

CERTIFIED FOOD HANDLER

Applied education in food protection may significantly reduce major violations in food facilities and offer a greater level of protection to the public. The California Retail Food Code and Los Angeles County Code require each food facility to have an owner or employee who is certified in food safety.

As a food operator, you may have questions about the requirements to become a Certified Food Handler. The following are the answers to frequently asked questions:

Q: WHAT IS A CERTIFIED FOOD HANDLER (CFH)?

A: A Certified Food Handler or a Certified Food Manager is a person who has basic knowledge of food safety and sanitation, has passed an approved and accredited food safety certification examination, and possesses a valid certificate issued by an organization accredited by the American National Standards Institute.

Q: WHO IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A CFH?

A: Any food facility preparing, handling, or serving non-prepackaged potentially hazardous foods.

Examples:

- Mobile food facility
- Commissary
- A restaurant preparing, handling, or serving non-prepackaged potentially hazardous food.

Q: WHO IS NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE A CFH?

A: 1. A food facility that handles only prepackaged non-potentially hazardous foods

Example:

- Candy stores that sell only packaged candy
2. Temporary Food Facility
 3. Certified Farmers Market
 4. Food facilities that prepare, handle, or serve non-prepackaged, *non-potentially hazardous foods* (except temporary food facilities) shall do one of the following:

- a. Have an owner or employee who has successfully passed an approved and accredited food safety certification examination
- b. Demonstrate to the enforcement officer that the employees have an adequate knowledge of food safety principles as they relate to the specific operation involved in their assigned duties

Examples:

- A liquor store that bags ice for sale
- A bar that serves mixed drinks with only non-potentially hazardous food ingredients
- A gas station that makes coffee, and only offers non-potentially hazardous packed creamer

Q: HOW DO I BECOME A CFH?

A: There are two ways to become a CFH in Los Angeles County.

- Complete a CFH Training Course and successfully pass the certification examination offered by an accredited food protection manager certification organization, such as National Registry of Food Safety Professionals (NRFSP), National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (ServSafe), or Prometric.
- Successfully pass a certification examination without attending a CFH training course. This is offered by some providers. If you take the exam, it is assumed that you have received previous training.

Q: WHAT IS A LOS ANGELES COUNTY (LAC) APPROVED PROVIDER?

A: A LAC Approved Provider is a private trainer certified to teach and provide exams by an accredited food protection manager certification organization, such as NRFSP, ServSafe, or Prometric. Prior to inclusion on the list of Approved Providers, the Consultation and Technical Services (CTS) unit of Environmental Health (EH) reviews and must approve of each Provider's training course. Approved providers are required to teach an enhanced curriculum in food protection. Included in the training/course requirements are "Good Cleaning Practices to Prevent Discharge of Wastewater to Storm Drain Systems" as per the amendments of the Clean Water Act. The curriculum must also include information on Tuberculosis (TB) as well as locations of TB testing sites. Although approved, these providers are not subsidiaries of the LAC Environmental Health and LAC accepts no responsibility for the services offered by the provider(s).

Q: HOW DO I CONTACT A LAC APPROVED PROVIDER TO ATTEND A CFH TRAINING COURSE?

A: You may obtain a current Approved Provider list by contacting the LAC CTS unit at (626) 430-5320 or your area inspector.

Q: WHERE ARE CFH TRAINING COURSES HELD?

A: CFH classes are scheduled by each CFH Provider, and are offered throughout Los Angeles County. Some classes may even be held in neighboring counties or on weekends. Contact an Approved Provider for the location nearest you.

Q: ARE CFH CLASSES AND THE CERTIFYING EXAMINATION OFFERED IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES?

A: Yes. Many of the Approved Providers offer training and the certifying examination in a variety of languages. Languages offered are noted on the Approved Provider list.

Q: WHEN WILL I NEED TO BE CERTIFIED?

A: All retail food facilities within the State of California must currently have an owner or an employee who has successfully passed an approved and accredited food safety certification examination. The certification is valid for a period of five years from the date of the examination. Upon expiration of the certificate, the certified individual may be re-certified by passing an approved and accredited food safety certification examination again.

Q: CAN ACCOMMODATIONS BE MADE FOR LEARNING OR LANGUAGE CHALLENGED INDIVIDUALS?

