

Food Program Fees – 2026

Food Permit Fees

Food business annual permit fees are based on the type of business, as well as the complexity of the food being served (Risk Category). The table below shows the different kinds of food businesses permitted in King County, and annual permit fees associated with them.

PERMIT CATEGORY	Risk 1	Risk 2	Risk 3
General Food service- 0-12 seats	\$441	\$693	\$945
General Food Service- 13-50 seats	\$441	\$756	\$1,008
General Food Service- 51-150 seats	\$441	\$756	\$1,134
General Food Service- 151-250 seats	\$441	\$882	\$1,260
General Food Service- over 250 seats	\$441	\$945	\$1,386
Limited Food service- no permanent plumbing	\$441	NA	NA
Bakery- no seating	\$567	\$630	\$945
Bed and Breakfast	\$441	NA	NA
Grocery Store- no seating	\$441	\$819	NA
Caterer	\$567	\$756	\$945
Meat/Fish Market	NA	NA	\$945
Vending Machine	\$441	NA	NA
Mobile Food Unit	\$630	\$1,008	\$1,260
Nonprofit Institution - unlimited seating (nonprofit organization but charges a fee for food)	\$441	\$693	\$945
Donated Food Distribution Organization (DFDO) – active & exempt from billing	\$0	\$0	\$0
School Lunch Program	NA	\$693	NA
Commercial Commissary Kitchen	\$441	NA	NA
Commissary Kitchen – exempt from billing	\$0	NA	NA

Proration Schedules

Annual permits for food establishments last from **APRIL 1st** through **MARCH 31st**. If you start your food business part-way through our permit year, we will prorate your first year's permit fee according to our proration schedule.

Starting operation	Proration of fee
On or after April 1 but before July 1	100% of annual permit fee
On or after July 1 but before October 1	75% of annual permit fee
On or after October 1 but before January 1	50% of annual permit fee
On or after January 1 but before April 1	25% of annual permit fee

Fee Discounts for Seasonal Food Establishments

Some Food Establishments will routinely operate for less than twelve consecutive months each year. For those establishments, annual permit prices will be discounted based on the table below.

Number of months operating	Annual fee for permit
Operating more than 10 months and up to 12 months	100% of annual permit fee
Operating more than 7 months and up to 10 months	75% of annual permit fee
Operating more than 4 months and up to 7 months	50% of annual permit fee
Operating 4 or fewer months	25% of annual permit fee

Food Plan Review Fees

Plan review type	Fee
New Construction	4 hour base fee (\$1,008) + \$252/hr after 4 hours
Remodel	3 hour base fee (\$756) + \$252/hr after 3 hours
Multiple plan review in one facility	3 hour base fee (\$756) + \$252/hr after 3 hours
Resubmitted plan review-billable	\$252/hr
Subsequent preoccupancy or field plan review	2 hour base fee (\$504) + \$252/hr after 2 hours
Changes to Mobile and Limited Food Service Establishments	\$504 +\$252/hr after 2 hours

Late Fees

Permit Type	Number of Days Late	Fee
Annual permits	10-30 days	10% of annual permit fee
Annual permits	31 days – 60 days	20% of annual permit fee
Annual permits	more than 60 days	30% of annual permit fee
Seasonal permits		\$25 (flat fee)

Miscellaneous Fees

Service	Fee
Facility Name Change (with no other changes)	\$25
Commissary Change (caterers and mobiles)	\$25
Processing a refund	\$25
Check returned by bank	\$35
Request for variance and/or HACCP review	\$252/hr
After hours inspection	Cost of service

Refund Policy

Permit fees may only be refunded if Public Health denies the permit application, the applicant withdraws the application before the permit is issued, the food establishment permit has been overpaid, or as otherwise provided in BOH 2.10.100. An administrative fee of \$25 is deducted from each refund (BOH 2.06.070).