

Porter County Health Department  
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**TEMPORARY EVENT FOOD PERMIT - WHEN REQUIRED**

**Purpose** – to explain when a Porter County Health Department temporary event food permit is required to sell or sample food at a temporary event.

**Temporary Event** - A Temporary Event is a single community event or celebration that occurs for a period of time not longer than fourteen consecutive days. This may include town celebrations, fairs, and festivals.

**Temporary Event Food Vendor** – means a food service establishment that operates at a fixed location for a period of time not more than 14 consecutive days in conjunction with a **single** event or celebration. **Note:** The Retail Food Service Establishment permit you obtained is good for your restaurant only. Once operations occur outside the premises (not including the patio or sidewalk), a separate permit is required due to the fact that the operations can be completely different from what occurs at the restaurant.

**Temporary Food Permit - when required:**

<b>Establishment Type</b>	<b>Food Type</b>	<b>Permit Required Yes/No</b>
1. For profit establishments who sell or sample food	*potentially hazardous food (requiring temperature control), prepared on-site or off-site, or pre-packaged	Yes
2. For profit establishments who sell or sample food	non-potentially hazardous food, on-site preparation	Yes
3. For profit establishments who sell or sample food	non-potentially hazardous food, no on-site preparation	No
4. Not-for-profit establishments (tax exempt 501 status), such as civic, fraternal, veteran and/or charitable	Potentially hazardous or non-potentially food	No, if operate no more than 15 calendar days per year. If over 15 days then refer to <b>1 thru 3</b> above, <b>no permit fee</b>

\*Definition of potentially hazardous food is referenced in Section 66 of the Retail Food Establishment Sanitation Requirements, Title 410 IAC 7-24.

**Note:** No home prepared foods, home canned foods or foods that have been stored in a home are allowed. If food is prepared off-site, the food must be prepared at a licensed food establishment that meets the requirements of the Indiana Retail Food Code. A copy of the temporary food vendor's retail food establishment permit or commissary agreement with an approved commercial kitchen is required to obtain a temporary food permit.

The only exception to this rule is by [House Enrolled Act \(HEA\) 1309](#) which allows the home preparation of **non-potentially hazardous** foods for sale at a **farmer's market or roadside stand only**. Home based vendors for farmer's markets and roadside stands are not regulated by this department; however, all home based vendor products must be properly labeled with producer's name and contact information, common name of food product, ingredients list and net weight and volume, date food produced, and statement that the food was produced in the home with no inspection by the State or Local Health Department.

**Please contact the Porter County Health Department Foods Section at 219-465-3525, option 4, with any questions regarding temporary event food permit requirements.**