



INTRODUCTION:

The definition of a food service establishment includes the phrase "...and any other eating or drinking establishment or operation where food is served or provided for the public". The word "public" is key. If an operation does not serve the public, it is not a food service establishment and is not subject to licensure or compliance with law as viewed by [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#).

PUBLIC EVENTS – LICENSABLE:

Events sponsored by a group, an organization for the group, or an organization as a whole, to which guests or visitors who are not members of the group or organization can typically attend, are considered licensable. No distinction is made between foods offered for sale and foods given away free of charge.

Examples include:

- Membership drives
- Author receptions and book signings
- Meal events prepared for the needy, elderly or indigent
- Events sponsored by the group or organization directly inviting outside guests
- Celebratory events, such as Independence Day or Diwali Day

EXAMPLE SCENARIOS:

A group or organization wishes to hold a BBQ in the common area. Is a temporary food service license required to BBQ?

- Yes; application for a Temporary Food Service License must be made in all scenarios.

A group or organization has a licensed concession stand that buys pizza from a local pizzeria and wants to sell it by the slice. Is a temporary food service license required?

- Yes; a licensed food service establishment can provide pizza from a licensed source to the public.

A group or organization does not have a licensed concession stand and buys pizza from a local pizzeria and wishes to sell or give away the pizza by the slice. Does application for a Temporary Food Service License need to be made?

- Maybe; a club or organization wishing to serve pizza obtained from a licensed pizzeria to the public must either apply for a Temporary Food Service license **or** have an employee of the licensed pizzeria stay and serve the pizza.

A group or organization wishes to obtain [Time/Temperature Controlled for Safety \(TCS\)](#) food from a licensed facility to serve at a celebratory event where guests will be welcomed. Does the group or organization need to apply for a temporary food license?

- Maybe; a club or organization wishing to serve TCS Food obtained from a licensed facility to the public must either apply for a Temporary Food Service

license **or** have an employee of the licensed facility stay and serve the food.

PUBLIC EVENTS -NON-LICENSABLE:

Non-TCS foods prepared in a licensed facility and simply opened and served using single service items do not require application for a Temporary Food Service License

EXAMPLE SCENARIOS:

A group or organization provides lemonade by pouring a premade product bought from a licensed facility into a single service cup. Is a temporary food service license required?

- No; an application for a Temporary Food Service License is not required.

A group or organization provides donuts made in a licensed facility and served on a paper plate. Is a temporary food service license required?

- No; an application for a Temporary Food Service License is not required.

PRIVATE EVENTS – NON-LICENSABLE:

Closed meetings of the organization where attendance of outsiders is not permitted do not require application for a Temporary Food Service License.

EXAMPLE SCENARIOS:

Events involving a specific group within a club or organization, such as the Board of Directors, etc. prepare a meal for themselves. Is application for a Temporary Food Service License needed?

- No; an application for a Temporary Food Service License is not required.

A group wants to order pizza for its members in a private meeting. All of the members pitch in to buy the pizza and call for delivery. When the pizza gets to the meeting location, members serve themselves. Does application for a Temporary Food Service License need to be made?

- No; an application for a Temporary Food Service License is not required.

A group wants to order prepared salad and hummus from a licensed facility for a board member meeting. Is application for a Temporary Food Service License needed?

- No; an application for a Temporary Food Service License is not required.