

FOOD TRUCK INFORMATION & RESOURCES



FOOD SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Food trucks must comply with food safety requirements. View the information at [Mobile Food Establishments: How Do I Start One?](#) Contact the [Department of Health Food Safety Branch](#) for requirements.

LICENSES AND PERMITS

A Hawai'i General Excise Tax License is a necessary business requirement. Go to the State of Hawai'i Department of Taxation [General Excise Tax License](#) website for information.

A City and County of Honolulu [Peddler's License](#) is required to operate a food truck. Click the link for information and the [application form](#). Contact the city's Business License Office at (808) 768-2540 for assistance.

Driver's license and vehicle registration Every driver must be properly licensed to operate the vehicle. Depending on the type of vehicle, you may need a commercial driver's license. The vehicle must have a current registration, safety inspection and must be insured.



PARKING AND RESTRICTED ZONES

There are restrictions on where to park your truck and parking time limits. The [Traffic Code](#) provides food truck parking regulations. Food trucks must comply with all laws relating to traffic and parking, including parking meters, parking meter zones and public places where peddling is prohibited.

Time limits and parking zones

Food trucks may park for the time limit set for the parking space as designated by official signs, or for three hours where there is no posted time limitation.

The Revised Ordinances of Honolulu, [Chapter 29, Article 6](#) regulates where peddling is not allowed, which includes the following areas.

In any public park or beach owned and operated by the city, except pursuant to a concession, permit or license issued by the city.

On public streets, alleys, sidewalks, malls, parks, beaches and other public places in Waikiki Special Design District.

In any school zone while school is in session, except for an authorized participant in a city-sponsored market program, or in a school-sponsored function.



BUSINESS RESOURCES

Running a food truck requires establishing it as a legitimate business. The resources below can assist in securing the required licenses and permits, and complying with regulations. Other considerations include the cost of purchasing and equipping a food truck, investing in a point-of-sale system, employee payroll, tax regulations, business insurance and advertising.

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs [Business Action Center \(BAC\)](#) offers one-stop assistance to businesses. View the [Steps to starting a business](#) webpage.

The [Hawai'i Small Business Development Center](#), offers business advice, research and training.

The [Small Business Administration](#) (SBA) offers a business guide at their website.

US Chamber of Commerce offers information at [How to open a food truck business](#).