



City of Oakland

# MOBILE FOOD VENDING

## Food Trucks, Trailers, and Sidewalk Vendors



To vend food and non-alcoholic beverages from the public right-of-way, private property or city owned property you must have a City of Oakland Mobile Vending Permit.

Applications available at <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

### \*Special Events and Group Site Participants\*

Buffer distances between vendors do not apply if you are part of a special event or a permitted mobile group site.

#### • To Apply for a Special Events Permit:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/apply-for-a-special-events-permit>

#### • To Apply for a Group Site Permit:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

A vendor is a person who sells food or non-alcoholic beverages in the public right-of-way, private property, or city owned property from a food truck, trailer, pushcart, stationary cart or other equipment allowed by the Alameda County Environmental Health Department.

There are two types of vendors:

**A Roaming Vendor** moves from place to place and stops only to make a sale.

**A Stationary Vendor** sells from a fixed location e.g., public right-of-way, private or city owned property on commercial or industrial zones.

### Where can I vend after receiving my permit?

**Pushcart Roaming Vendors** can vend on any city sidewalk as long as they comply with *sidewalk clearances*, *buffer distances* and *special permissions*.\*

**Stationary Vendors** can vend on parking lanes, sidewalks, private property or city owned property in commercial or industrial zones. As long as they comply with *sidewalk clearances*, *buffer distances*, *parking requirements*, and *special permissions*.\*

**All Vendors** are must comply with all parking laws e.g., paying meter parking, not parking in front of bus stops, or red, yellow, green zones.

More Details?

Visit our website for applications:  
<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

### \*Sidewalk Clearances\*

Vending facilities must maintain at least 6-foot clear path of travel along the sidewalk. Additional clearance requirements, such as distances from bus stops, fire hydrants, curb ramps, building entrances and others are also required.

### \*Special Permissions\*

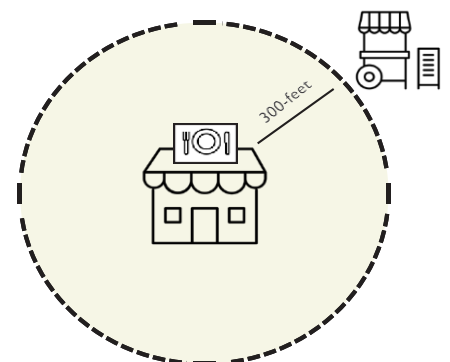
**Parks:** To vend in City of Oakland parks, vendors must also get permission from the Oakland Parks, Recreation and Youth Development Department. Please visit <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/rentals-and-reservations> for additional information.

**Schools:** Vending within 300 feet of any school is **only allowed if a waiver is granted** by the school's Supervising Entity to sell healthy food and non-food merchandise.

### \*Buffer Distance\*

Mobile Food Vending outside of a special event or group site is not allowed within:

- 300 Feet of any other permitted mobile food vendor
- 100 Feet from another permitted sidewalk vendor
- 300 Feet of a Restaurant or Café
- 300 Feet of Schools
- 300 Feet of a Farmer's Market, Flea Market, or other Special Events (like "First Friday" or "Off the Grid")
- See Mobile Vending Website for Details



Please obtain the following permits and insurance before applying for a Mobile Vending Permit

### Health Permit

Alameda  
County  
Department of  
Environmental  
Health  
1131 Harbor Bay Parkway,  
Alameda, CA  
(510) 567-6700  
[www.acgov.org/aceh](http://www.acgov.org/aceh)

1

### Proof of Insurance

Talk to an  
Insurance Agent  
General Liability  
Insurance is required;  
Worker's Compensation  
Insurance may also be  
required.  
Request a Sample Document  
[mobilevending@oaklandca.gov](mailto:mobilevending@oaklandca.gov)

2

### Fire Clearance

Fire  
Prevention Bureau  
250 Frank H. Ogawa  
Plaza,  
Suite 3341, Oakland  
Email:  
[FPBReceptionist@oaklandca.gov](mailto:FPBReceptionist@oaklandca.gov)  
Vendors using generators,  
natural gas, propane, butane  
may require a permit and/or  
inspection for fire safety.

