



HAWAII STATE
DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH

REQUIREMENTS FOR MANUFACTURING DOG AND CAT FOOD

The following is a short summary of the laws and rules under which dog and cat food (including treats) are regulated in Hawaii.

A. CHAPTER 328, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES (HRS), entitled HAWAII FOOD, DRUGS, AND COSMETICS:

- a. **Section 1** defines “FOOD” to include food for dogs and cats.
- b. **Section 6** prohibits the “manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale” any food that is adulterated or misbranded.
- c. **Section 9** defines adulterated foods.
- d. **Section 10** defines misbranded foods.

Please refer to <https://health.hawaii.gov/food-drug/statutes-and-rules/> for a copy of Chapter 328, HRS.

B. TITLE 11, CHAPTER 29, HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES (HAR), entitled FOOD AND FOOD PRODUCTS:

- a. **Section 3(b)** specifies that dog and cat food must be “wholesome and nutritious for dogs and cats....”
- b. **Section 3(b)** also specifies the labeling requirements for dog and cat food.
- c. **Section 8** adopts Title 21, Part 110, CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR), CURRENT GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICE IN MANUFACTURING, PACKING, OR HOLDING HUMAN FOOD.

Please refer to <https://health.hawaii.gov/food-drug/statutes-and-rules/> for a copy of Chapter 11-29, HAR.

C. 21 CFR 110, CURRENT GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICE IN MANUFACTURING PACKING, OR HOLDING HUMAN FOOD, contains the standards and requirements for the facilities, operations, and practices that must be met to protect food from possible adulteration. Under HRS 328-1(3), firms manufacturing dog and cat food in Hawaii must comply with the standards in 21 CFR 110.

Please refer to <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-21/chapter-I/subchapter-B/part-110> for GMP requirements found in 21 CFR 110.

D. Labeling: To help you develop a proper label, please refer to the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) website at <https://www.aafco.org/resources/startups/labeling-labeling-requirements>. Your label must provide the following four basic pieces of information:

1. NAME OF PRODUCT
2. NET CONTENT STATEMENT
3. INGREDIENT STATEMENT
4. RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

NUTRITION FACTS labeling is not required for dog and cat food. However, a statement of the "GUARANTEED ANALYSIS" is required as specified in HAR 11-29-3(b)(1).

E. Facility Requirements: There is no requirement that the facility in which dog and cat food is manufactured be a "certified kitchen," and the facility does not require any permit or license from the Hawaii State Department of Health. However, the facility must meet certain conditions in addition to those specified in 21 CFR 110.

In general, "private home" kitchens may not be used. The facility should be located in a building that is not used for living purposes, and the facility must be accessible to inspection by the Food and Drug Branch. Under certain circumstances, a commercial kitchen facility may be located in a private residence if that facility is not used as a "private home" kitchen. This type of facility must be used exclusively for the manufacturing of dog or cat food; it must be physically separate from all living quarters; it must have a separate entrance that does not require a person entering it to go through any part of the structure used for residential purposes; it must meet all applicable requirements of 21 CFR 110; and it must be allowed under the local zoning code.

Before using any "certified" facility, an approval should be obtained from the agency which inspects it. Manufacturing dog food in a certified kitchen without the approval of the certifying agency may result in that kitchen losing its certification or operating permit. It is strongly recommended that you contact the agency responsible for certifying the kitchen you intend to use. In most cases, this agency will be either the Hawaii State Department of Health Food Safety Branch (formerly Sanitation Branch) or the U.S. Department of Agriculture.