A: Yes. Several of the Approved Providers are experienced with educating learning or language challenged adults and provide training aids that facilitate learning. Examination proctors will also allow language readers and American Sign Language readers to translate the certifying examination under specific restrictions. Contact your CFH Provider for an explanation of the services allowed during the examination.

Q: WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I DO *NOT* BECOME A CFH?

A: If there is no CFH for your facility for more than 60 days, a violation (4 points) will be marked on your inspection report, and an infraction may be punishable for a fine of not more than one hundred dollars (\$100) **for each day** of operation in violation.

Q: WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE CFH LEFT MY EMPLOY?

A: The certification goes with the employee. You would have 60 days for you to become certified or to hire a certified person.

Q: HOW LONG IS AN APPROVED CFH TRAINING COURSE?

A: Most approved courses are at least eight (8) hours.

ADDENDUM:

Los Angeles County Certified Food Handler Certificate (LAC CFHC)

Although the applicant has been certified by an accredited food protection manager certification organization, the LAC CFH Certificate will be issued contingent upon request and submission of an application to the LAC Consultation and Technical Services unit. Applications must include the following information and can be submitted by the provider or individually:

- A legible copy of your Certificate
- A legible copy of a Valid Photo Identification or Valid Drivers License.
- Social Security Number.

A LAC CFH Certificate can be obtained free of charge.

For additional information, contact your local Environmental Health Office. For a listing of closures and the grades/scores of all food facilities go to our web site at www.lapublichealth.org/eh.

Visit us online!



www.lapublichealth.org/eh

Office Stamp

CONSULTATION & TECHNICAL SERVICES

5050 Commerce Drive
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 430-5320

**LIST OF APPROVED TRAINERS AND CERTIFICATION PROVIDERS FOR THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CERTIFIED FOOD HANDLERS PROGRAM**

(As of January 2008)

Community Colleges and Universities

California State University Long Beach

Lee Blecher, PhD, RD
(562) 985-4493
E-mail: blecher@csulb.edu
LAC Provider No. 022
Offers ServSafe® Course
English

College of the Canyons Extension

Gevork Kazanchyan
(661) 362-3300
Website: www.canyons.edu/communityext
Email: gev.kaz@gmail.com
LAC Provider No. 139
Offers Prometric Exam
English

Crafton Hills College

Workforce Development Programs
Benson Li
(909) 382-4075
LAC Provider No. 118
Offers NRFSP Exam
English

East Los Angeles College, Community Services

(323) 265-8793
Website: www.elac.edu
Email: delatoi@elac.edu
LAC Provider No. 085
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

Glendale College

Anthony Battaglia/Andrew Feldman
(818) 568-4461/(818) 240-1000 x 3256
LAC Provider No. 084
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

Los Angeles City College

Community Services
(323) 669-1031
Website: www.lacitycollege.edu/comsvcs
Email: simpoj@lacitycollege.edu
LAC Provider No. 059
Offers ServSafe® Course
English

Los Angeles Mission College

Eloise Cantrell, Ph.D.
(818) 366-6737
E-Mail: eloisecantrell@earthlink.net
LAC Provider No. 007
Offers Prometric & ServSafe® Exams
Internet Course in Food Safety Certification offered
English/Spanish/Korean/Chinese

Mt. San Antonio College

Nancy Eash, M.S., R.D.
(909) 987-8222
E-Mail: naneash@charter.net
LAC Provider No. 033
Offers Prometric Exam
English

San Bernardino Valley College

Benson Li
(909) 382-4076
Email: benzonli@earthlink.net
LAC Provider No. 119
Offers NRFSP Exam
English

Organizations and Private Companies

A School for The People/ La Escuela de La Gente

(888) 851-3663 or (818) 988-2941
Fax: (818) 988-2941
Website: www.aschoolforthepeople.com
E-mail: contactone@aschoolforthepeople.com
LAC Provider No. 114
Offers Prometric, NRFSP & ServSafe® Exams
English/Spanish/Vietnamese/Chinese (Traditional & Modern)/Korean/Arabic/French-Canadian

AAA Food Handler Training School

(877) 222-3487
LAC Provider No. 035
Offers Prometric & ServSafe® Exams
English/Spanish/Korean/Chinese/Vietnamese/
Japanese/Arabic

