



## **CALIFORNIA FOOD HANDLER CARD**

Individuals involved in the preparation, storage or service of food in food facility must possess a California Food Handler Card. Part time employees and students must also obtain Food Handler Cards.

*The Food Handler must take a course and pass a test from an accredited certification organization. The Food Handler Card is valid for three (3) years from the date of issuance. The food handler shall be re-certified prior to the expiration of the card. Food handlers must obtain a valid Food Handler Card within 30 days after the hire date at a food facility.*

Food handlers working at the facilities listed below are exempt from obtaining a Food Handler Card.

- Certified farmer's markets
- Commissaries
- Grocery stores, except for separately owned food facilities that are located in the grocery store. "Grocery store" includes convenience stores.
- Licensed health care facilities
- Mobile support units
- Public and private school cafeterias
- Restricted food service facilities
- Retail stores where the majority of the sales are from a pharmacy
- Venues with snack bar service where the majority of sales are from admission tickets (excludes restaurant-style sit-down service).
- An individual who holds a valid Food Protection Manager Certification does not need a California Food Handler Card to work in a food facility.
- Volunteers at "soup kitchens" or "food banks" are not required to have Food Handler Cards.

### **Food Handler Certification Providers**

Until January 1, 2012, a food handler may obtain training and testing to become certified from either an approved food protection manager certification organization **OR** an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited training provider.

The following food protection manager certification organizations are approved by the State of California.

**National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (ServSafe®)**

175 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 1500; Chicago, IL 60606

Phone: 800.765.2122, Fax: 312.715.1010

[www.nraef.org](http://www.nraef.org) OR [www.foodhandlerUSA.com](http://www.foodhandlerUSA.com)

**Prometric**

1260 Energy Lane, Attention: Food Safety,, St. Paul, MN 55108

Phone: 651.603.3416

[www.prometric.com](http://www.prometric.com)

**National Registry of Food Safety Professionals**

5728 Major Boulevard, Suite 750; Orlando, FL 32819

Phone: 800.446.0257, Fax: 407.352.3603

[www.nrfsp.com](http://www.nrfsp.com)

**After January 1, 2012**, a food handler may obtain training and testing to become certified **from only an American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited training provider.**

**American National Standards Institute (ANSI) accredited training providers** can be found at the website, <https://www.ansica.org/wwwversion2/outside/ALLdirectoryListing.asp?menuID=212&prgID=212&status=4> .

Note that ANSI certifies organizations for a number of trainings. **Look for a training provider accredited for Food Handler Training Certificate Program.**