GRP) categories are deemed to be mostly operational and maintenance violations that, if not corrected, increase the potential for causing food borne illness. They are usually designated as core items; however, some may be designated as priority foundation items as defined within DPH Rule [511-6-1-.01](#). A violation of an item in a GRP category constitutes a one to three point deduction from the overall score (maximum 100 points) as shown on the current food services establishment inspection report form.

5. Good Retail Practices Categories (GRP) include

(i) Safe food and water, food identification.

(ii) Food temperature control.

(iii) Pest and animal control.

(iv) Prevention of food contamination.

(v) Proper use of utensils.

(vi) Utensils, equipment and vending.

(vii) Water, plumbing and waste.

(viii) Physical facilities.

(ix) Other.

(i) Timely Correction of Violations of Priority Item or Priority Foundation Item and HACCP Plans.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, a person in charge shall at the time of inspection correct a violation of a priority item or a priority foundation item of this Chapter and implement corrective actions for a HACCP plan provision that is not in compliance with its critical limit.^{PF}

2. Based on the nature of the potential hazard involved and the complexity of the corrective action needed, the Health Authority may agree to or specify a longer time frame, not to exceed:

(i) 72 hours after the inspection, for the permit holder to correct violations of a priority item; or

(ii) 10 calendar days after the inspection, for the permit holder to correct violations of a priority foundation item or HACCP Plan deviations.

3. Failure to correct these violations to the satisfaction of the Health Authority may result in such emergency action as deemed necessary by the Health Authority including legal actions pursuant to O.C.G.A. § [31-5-9\(a\)](#).

(j) Time Frame for Correction of Core Item Violations.

1. Except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection, the permit holder shall correct core items within 72 hours of the food service establishment's receipt of the inspection report or as otherwise directed by the Health Authority. Failure to make timely corrections to the satisfaction of the Health Authority of core items may subject the food service establishment to suspension or revocation of its permit pursuant to DPH Rule [511-6-1-.10\(1\)](#).

2. The Health Authority may approve a compliance schedule that extends beyond the time limits specified under paragraph 1 of this subsection if a written schedule of compliance is submitted by the permit holder and no health hazard exists or will result from allowing an extended schedule for compliance.

(k) Verification and Documentation of Correction.

1. After observing at the time of inspection a correction of a violation of a priority item or priority foundation item or HACCP plan deviation, the Health Authority shall enter the violation and information about the corrective action on the inspection report.

2. As specified under subsection (2)(h)(2) of this Rule, after receiving notification that the permit holder has corrected a violation of a priority item or priority foundation item or HACCP plan deviation, or at the end of the specified period of time, the Health Authority shall verify correction of the violation, document the information on an inspection report or addendum, and enter the report in the Health Authority's records.

(l) Grading Inspections. Inspections will receive a letter grade based on the numerical score as follows:

1. "A". The letter grade "A" means food safety excellence and is applied to a score of 90 to 100.

2. "B". The letter grade "B" means satisfactory compliance and is applied to a score of 80 to 89.

3. "C". The letter grade "C" means marginal compliance and is applied to a score of 70 to 79.

4. "U". The letter grade "U" means unsatisfactory compliance and is applied to a score of 69 or less.

(m) Repeat Violations. A repeat violation means a violation of the same code provision of this Chapter under an item in a Risk Factors/Public Health Interventions (RF/PHI), or Good Retail practices (GRP) category as documented in the previous routine inspection. A repeat violation constitutes the initial point deduction as specified in subsection (2)(g)2 and 4 of this Rule plus an additional two point deduction for one or more repeat violation(s) within a RF/PHI category and one point deduction in a GRP category from the overall score (maximum 100 points). If a violation of the same provision of this Chapter is found in three consecutive routine inspections, then the points will be deducted accordingly and the food service establishment may be subject to suspension or revocation of its permit pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this Rule.

(n) Follow-up Inspections.

1. A follow-up inspection is a complete inspection conducted as a result of a routine inspection which resulted in a "C" or "U" grade. If a grade of "C" or higher is earned on the follow-up inspection, then at the discretion of the Health Authority no additional follow-up inspections will be required, however, all priority items and all priority foundation items must be corrected as specified under subsection (2)(h) 1 through 3 of this Rule.

2. The new score and equivalent grade will be posted on an inspection report during a follow-up inspection. The two previous inspection grades and scores, whether routine or follow-up inspections, will be posted subsequently under "Last Grade, Score and Date" and "Prior Grade, Score and Date" on the inspection report.

(o) Informal Follow-up Inspection. If a follow-up inspection as specified in subsection (2)(m) of this Rule cannot be conducted by the Health Authority, then an informal follow-up may be performed to confirm correction of the violations that were cited on the routine inspection that were not corrected at the time of the inspection. On an informal follow-up inspection, an inspection report addendum(s) will be completed, documenting the violations that have been corrected. It will be noted on the addendum(s) that this was an informal follow-up inspection, and the establishment will keep the same grade that was earned on the previous routine inspection. The addendum(s) will be made available by the food service establishment to the public upon request.

