

Frequently Asked Questions Certified Food Manager (CFM) Program

Department of State Health Services Permitted Food Establishments

www.dshs.state.tx.us/foodestablishments/CFM.shtm

1. My food establishment is permitted by the Department of State Health Services; must I obtain food manager certification?

Food establishments, permitted by Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and handling, preparing, or serving exposed potentially hazardous foods, must employ a certified food manager. *The manager's original certificate is required to be posted in the establishment in a location conspicuous to consumers.* The manager certification requirement was authorized by §437.0076 of the Texas Health and Safety Code and 25 TAC §229.177(b).

2. How do I obtain food manager certification?

The food manager certification is obtained by passing a DSHS approved certified food manager examination.

3. Where can I take the examination for certification?

The food manager certification exam may be taken at any licensed program or test site. You will find the listing of accredited training programs, licensed test sites and internet testing on our website.

4. What examinations are accepted by the state as meeting the certified food managers requirement?

Examinations that meet state requirement are National Registry of Food Safety Professionals; National Restaurant Association Solution – ServSafe; and Prometric. These examinations are offered through licensed training programs and test sites. Examinations that meet state requirements available on the internet are: Learn2Serve.com and the Texas Restaurant Association Food Guard.

5. Are there any examinations accepted by that state that can be taken on the Internet?

Examinations that meet the DSHS requirement for certification of food managers as an Internet Exam provider are: Learn2Serve.com and the Texas Restaurant Association Food Guard. Certificates issued upon the completion of these examinations are valid in Texas.

6. Where do I obtain my food manager certification exam results?

Candidates who have taken a food manager exam should obtain examination results from the accredited program or licensed test site where the exam was administered

7. What type of Certified Food Manager Certificate will I receive?

An **official Certified Food Manager Certificate** is issued to all candidates that successfully pass a certified food managers examination. It is this official certificate that must be posted in an area that is conspicuous to the consumers. **DO NOT** post certificates issued by a training program which only indicate you have attended or completed training.

- The **official DSHS Certified Food Manager Certificate** is a wallet size card.
- The **official National Certified Food Manager Certificate** issued by each licensed national program vary in size and issuance process. Candidates should check with the examination provider for specific information.
- The **official Online Certified Food Manager Certificate** issued by each licensed online provider vary in size and issuance process. Candidates should check with the examination provider for specific information.

8. What if I lose my certificate?

Candidates who have taken the **DSHS** examination can obtain the replacement certificate application from the website. The form must be submitted along with applicable replacement fees to the department.

Candidates who have taken one of the DSHS approved **national** or **online** examinations must contact the examination provider for instructions on how to obtain a replacement certificate.