

What Mobile Food Vendors Need to Know About License Changes

STARTING JULY 1, 2026

- All mobile food vendors (MFVs) operating in Texas must be licensed through the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS).
 - **What's different:** Instead of registering in local jurisdictions, MFVs will have one license to operate anywhere in Texas.
- Each MFV is assigned a license type based on food preparation activities. See the license types and fees on the next page.

What do I need to do?

[Submit an application](#) and pay both the application fee and pre-licensing inspection fee according to your license type. After DSHS processes the application, you will receive a letter to schedule a pre-licensing inspection.

What should I do while waiting for a pre-licensing inspection?

If you have an existing mobile food unit or mobile food vendor license from a local health department in Texas, you can keep operating if you:

- Provide proof of that license when you apply through DSHS.
- After submitting the application and paying the fees, print out the application summary.
- Keep the application summary and payment receipt on your food vending vehicle at all times.

If you do not have a current license anywhere in the state of Texas, you cannot operate until the pre-licensing inspection is completed.

DSHS will prioritize your application.

You will be granted a DSHS MFV license that expires one year from the date of your successfully completed pre-licensing inspection.

[View the Mobile Food Vendor Guide](#)



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services

Texas Department of State
Health Services

Mobile Food Vendor Classifications



TYPE I

- You sell prepackaged non-time and temperature control for safety (TCS) food.
- Your food is otherwise deemed a low risk of harm to the public by DSHS.
- *Example: Prepackaged ice cream vendors or prepackaged non-TCS snack vendors*



- Application fee: \$309
- Pre-licensing inspection fee: n/a

Fees are due at time of application



TYPE II

- You sell prepackaged TCS food that needs limited handling and preparation.
- You sell TCS food that is prepared to order and served for immediate consumption.
- **If you prepare, cold hold, thaw, and/or reheat commercially processed or packaged products, this applies to you.**
- *Example: Coffee trucks, snow cone or hot dog vendors*



- Application fee: \$618
- Pre-licensing inspection fee: \$400

Fees are due at time of application



TYPE III

- You prepare, cook, hold, and serve food from a food vending vehicle.
- **If you hot or cold hold, thaw, cook, cool, or reheat food, this applies to you.**
- *Example: Burger truck, BBQ truck, taco truck*



- Application fee: \$876
- Pre-licensing inspection fee: \$500

Fees are due at time of application