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 Operation (LSCFO) registration under Assembly Bill 2178 or are exempt from either. If the organization has an existing Permit to Operate from the City and County of San Francisco Department of Public Health (SFDPH), registration as an LSCFO may not be required.

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

YES

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

YES

Registration or a health permit is not required. Operation must follow best management practices (BMP) of their food bank partner or DEH.

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.

NO

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

YES

Is the organization a partner agency of a permitted food bank?

YES

Registration is required. Submit the following to DEH:

- LSCFO Registration Form and Registration Fee

NO

NO

NO

NO

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

- 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
- Heating, portioning, or assembly of a small volume of commercially prepared foods/ingredients? (Category 4)

YES

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

For more information, contact SFDPH at:
Phone: (415) 252-3800
Website: www.sfdph.org/dph/eh/food

Food Safety Program
1390 Market Street, Suite 210, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone 415-252-3804 | Fax 415-252-3842