

About the Health Department

In January 2016 the Levelland City Council modified the City's food establishment inspection ordinance in order to allow the City to enter into a contract with the South Plains Rural Health District for this service. Services provided are:

- Inspection and regulation of food service establishments.
- Education for food handlers to prevent food borne illness.
- Premise and health inspections of day care centers, foster homes, school cafeterias and any childcare facility requesting an on-site inspection.

Who needs a food permit?

City of Levelland food establishment permits are required for anyone preparing, processing, storing or serving food to the public inside the city limits of Lubbock. If you are outside the city, you must contact the health authority for your area or the [Texas Department of State Health Services](#) (DSHS).

Exceptions:

- An establishment that serves only pre-packaged, non-potentially hazardous food.
- A produce stand that offers only whole, uncut produce.
- Food prepared in a private residence to serve to the homeless.
- Baked items that fall under [Cottage Food Regulations](#).

All food establishments, that prepare / serve potentially hazardous foods, must have at least one certified food manager (CFM) at their facility. Links for Certified Food Manager courses can be found under Food Safety Resources links listed at the bottom of this page.

Opening a new restaurant

If you are opening a new food establishment, remodeling an existing establishment or converting an existing facility into a food establishment, please contact the Health Inspector for guidance. You will need to contact other city departments such as the Building Official and Fire Marshall as well.

Mobile Food Unit

Mobile food unit rules and requirements can be found here. Mobile food units have the same

requirements for food safety as restaurants. To open a mobile food unit you must submit a health permit application and have your unit inspected by the Health Inspector. You will need to contact the Building and Permitting department so that they can verify that the location of your mobile is in an approved zone for this type of operation.

Temporary Event Permit

Temporary event permits are required for anyone preparing / serving potentially hazardous food to the public. To obtain a temporary food permit, fill out the [application](#) and submit it to the Building and Permitting department with payment, no later than 72 hours before the event. Large events with multiple vendors may have additional requirements and deadlines. Check with the event organizer or contact the Building and Permitting department. No potentially hazardous foods may be prepared at home to sell at a temporary event. **All cooking and preparation of food sold or given away must be done on site at the event.**

Helpful Links

[Article 8.16 Food and Food Establishments](#)

[Texas Food Establishment Rules](#)

Food Safety Resources

[Servsafe.com - Certified Food Manager, Texas FoodGuard, Food Handler Program](#)

[Learn2serve.com - Certified Food Manager](#)

[Restaurantville.com](#)

[Accredited Food Handler Online Training Programs](#)