

PIKE COUNTY TEMPORARY FOOD VENDORS LICENSE FAQ'S

In January, 2019, the Pike County Food Licensing Ordinance was amended to require a license for each vendor serving food or drink to the public in association with festivals, fairs or other short term events, regardless of whether or not there is a charge for the food.

Food prepared and sold under the provisions of the Illinois Cottage Food Act is exempted from this licensing program. If you think your event might fit these provisions, please review the guidelines at

<https://www.ilstewards.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/Illinois-Cottage-Food-Guide-2018.pdf>

If you have ANY QUESTIONS about whether your event or food sales will require such licensing, please contact Payton McKinnon or Lynnette Johnson at 285-4407 to discuss the event.

Below are answers to some questions frequently asked this past year:

Does our not-for profit bake sale require a permit?

For profit bake sales DO require a permit, but NOT-FOR-PROFIT organizations can offer occasional bake sales without requiring a license see:

https://www.pikecountyil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Bake-Sales-as-Fundraisers-9_25_2019.pdf

for more information.

We just serve prepackaged chips and candy bars, and bottled soda and water – will we need a license?

No license is required for minimal food service where the non- TCS food and beverages are from approved food suppliers

Can we serve home cooked food?

No home cooked food is allowed excepting **some** non TCS bake sale items. Please check with PCHD staff for specific questions.

What if we are holding a private function?

Private, closed events do not have to obtain a license – for example, a wedding reception or an invitation only party. If the function is open to the public at a public place or is advertised as open to the public, then a license will be required.

How do we obtain a license?

Applications are online at

<https://www.pikecountyil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Temporary-Event-Application-7-8-19.pdf>. Applications should be turned in, with required payment two weeks before the event to allow staff to process and approve them.

My event is being held at a licensed food establishment – do I need a separate event?

If the event is being catered (food prepared and served) by a food establishment licensed to do this activity, a separate license is not required.

My restaurant/school/church is already licensed but we want to have a separate food stand during our local town festival – will a license be required?

If the food stand is located off the property of the licensed business, the answer is YES. If the food service takes place at the licensed business and falls under the regular scope of the business, then NO extra license is required.