Frequently Asked Questions
Certified Food Manager (CFM) Program

Local Health Jurisdictions
Permitted Food Establishments

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

1. My food establishment is permitted by a local health jurisdiction; must I obtain food manager certification?

Food establishments permitted by a local health jurisdiction should contact that specific jurisdiction to obtain information regarding their requirements for food manager certification.

2. If required, 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 examination 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 CFM website.

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

Examinations that meet state requirement are: DSHS examination available through licensed programs and test sites; Thompson Prometric; National Registry of Food Safety Professionals; and ServSafe. Examinations available on the internet are: Learn2Serve and the Texas Restaurant Association Food Guard.

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

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

6. I have difficulty reading, can someone read the examination to me?

An employee of the examination site or a non-biased volunteer translator may be used to assist candidates who have difficulty reading the examination. These individuals must be pre-approved by the examination administrator, and shall not compromise the integrity of the examination or the examination results of the candidate.

7. Where do I obtain my food manager certification examination results?

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

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

An **official Certified Food Manager Certificate** is issued to each candidate upon passing the examination. This certificate must be posted in an area that is conspicuous to the consumers.

- 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.

9. Is my local health jurisdictions required to accept a DSHS approved examination certificate as meeting the training requirement?

County health departments, public health districts, and city health departments must accept certificates issued for passing any DSHS approved examination as meeting the training and testing requirements of the Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 438.

10. Are there any additional fees that may be charged by a local health jurisdiction?

A fee may be charged by a local health jurisdiction for a certificate issued to a certified food manager that has obtained an official certificate. This was authorized under Texas Health and Safety Code §438.046.

11. What if I lose my certificate?

Candidates who have taken the **DSHS** examination can obtain the replacement certificate application from the CFM 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.

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