

0110.11 Licensing of Food Establishments and Vending Machine Locations

Issued: January 1, 1994
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PURPOSE

To assure that periodic sanitary inspections are conducted to minimize the risk of food-borne illness.

APPLICATION

State of Michigan-owned and/or operated facilities.

CONTACT AGENCY

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Food and Dairy Division

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SUMMARY

Food establishments are required to obtain a food establishment license unless their operation meets exemption criteria pursuant to the Michigan Food Law (MFL) act 289.4101:

- (1) Except as provided in sections 4102 and 4105, a person shall not operate a food establishment unless licensed by the department as a food establishment.

"Food establishment" means an operation where food is processed, packed, canned, preserved, frozen, fabricated, stored, prepared, served, vended, sold, or offered for sale. Food establishment includes, but is not limited to, a food processor, a food warehouse, a food service establishment, a vending machine location, and a retail grocery.

Food service establishments that provide food for immediate consumption such as lunch counters or concession stands are delegated to the local health departments. Local health departments are required to make periodic inspections of food service establishments, enforce requirements, conduct plan reviews, investigate suspected food-borne illnesses, and make recommendations for licensure. Prior to construction and/or remodeling, detailed plans must be submitted to the local health department having jurisdiction.

The MDARD issues licenses, on recommendation of local health departments, and provides consultation, evaluation and training to local health departments and industry for food service establishments.

Retail groceries, vending operations, and food processing establishments are licensed and inspected by MDARD.

Licenses expire on April 30 of each year. Inspections are routinely conducted by the local health department. Fees may be charged by the local health department having jurisdiction. Operators/managers of newly proposed state-owned eating and drinking facilities or existing facilities and locations which are proposed to be remodeled, should contact the local health department having jurisdiction.

Operators/managers of newly proposed or existing state-owned retail groceries, vending operations and food processing establishments must contact MDARD.

APPLICABLE FORMS

[Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development New Food Establishment Application](#)

PROCEDURES

Contact MDARD.