3

Please visit our website for vending information and additional vending opportunities.

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

#### Applications Available

Please visit:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

CALL: 510-238-2273

EMAIL: [Mobilevending@oaklandca.gov](mailto:Mobilevending@oaklandca.gov)

To report unpermitted  
vending please email:

[Mobilevending@oaklandca.gov](mailto:Mobilevending@oaklandca.gov)

#### Resources

##### **Interested in vending on City Owned Property?**

More information contact City of Oakland  
Real Estate Department:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/resources/use-city-owned-outdoor-property>

Or email Jinnhua Su at  
[JSu@oaklandca.gov](mailto:JSu@oaklandca.gov)

**Business Assistance Center** Free  
help and referrals for small business  
owners and entrepreneurs located in  
Oakland:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/oakland-business-assistance-center>

Or

email Juno Thomas  
[JThomas@oaklandca.gov](mailto:JThomas@oaklandca.gov)

#### Keep in mind...

The **regular permitted hours for mobile vendors** are 7am to 10pm daily. Late night vending may be allowed if adjacent businesses are open late.

**You will also need a business license!** You can obtain a license after you receive your Mobile Vending Permit. Contact the Business Tax Office please visit:  
<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/apply-for-a-business-license-online> for more information.

250 Frank H Ogawa Plaza,  
Suite 1320, Oakland, CA  
(510) 238-3704

Check our website and sign up for email updates

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>



City of Oakland

# MOBILE FOOD VENDING

## Permit Application Process



Applications available at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/food-and-mobile-vending-permits>

### Have Questions?

Feel free to contact the Special Activity Permits Division for question.

Please email:

[Mobilevending@oaklandca.gov](mailto:Mobilevending@oaklandca.gov)

### Resources

#### Interested in vending on City Owned Property?

Contact the City of Oakland's Real Estate Department:

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/resources/use-city-owned-outdoor-property>

Or email Jinhua Su at: [JSu@oaklandca.gov](mailto:JSu@oaklandca.gov)

#### Business Assistance Center

Free help and referrals for small business owners and entrepreneurs. Please visit:

[https://www.oaklandca.gov/to\\_pics/oakland-business-assistance-center](https://www.oaklandca.gov/to_pics/oakland-business-assistance-center)

### \*Note\*

**Vending on Private Property** must take place in a commercial or industrial zone.

**Worker's Compensation Insurance** is required if you have one employee or more.

**Public right-of-way** e.g., sidewalk or parking lane in a commercial or industrial zone.

## Food Vendors

### Step 1

Alameda County Health Permit  
<https://deh.acgov.org/operations/mff.page>

### Step 2

**Fire Prevention Inspection**  
(cooking with gas)

Email:

[FPBReceptionist@oaklandca.gov](mailto:FPBReceptionist@oaklandca.gov)

### Step 3

\*Obtain General Liability Insurance.  
To request a Sample Document email:  
[mobilevending@oaklandca.gov](mailto:mobilevending@oaklandca.gov)

### Step 4: Mobile Vending Application\*\*

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

Submit copies of documents with your application. *If vending on private property, submit a copy of your lease agreement along with your application.*

### Final Step:

City of Oakland Business License/Certificate.

