

LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP
REQUIREMENTS
FOR TEMPORARY RETAIL FOOD ESTABLISHMENTS

YOU WILL NEED:

1. A Lawrence Township retail food establishment license

- If you have an annual license in Lawrence Township you do not need a separate license for a temporary event.

2. Clean hands

- Unless only pre-packaged food is served, you must have warm running water (minimum 5 gallons) at the location of food preparation, with soap, paper towels and a bucket to collect the waste water. Use of only hand sanitizer or gloves is not sufficient.

3. Clean, protected food

- **Home preparation of “potentially hazardous food” as defined by State law* is not allowed.** Preparation of potentially hazardous food must be done in the booth or in an approved kitchen facility. (Food that is not potentially hazardous may be prepared in a private home only if a clearly visible placard is posted at the sales or service location that states: “This food is prepared in a kitchen that is not subject to regulation and inspection by the health authority.”)
- **Bare hand contact with unwrapped ready-to-eat food is illegal.** Use gloves, utensils, or deli tissue and provide utensils or deli tissue to consumers for self-service.
- Refrigeration or hot holding units must be used for transporting and storing potentially hazardous foods. **Notify the Health Department of your menu, method of transport and arrival time.**
- Food-handlers are not allowed to smoke or eat while working. A covered beverage container may be used. Food-handlers’ hair must be restrained when food is exposed.
- Sneeze guards/tents/umbrellas and squeeze bottles or pre-packaged condiments are to be used so that food is not exposed to contamination. Light bulbs above food must be shatter-protected.
- All food items must be stored at least 6 inches off the ground.
- Preparation and cooking of foods must be conducted away from the customer area.

4. Thermometers for cooking and storing food

- Potentially hazardous food requiring cooking shall be cooked to heat all parts of the food to “safe cooking temperatures” as specified by State law.*
- Each refrigeration or hot holding unit must contain a thermometer to monitor the temperature of the unit.

5. A three bin WASH RINSE SANITIZE system

- This system is required only where utensils are used for unwrapped food.
- Basins must be large enough to immerse the largest equipment that will be used.

6. A trash can with a lid

NOTE: Other requirements as set forth in the State law may apply. The full text of the law is available for download at:

* http://www.state.nj.us/health/eoh/documents/chapter24_effective_1207.pdf

Please call Lawrence Township Health Department at (609)844-7089 if you have any questions with regard to temporary food establishment requirements.