(p) Voluntary Closure.

1. If a food service establishment is graded as a "U" and does not earn at least a grade "C" within ten days of receiving the "U", it may be requested to voluntarily close until all violations are corrected or have its food service permit suspended or revoked according to subsection (1)(b) of this Rule.

2. A food service establishment that is graded as a "U" on two consecutive routine inspections will be asked to voluntarily close until all violations are corrected and/or have enforcement action taken to suspend or revoke the food service permit pursuant to subsection (1)(b) of this Rule

(3) Examination, Condemnation and Public Notice.

(a) Examination of Food. Food may be examined or sampled by the Health Authority when necessary to determine whether it has been adulterated or misbranded.

(b) Condemnation of Food, Hold Order, Justifying Conditions and Removal of Food.

1. The Health Authority may, upon written notice to the owner or person in charge, place a hold order on any food that the Health Authority has probable cause to believe to be unwholesome; originating from an unapproved source; unsafe, adulterated, or not honestly presented; not labeled according to law, or, if raw molluscan shellfish, not tagged or labeled according to law; or otherwise not in compliance with this Chapter. Under a hold order, food shall be moved to a suitable holding area for storage until a hold order release or destruction order is issued. No food subject to a hold order shall be used, served, or removed from the establishment except as specified in paragraph 2 of this subsection. Immediate destruction shall be ordered and accomplished if there is risk to public health.

2. If the Health Authority has reasonable cause to believe that the hold order will be violated, or finds that the order is violated, the Health Authority may remove the food that is subject to the order to a place of safekeeping.

3. The hold order notice shall:

(i) State that food subject to the order may not be used, sold, moved from the food service establishment, or destroyed without a written release of the order from the Health Authority;

(ii) State the specific reasons for placing the food under the hold order with reference to the applicable provisions of this Chapter and the hazard or adverse effect created by the observed condition;

(iii) Completely identify the food subject to the hold order by the common name, the label information, a container description, the quantity, Health Authority's tag or identification information, and location;

(iv) State that the Health Authority may order the destruction of the food if a timely request for reconsideration is not received; and

(v) Provide the name and address of the Health Authority representative to whom a request for reconsideration may be made.

4. If a hold order is sustained upon reconsideration, or if no timely request for reconsideration is made by the permit holder, then the Health Authority may order the permit holder or other person who owns or has custody of the food to bring the food into compliance with this Chapter or to destroy or denature the food under the Health Authority's supervision.

(4) Procedure When Infection is Suspected.

(a) Investigation and Control. The Health Authority shall act when it has reasonable cause to believe that a food employee or conditional employee has possibly transmitted disease; may be infected with a disease in a communicable form that is transmissible through food; may be a carrier of infectious agents that cause a disease that is transmissible through food; or is affected with a boil, an infected wound, or acute respiratory infection, by:

1. Securing a confidential medical history of the food employee or conditional employee suspected of transmitting disease or making other investigations as deemed appropriate; and

2. Requiring appropriate medical examinations, including collection of specimens for laboratory analysis, of a suspected food employee or conditional employee.

(b) Restriction or Exclusion of Food Employee, or Summary Suspension of Permit. Based on the findings of an investigation related to a food employee or conditional employee who is suspected of being infected or diseased, the Health Authority may issue an order to the suspected food employee, conditional employee or permit holder instituting one or more of the following control measures:

1. Restricting the food employee or conditional employee;

2. Excluding the food employee or conditional employee; or

3. Closing the food service establishment by summarily suspending a permit to operate.

(5) Variance.

(a) Modifications and Waivers. The Department may grant a variance by modifying or waiving the requirements of this Chapter if in the opinion of the Department a health hazard or nuisance will not result from the variance. If a variance is granted, the Department shall retain the information specified under subsection 5(b) of this Rule in its records for the food service establishment.

(b) Documentation of Proposed Variance and Justification. Before a variance from a requirement of this Chapter is granted by the Department, the information that shall be provided by the person requesting the variance and retained in the Department's file on the food service establishment includes:

1. A statement of the proposed variance of the Chapter requirement citing relevant rule and subsection numbers;^{Pf}

2. An analysis of the rationale for how the potential public health hazards and nuisances addressed by the relevant rules and subsections will be alternatively addressed by the proposal;^{Pf} and

3. A HACCP plan if required that includes the information specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#) as it is relevant to the variance requested.^{Pf}

(c) Conformance with Approved Procedures. If the Department grants a variance as specified in subsection (5)(a) of this Rule, or a HACCP plan is otherwise required as specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(7\)](#), the permit holder shall:

1. Comply with the HACCP plans and procedures that are submitted and deemed in conformance with DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)\(a\) through \(e\)](#) as a basis for the modification or waiver;^P and

2. Maintain and provide to the Department, upon request, records specified under DPH Rule [511-6-1-.02\(8\)](#) that demonstrate that the following are routinely employed;

(i) Procedures for monitoring the critical control points,^{Pf}

(ii) Monitoring of the critical control points,^{Pf}

(iii) Verification of the effectiveness of the operation or process,^{Pf} and

(iv) Necessary corrective actions if there is failure at a critical control point.^{Pf}

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Department 515. RULES OF GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chapter 515-12. TELEPHONE SERVICE

Subject 515-12-1. TELEPHONE SERVICE

515-12-1-.39 Universal Access Fund

(1) **Quarterly Contributions.** All telecommunications companies holding a certificate of authority issued by the Commission to provide services within Georgia shall contribute quarterly to the Universal Access Fund. The contribution is calculated by multiplying a company's gross intrastate revenues from the provision of telecommunications services to end users by a factor set by order of the Commission.

