

Process for Acquiring a Food Business Permit

※The consultations at the health center and inspection are held in Japanese, so we request that you come with someone who can speak Japanese.

【What is a Food Business Permit?】

If you would like to open a restaurant, sell food, or commercially produce food, you will need a food business permit and notification. (The business permit is generally valid for 5 years.) To get a permit, your facility will need meet certain standards and have a food sanitation manager.

1 Deciding Line of Business

What permits and forms you will need depends on what type of business you will be doing, what types of food you will be selling, or what type of foods you will be making. The necessary facilities, equipment, and management will depend on the type of business, so please visit the health center with jurisdiction over your place of business beforehand.



2 Consultation on Facilities and Equipment

The standards for food business facilities are specified by ordinance, based on the type of business. Facilities that do not meet these standards cannot receive a food business license. Please bring a floorplan of your facility to the health center before you begin constructing facilities or purchasing equipment.



3 Business License Application

After finishing the above consultation, you must next apply for approval. The health center in your jurisdiction will be able to help you with filling out application forms and the deadlines to turn them in. You are required to designate a food sanitation manager when applying.

《Necessary Application Documents》

- Food Business Permit Application
- floor plan of your entire facility
- Water quality test result if non-tap water is used for drinking

《Fees》 Fees vary depending on the types of permit.

【※ Who can be a Food Sanitation Manager?】

A food sanitation manager must either have qualifications specified by law (such as a nutritionist, chef, or confectionary hygiene master) or attend a food sanitation manager



4 Inspection and Permission for Business Establishment

Your business facility will be inspected after the completion of the facility. You will be able to schedule the inspection when you turn in your application. After the results of the inspection are announced, and if there are no problems, you will receive your food business permit at a later date.

Renewing Your Permit

Your food business permit is valid for 5 years. Please make sure to file for renewal before your permit expires. The process for renewal is largely the same as the process for applying for a new permit. (Turning in the application, having the place of business inspected, etc.)