LIMITED SERVICE CHARITABLE FEEDING OPERATION FLOW CHART

This flow chart may be used as a guide to help organizations determine if their food service operation requires a health permit, qualifies them for a Limited Service Charitable Feeding Organization (LSCFO) registration under AB 2178 or are exempt from either. If the organization has an existing Permit to Operate from the local health department, registration as an LSCFO is not required.

Is the operation a non-profit organization that provides food to a consumer solely for the purpose of providing charity?

YES → Registration or a health permit is not required. Operation must follow Best Management Practices (BMP).

NO → A health permit is required for any operation that stores, packages, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption to the public regardless of whether there is a charge for the food.

Does the organization store and distribute only 100% pre-packaged, shelf-stable foods and whole produce? (Category 1)

YES

Does the organization store and distribute only 100% pre-packaged foods that include perishables (i.e., milk cartons, meats, pre-packaged meals) & whole produce? (Category 2)

YES → Registration or a health permit is not required. Operation must follow Best Management Practices (BMP).

NO → Is the organization a partner agency of a permitted Food Bank?

YES

NO

Is food handling of unpackaged food limited to either of the following:

1. Reheating or portioning of only commercially prepared foods with no further processing to hot-hold for same day service to the consumer (Category 3) or
2. Heating, portioning, or assembly of a small volume of commercially prepared foods/ingredients (Category 4)?

YES

NOT SURE

NO

The organization does not qualify for registration as an LSCFO and must obtain a health permit as a food facility.

Contact Environmental Health at (562)570-4132

Registration or a health permit is required. Annual renewal may be required.

Registration as an LSCFO with DEH is required. Annual renewal may be required.