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/apply-for-a-business-license-online>

**Now you are ready to vend!**



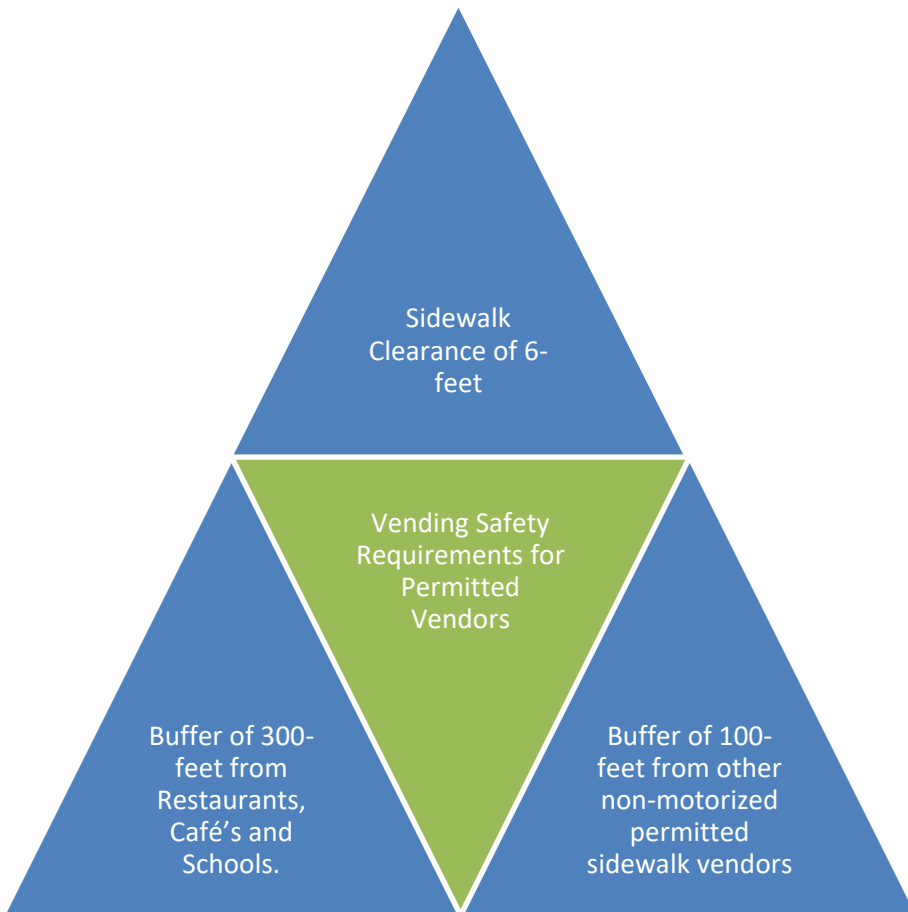
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# MOBILE FOOD VENDING SAFETY REQUIREMENTS



Applications available at: <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

## Safety Requirements for Vending Food on Sidewalks and Parking Lanes



### **Sidewalk Clearance**

- 6-foot straight path clearance
- Measured from store wall to furthest city placed obstruction e.g., light pole, parking meter, etc..

### **Buffer Requirements**

- 300-feet from Restaurants and Café's
- 300-feet from food trucks and trailers
- 300-feet from schools unless authorized by school Super Intendent.
- 100-feet from other permitted sidewalk vendors

### **Parking Lane Vending:**

- Vendor is responsible for obeying all parking laws and practicing good neighbor policies

### **Stationary Vendors**

- May vend in commercial and industrial zones with buffer, safety and health requirements. Vending for more than 60 minutes requires a restroom signature.

### **Roaming Vendors**

- Stopping only long enough to make a sale and continue to other locations while respecting safety requirements.

### **Public right-of-way**

- Parking Lanes or Sidewalk(s)

Do you have questions about starting a mobile food or temporary food business?  
<https://deh.acgov.org/operations-assets/docs/mff/New-Business-InfoSession.pdf>

For a Map of Permitted Vending Areas within the City of Oakland:  
<https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/mobile-vending>

**Vending within City Parks:**  
*This Permit does not grant permission* to vend on City Park Land e.g., Lake Merritt, Mosswood Park, etc.. Please visit Parks, Recreational & Youth Development for additional information on obtaining permission to vend <https://www.oaklandca.gov/services/rentals-and-reservations>