

Units that don't fit into a Food Ordinance Category

If a unit is too small to have the equipment required for a conventional, unrestricted unit, but larger than the maximum 4x8x8 cart dimensions, is motorized, or otherwise doesn't meet the requirements for a fixed location unit (hot dog cart), your unit will not qualify for a permit.

In some circumstances, where the unit is close to meeting the requirements, a waiver or a variance from a Food Ordinance requirement may be granted. Waiver requests must follow Food Ordinance requirements and **Health Department approval is by no means required nor guaranteed**. The consideration of these requests takes time and may delay the permitting process. If denied, you may submit plans for a unit that will comply with applicable Food Ordinance requirements. If you do events only, you may qualify for a temporary food permit from the Health Department for each event.

Some examples of types of units that don't qualify for medallions:

- Barbecue pits pulled behind trucks (pit must be inside a trailer or truck to be permitted)
- Units that prepare food but don't have sinks and water systems
- Vans, trucks or trailers that prepare, portion or handle open foods but that have sinks or water tanks that are smaller than that required for conventional, unrestricted units.
(15" x 15" x 12" sink compartments, 30 gallon potable water tank)
- Units with toilets
- Units that are not on wheels

Related hand-outs:

Plans check-list for conventional units (shows unit requirements)

Plans check-list for fixed location units

Waiver Request Form

Waiver Request Instruction Sheet

Health Dept Contact 832-393-5100 or 832-393-4445