CALIFORNIA FOOD HANDLER CARD

Individuals involved in the preparation, storage or service of food in food facility must possess a California Food Handler Card. Part time employees and students must also obtain Food Handler Cards.

The Food Handler must take a course and pass a test from an accredited certification organization. The Food Handler Card is valid for three (3) years from the date of issuance. The food handler shall be re-certified prior to the expiration of the card. Food handlers must obtain a valid Food Handler Card within 30 days after the hire date at a food facility.

Food handlers working at the facilities listed below are exempt from obtaining a Food Handler Card.

- Grocery stores, except for separately owned food facilities that are located in the grocery store. “Grocery store” includes convenience stores.
- Licensed health care facilities
- Mobile support units
- Public and private school cafeterias
- Restricted food service facilities
- Retail stores where the majority of the sales are from a pharmacy
- Venues with snack bar service where the majority of sales are from admission tickets (excludes restaurant-style sit-down service).
- An individual who holds a valid Food Protection Manager Certification does not need a California Food Handler Card to work in a food facility.
- Volunteers at "soup kitchens" or "food banks" are not required to have Food Handler Cards.
- Temporary Food Facilities at community events

Food Handler Certification Providers

A food handler must obtain training and testing to become certified from an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited training provider. The following is a partial list of approved trainers:

- 1 AAA Food Handler Training School  Phone: 714-592-4100  
  [www.aaafoodhandler.com](http://www.aaafoodhandler.com)
- Above Training/State Food Safety  Phone: 801-494-1416  
  [www.statefoodsafety.com](http://www.statefoodsafety.com)
- National Environmental Health Association  Phone: 303-756-9090  
  [www.neha.org](http://www.neha.org)
- National Registry of Food Safety Professionals  Phone: 800-446-0257  
  [www.nrfsp.com](http://www.nrfsp.com)
- Premier Food Safety (English, Spanish, Korean, Vietnamese, Cantonese)  Phone: 800-676-3121  
  [www.premierfoodsafety.com](http://www.premierfoodsafety.com)
- TAP Series (English, Spanish)  Phone: 818-889-8799  
  [www.tapseries.com](http://www.tapseries.com)
- ServSafe  Phone: 800-765-2122  
  [www.servsafe.com](http://www.servsafe.com)

A comprehensive and up to date list of American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited training providers can be found at the website, [www.ansi.org](http://www.ansi.org). Look for a training provider accredited for Food Handler Training Certificate Program.