Aardvark Safety & Sanitation Specialists

(626) 796-7437
Email: execchefier07@aol.com
LAC Provider No. 012
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

ABC Food Safety

(800) 676-3121 or (714) 451-0075
Fax: (323) 728-8249
Website: www.abc-foodsafety.com
Email: info@abc-foodsafety.com
LAC Provider No. 24
Offers Prometric, NRFSP & ServSafe® Exams
English/Spanish/Korean/Mandarin/Cantonese/Vietnamese

American Food Safety Institute

(800) 723-3873
Website: www.americanfoodsafety.com
LAC Provider No. 001
Offers Prometric, NRFSP & ServSafe® Exams
English/Spanish/Chinese/Korean/Arabic

American Institute of Food Mangers
(310) 659-7446
Website: www.aifmcertification.com
LAC Provider No. 136
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Anthony Battaglia
(818) 241-2914 or (818) 568-4461
Email: mbatt@glendale.edu
LAC Provider No. 103
Offers ServeSafe® Exam
English

Baldwin Park Adult Community Education
(626) 705-9564
Email: chefjeff74@sbcglobal.net
LAC Provider No. 138
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

C de C & F.S.T. - Temp Enterprises
Marcella Reichersamer Sanchez
(562) 633-5226 or (213) 447-6500
E-Mail: ms1942@sbcglobal.net
LAC Provider No. 113
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

California Restaurant Association
(800) 765-4842 ext. 2756
Website: www.Calrest.org
Email: kgriley@calrest.org
LAC Provider No. 006
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

Cara Rice & Associates
(310) 493-9336
FAX: (310) 257-8558
Website: www.tabletip.com
E-Mail: FaceRice@aol.com
LAC Provider No. 034
Offers Prometric Exam
English

CBA Food Handler Training
Peter Yee
(626) 279-9976
LAC Provider No. 132
Offers Prometric Exam
English/Chinese/Korean

Dynasty School
(800) 888-8827
Website: www.dynastyschool.com
E-mail: Dynastyschool@yahoo.com
LAC Provider No. 023
Offers NRFSP Exam
English/Chinese/Spanish/Mandarin

EcoSure
(847) 480-9898 x 125 or (866) 326-7871
Website: www.ecosure.com
LAC Provider No. 120
Offers ServSafe® Course
English/Spanish

Family Health Services Training Center
Food Handler Education and Safety Program
(619) 294-2192
Website: www.familyhealth-services.com
E-mail: FamilyHealthSvs@aol.com
LAC Provider No. 005
Offers Prometric Exam
English/Spanish/Japanese/Chinese/Vietnamese

Food Safety Associates
(888) 366-3233 or (818) 832-4303 or (661) 260-1776 or
(310) 883-5284
Website: www.foodsafetyassociates.net
Email: drwmanos@yahoo.com
LAC Provider No. 020
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Franklin Life
Peter Yu
(626) 300-1008
Website: www.foodsafetyconsultation.com
Email: chiwaiyu2003@yahoo.com
LAC Provider No. 052
Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exam
English/Chinese/Spanish/Vietnamese

FS Investments:
Joyce A.Solis or Richard Solis
(909) 941-7402 or (951) 242-5545
Website: cafoodsafetycertification.com
Email: fsinvest@sbcglobal.net
LAC Provider No. 027
Offers NRFSP Exam
English/Spanish

Gary Wang & Associates
Food Handlers of California
A.k.a. Preparadores de Comida de California
(626) 288-6898 or (888) 698-1688
Website: www.foodhandlersofcalifornia.com
Email: Abigail@garwang.com
Provider No. 043
Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exams
English/Chinese/Spanish

George Liu's Construction Co.
George Liu
(626) 202-3392
FAX: (626) 577-5077
Email: gliuconstruction@yahoo.com
LAC Provider No. 124
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Chinese

H & H Environmental Consultants
(562) 983-9273
Email: rhistman@aol.com
LAC Provider No. 135
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

Hospitality Consultants of America
(800) 953-3822
Fax (831) 375-1707
Website: www.mrfoodsafety.com
LAC Provider No. 004
Offers Prometric & ServSafe® Exams
English/Spanish

I Feed U

Marie C. Venti
(888) 433-3381 or (760) 369-6789 or (760) 333-5364
Fax (760) 369-6789
Website: ifeedu.com
E-Mail: ifeedu@prodigy.net
LAC Provider No. 095
Offers Prometric Exam
English

Independent Food Service Educator

(310) 391-2652
Email: w.bayoun@netscape.com
LAC Provider No. 109
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

Integrated Support Solutions, Inc.