(2) **Universal Access Fund Surcharge.** A telecommunications company holding a certificate of authority issued by the Commission may add a surcharge to customer bills after filing a letter providing notice to the Commission of its intent to do so. Customers shall be given at least 30 days' notice prior to implementation of the surcharge. The surcharge shall appear on customer bills as "Georgia Universal Access Fund Surcharge." If the number of characters in "Georgia Universal Access Fund Surcharge" exceeds the number of characters allowed in the company's billing software or if the full text will not fit on one line, "Georgia UAF Surcharge" or "GA UAF Surcharge" may be used instead.

(3) **Quarterly Reports and Remission of Funds.** Each telecommunications company that is required to contribute to the Universal Access Fund shall submit quarterly via email a report to the Commission Staff calculating the required contribution for each quarter. The report shall be submitted to the Staff and the contribution shall be remitted to the fund designated for the Universal Access Fund no later than the thirtieth calendar day following the close of each quarter.

(4) **Applications for Distributions from the Universal Access Fund.** The Commission shall determine any such distributions upon application, demonstration, and good cause shown that the reasonable actual costs to provide basic local exchange services exceed the maximum fixed price permitted for such basic local exchange services. Costs shall be determined based on the most recent commission-approved rate of return and the statutory state and federal income tax rates in effect for the application period. Applications for distributions from the Universal Access Fund shall be limited to local exchange carriers subject to rate of return regulation.

(a) **Filing Deadline.** Applications shall be filed no later than December 15 of each year.

(b) **General Filing Requirements.** Applications shall be made based on losses incurred from July 1 of the prior year through June 30 of the filing year, excluding non-regulated costs, and shall include the following:

1. Publicly-disclosed earnings report (Tab 1) in fully-functional Excel format
2. Publicly-disclosed Form M (Tab 2) in word-searchable format
3. Separations-based cost study (Tab 3)
4. Cost study workpapers (Tab 4)
5. Subjective support for regulated and non-regulated costs (Tab 5)
6. Information related to affiliated transactions (Tab 6)

(c) Enhanced Filing Requirements.

1. Trial Balance reports for June 30 of the preceding year, December 31 of the preceding year and June 30 of the filing year (these trial balances may be redacted as needed to remove names and CPNI information).
2. The most recent un-redacted audited financial reports with accompanying notes for each company and its parent company (if applicable).
3. Identification of the depreciation rates applicable to each plant account during the fiscal year.
4. A copy of the company's current Cost Allocation Manual or equivalent documentation that identifies the company's organizational structure and procedures for segregating costs between regulated and nonregulated operations.
5. Documents demonstrating that basic residential local rates are set at the top of the limits allowed by the GPSC or that foregone revenues are imputed.
6. All information necessary to demonstrate that grant funded assets and related expenses are excluded from the UAF request.

(d) Executive Compensation and Corporate Operations Expense. Allowable costs for executive compensation and/or corporate operations expense shall be constrained based upon the greater disallowance calculated based upon the following limits:

1. Executive Costs (USOA Account 6711 or 6710 as indicated by company accounting practice) shall be limited to the lesser of actual cost or \$200,000 plus \$78 times the number of access lines reported on Form 5322 as of December 31 of the preceding year.
2. The overall corporate operations expenses (USOA accounts 6711 through 6728 or 6710 and 6720 as indicated by company accounting practice) shall be equal to the lesser of the average monthly per loop corporate operations expense cap provisions of Sections 36.621(a)(4)(i) and 36.621(a)(4)(ii) of the FCC's rules and regulations (USF Corporate Operations Expense capping mechanism as of December 31, 2010) times the number of access lines reported on Federal USF cost reporting (Data Line 070, total loops) as of December 31 of the preceding year and annualized.

(e) Reactive Engagements. Each application for reimbursement from the Universal Access Fund will undergo a reactive engagement conducted by a contractor chosen by the Commission. The procedures employed by the contractor will be determined by the Commission. The cost of the reactive engagement will be borne by the party that filed the application. At the conclusion of the reactive engagement, the Staff will file a report containing the findings, if any, of the contractor.

(f) Hearing Requests. Any interested party may file a request for a hearing on any individual application within 14 calendar days of the date of filing of the Reactive Engagement report.

Cite as Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. R. 515-12-1-.39

AUTHORITY: O.C.G.A. §§ [46-2-20](#), [46-5-167](#).

HISTORY: Original Rule entitled "Universal Access Fund" adopted. F. Jan. 26, 2023; eff. Feb. 15, 2023.