

# TEMPORARY FOOD

*Environmental Health Services Division*  
*Frequently Asked Questions*

## What is a temporary food establishment (TFE)?

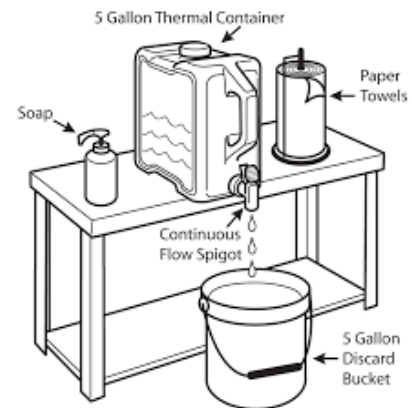
A TFE is a food establishment that operates for no more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a single public event (i.e. fairs, farmer’s markets, 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebrations, etc.). Any person wishing to sell foods, other than pre-packaged items, at a public event must obtain a TFE permit by completing a TFE Application and paying the applicable fees.

## What are the basic requirements for operating a TFE?

The Inspection Checklist can be used as a reference for operating a TFE. A hand wash station is required for all TFEs. TFEs found operating without a complete hand wash station will have their permit suspended.

## What is required for a hand wash station?

A minimum of five (5) gallons of free-flowing potable water, soap, paper towels, a catch basin, and a waste receptacle are required. This station must be in close proximity to the TFE and accessible at all times. The hand wash station must be set up prior to any food service activities. See diagram (right) for proper set up.



## What types of TFE permits are available and how much do they cost?

There are now two (2) types of TFE permits to choose from, Single-Event and Annual. Any person who plans to operate at more than three (3) events in Davis County within the year would save money by purchasing the Annual TFE permit.

The permit prices are also dependent on the risk categorization of the establishment. A Risk I TFE is an establishment that does not prepare, store, or serve any raw meat; nor do they prepare, store, or serve more than two (2) TCS foods (Foods requiring Temperature Control for Safety).

Permits & Services	Details	Cost
Plan Review	Vendor must submit one plan review prior to obtaining their first permit each year.	\$20
Single Event TFE	Operation at a single public event.	Risk I: \$30; Risk II: \$40
Annual TFE	Operation at unlimited public events. Valid Jan 1 – Dec 31.	Risk I: \$105; Risk II: \$140
Late Fee	Plan review submitted less than two (2) business days prior to event.	\$20
Site Review	Vendor failed to obtain a permit prior to the event. The vendor must have a site review conducted, regardless if they have had a prior plan review.	\$50

## Do I need a permit to provide food samples?

Most sampling operations are now regulated by the Utah Department of Agriculture and Foods (UDAF) and vendors providing only samples, free-of-charge, no longer need to obtain a health

department permit to operate in Davis County. However, if you plan to prepare, store, or serve raw meat at the sampling site, you will need to obtain a TFE permit.

Whether a permit is required or not, the health department may still take enforcement actions if a condition posing a health hazard is observed. Therefore, we recommend following the same food safety practices required of those vendors who need permits to operate.

### **Do I need to obtain a TFE permit if I am giving food away for free?**

If you are giving away more than sample-sized portions of food to the public then you are required to obtain a permit to operate.

### **If I obtain a Single Event TFE permit and later decide to upgrade to an Annual TFE permit, can I have the price of the Annual TFE permit reduced?**

The price of the Single Event TFE permit can be credited towards the Annual TFE permit only if the event, for which the Single Event TFE permit was purchased, has not yet taken place.

### **Can I be at multiple events at the same time with one permit?**

No. Each permit must be posted in public view when in operation. Therefore, the permit is good for only one location at a time. Additional TFE permits can be obtained for concurrent events.

### **May multiple booths at the same event be permitted under one TFE permit?**

It depends. If the TFE has multiple, adjacent booths, which are owned by the same person, they may be allowed to operate under one permit with department approval. Additional hand wash stations may be required for booths operating in this manner. If booths are not adjacent to each other, additional TFE permits are required.

### **Can I prepare food at home and transport it to an event?**

Off-site preparation of food is typically only allowed when it is prepared at a permitted food service establishment such as a restaurant, commissary, or an establishment with a Cottage Food permit. If you plan to prepare food off-site, you may be required to submit a copy of the permit for the facility at which you will be preparing the food.

The only exception to this is when the food items are in compliance with the Home Consumption and Homemade Food Act. However, foods compliant with this Act must be packaged, labeled and sold directly to an informed consumer. Contact the UDAF for more information.

### **What are approved sources for food, water, and ice?**

All food, water, and ice provided by a TFE must come from an approved source. For food, this includes restaurants, grocery stores, commissaries, and other permitted establishments. Water obtained for cleaning or food preparation must come from a public water system or be commercially bottled. If a hose is used to obtain water, a food-grade hose must be used. Ice must be commercially packaged and prepared.

### **How do I add additional events to my Annual TFE permit?**

An Annual TFE permit holder is required to submit a schedule of events with their application. However, additional events, not included in the original application, can be added to their schedule using the [TFE Event List](#). Additional events must be added to the schedule **at least 72 hours** prior to the event(s).

### **Can I add food items to my menu or change my menu without getting a new permit?**

Yes. However, if the menu alterations result in the increase of the establishments risk level, a new permit must be obtained prior to making the changes.

**Can I use my TFE permit to operate at private events?**

No. TFE permits are only valid for events open to the public. If you would like to offer catering at private events you must obtain a food establishment permit that is not restricted to public events such as the brick and mortar food establishments or food trucks.

**How can I submit my application packet and other documents?**

All documents can be submitted to the Davis County Environmental Health Services Division by fax (801-525-5119), or in person, at 22 South State Street in Clearfield.

**What other resources are available?**

Entity	Resource or Reference
Utah Dept. of Agriculture and Food	Q&A Farmers Markets: <a href="http://ag.utah.gov/documents/FarmersMarketQA.pdf">http://ag.utah.gov/documents/FarmersMarketQA.pdf</a>
Davis County Health Dept.	Temporary Food Establishment Permits <a href="http://www.daviscountyutah.gov/health/environmental-health-services/permits/food/temporary-food-service-permits">http://www.daviscountyutah.gov/health/environmental-health-services/permits/food/temporary-food-service-permits</a>