

Food Handler Card Requirements

Who Needs a Food Handler Card?

Any Food Handler in a food facility that prepares, handles or serves nonprepackaged potentially hazardous food shall successfully pass an ANSI (American National Standards Institute) accredited food handler training program.

- Food Handlers must obtain a Food Handler Card within 30 days after the date of hire and maintain a valid Food Handler Card for the duration of employment.
- Food Handler Cards are valid for three years from the date of issuance.
- A Food Handler Card is **not** required for the following:
 - Certified Farmers' Markets
 - Commissaries
 - Grocery stores including convenience stores, except for separately owned food facilities that are located in the grocery store
 - Licensed Health Care facilities
 - Mobile Support Units (not to be confused with Mobile Food Facilities that are required)
 - Public and private school cafeterias
 - Retail stores where a majority of sales are from a pharmacy
 - Restricted Food Service facilities
 - Temporary Food Facilities (TFFs)
 - An elderly nutrition program, administered by the California Department of Aging pursuant to the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 3001 et seq.)
 - Any city, county, city and county, state, or regional facility used for the confinement of adults or minors, including, but not limited to, a county jail, juvenile hall, camp, ranch, or residential facility.
 - Food facilities with approved in-house food safety training
 - Food facilities subject to a collective bargaining agreement
 - Venues with snack bar services in which the majority of sales are from admission tickets (excluding any area in which restaurant-style sit-down service is provided)
- Employers shall maintain records onsite of valid Food Handler Cards for each Food Handler.

How do I get a Food Handler Card?

Food Handler Cards must be issued from an ANSI accredited training provider that meets ASTM International E2659-09 Standard Practice for Certificate Programs. A list of approved trainings can be found at:

<https://www.ansica.org/wwwversion2/outside/ALLdirectoryListing.asp?menuID=212&prgID=228&status=4>

For any other questions you can visit us at <http://ocfoodinfo.com> or contact your Environmental Health Specialist at 714-433-6000.