(818) 787-2116 ext. 111, 115, 101
Website: www.e-issi.com
LAC Provider No. 064
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

Isotech, Inc.

(626) 367-2624
LAC Provider No. 134
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Jeffrey Nelken's Food Safety/HACCP Compliance

(818) 703-7147 or (818) 644-3550
Website: www.foodsafetycoach.com
E-Mail: jeffnelken@cs.com
LAC Provider No. 015
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish/Chinese

Making an Impression

Delia Tidwell & Wayne Tidwell
(562) 461-9981
FAX: (562) 867-4161
Website: www.makingfoodsafes.com
E-mail: makingfoodsafes@hotmail.com
LAC Provider No. 123
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

NutriFit LLC

(800) 341-4190 or (310) 473-1989
FAX: (310) 473-1993
Website: www.nutrifitonline.com
LAC Provider No. 050
Offers Prometric & ServSafe® Exams
English

ONEgeneration

(818) 206-0116
Website: www.onegeneration.org
Email: mheredia@onegeneration.org
LAC Provider No. 125
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

Premier Schools, INC.

Michael Proulx
(310) 312-8867
FAX: (310) 478-4043
LAC Provider No.128
Website: www.practicalcollege.com
Email: proulx@premierschools.com
Offers Prometric Exam
English/Spanish

Quality FACTS, LLC

Akiko Tagawa, MPH, REHS
(323) 823-1764
Fax: (323) 571-1889
Website: www.qualityfacts.com
E-Mail:qualityfacts@aol.com
LAC Provider No.131
Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exams
English/Japanese

Safe-At-The-Plate

(888) 804-7233
Website: www.safeattheplate.com
Email: info@safeattheplate.com
LAC Provider No. 009
Offers NRFSP Exam
English/Spanish

Safe Food Handlers Corporation

Janet L. Thomas
(217) 793-5136 or (888) 793-5136
Website: www.sfhcorp.com
Email: sales@sfhcorp.com
LAC Provider No. 115
Offers NRFSP Exam
English/Spanish

Safe Food USA

(877) 325-5060
Website: www.safefoodusa.org
E-Mail: Postmaster@safefoodusa.org
LAC Provider No. 104
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

Salud Para Su Profesion

(626) 484-9422
Email: robmaldonadojr@yahoo.com
LAC Provider No. 133
Offers Prometric Exam
English/Spanish

San Diego Health and Nutritional Services

(619) 470-3859
FAX: (619) 470-3822
LAC Provider No. 017
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Simply Fantastic Foods

Charlotte Ann Ferrell
(310) 562-6889
Fax: (866) 789-3772
Website: www.goodstuffca.com
Email: charlotte@goodstuffca.com
LAC Provider No. 122
Offers ServSafe® & NRFSP Exams
English

Tap Series LLC

(818) 889-8799

Website: www.tapseries.com

E-Mail: Info@tapseries.com

LAC Provider No. 129

Offers ServSafe®, Prometric & NRFSP Exams

English/Spanish

Training & Development Resources

(619) 698-3746

Fax: (619) 698-5834

LAC Provider No. 076

Offers ServSafe® Exam

English

William Kimura

(818) 458-6013

E-Mail: bkkimura@yahoo.com

LAC Provider No. 100

Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exams

English/Spanish

Note: The Los Angeles County Food Certification Program may accept current food manager certificates on a reciprocal basis from other counties. Those applicants interested in obtaining the Los Angeles County Certification must submit an approved Food Handler Certification Application provided by Los Angeles County, a valid identification, and a copy of their current Food Manager Certification.

Please be advised that Los Angeles County is in no way responsible for the services offered by the above referenced providers. Should you wish to make a complaint regarding any of the above providers please call (626) 430-5320.

For a listing of closures and the grade/score of all food establishments look up our web site www.lapublichealth.org/eh.