CERTIFIED FOOD HANDLER

Applied education in food protection may significantly reduce major violations in food facilities and offer a greater level of protection to the public. The California Retail Food Code and Los Angeles County Code require each food facility to have an owner or employee who is certified in food safety.

As a food operator, you may have questions about the requirements to become a Certified Food Handler. The following are the answers to frequently asked questions:

Q: WHAT IS A CERTIFIED FOOD HANDLER (CFH)?
A: A Certified Food Handler or a Certified Food Manager is a person who has basic knowledge of food safety and sanitation, has passed an approved and accredited food safety certification examination, and possesses a valid certificate issued by an organization accredited by the American National Standards Institute.

Q: WHO IS REQUIRED TO HAVE A CFH?
A: Any food facility preparing, handling, or serving non-prepackaged potentially hazardous foods.

Examples:
- Mobile food facility
- Commissary
- A restaurant preparing, handling, or serving non-prepackaged potentially hazardous food.

Q: WHO IS NOT REQUIRED TO HAVE A CFH?
A: 1. A food facility that handles only prepackaged non-potentially hazardous foods
   Example:
   - Candy stores that sell only packaged candy
   2. Temporary Food Facility
   3. Certified Farmers Market
   4. Food facilities that prepare, handle, or serve non-prepackaged, non-potentially hazardous foods (except temporary food facilities) shall do one of the following:
      a. Have an owner or employee who has successfully passed an approved and accredited food safety certification examination
      b. Demonstrate to the enforcement officer that the employees have an adequate knowledge of food safety principles as they relate to the specific operation involved in their assigned duties
   Examples:
   - A liquor store that bags ice for sale
   - A bar that serves mixed drinks with only non-potentially hazardous food ingredients
   - A gas station that makes coffee, and only offers non-potentially hazardous packed creamer
Q: HOW DO I BECOME A CFH?
A: There are two ways to become a CFH in Los Angeles County.
- Complete a CFH Training Course and successfully pass the certification examination offered by an accredited food protection manager certification organization, such as National Registry of Food Safety Professionals (NRFSP), National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (ServSafe), or Prometric.
- Successfully pass a certification examination without attending a CFH training course. This is offered by some providers. If you take the exam, it is assumed that you have received previous training.

Q: WHAT IS A LOS ANGELES COUNTY (LAC) APPROVED PROVIDER?
A: A LAC Approved Provider is a private trainer certified to teach and provide exams by an accredited food protection manager certification organization, such as NRFSP, ServSafe, or Prometric. Prior to inclusion on the list of Approved Providers, the Consultation and Technical Services (CTS) unit of Environmental Health (EH) reviews and must approve of each Provider’s training course. Approved providers are required to teach an enhanced curriculum in food protection. Included in the training/course requirements are “Good Cleaning Practices to Prevent Discharge of Wastewater to Storm Drain Systems” as per the amendments of the Clean Water Act. The curriculum must also include information on Tuberculosis (TB) as well as locations of TB testing sites. Although approved, these providers are not subsidiaries of the LAC Environmental Health and LAC accepts no responsibility for the services offered by the provider(s).

Q: HOW DO I CONTACT A LAC APPROVED PROVIDER TO ATTEND A CFH TRAINING COURSE?
A: You may obtain a current Approved Provider list by contacting the LAC CTS unit at (626) 430-5320 or your area inspector.

Q: WHERE ARE CFH TRAINING COURSES HELD?
A: CFH classes are scheduled by each CFH Provider, and are offered throughout Los Angeles County. Some classes may even be held in neighboring counties or on weekends. Contact an Approved Provider for the location nearest you.

Q: ARE CFH CLASSES AND THE CERTIFYING EXAMINATION OFFERED IN DIFFERENT LANGUAGES?
A: Yes. Many of the Approved Providers offer training and the certifying examination in a variety of languages. Languages offered are noted on the Approved Provider list.

Q: WHEN WILL I NEED TO BE CERTIFIED?
A: All retail food facilities within the State of California must currently have an owner or an employee who has successfully passed an approved and accredited food safety certification examination. The certification is valid for a period of five years from the date of the examination. Upon expiration of the certificate, the certified individual may be re-certified by passing an approved and accredited food safety certification examination again.

Q: CAN ACCOMMODATIONS BE MADE FOR LEARNING OR LANGUAGE CHALLENGED INDIVIDUALS?
A: Yes. Several of the Approved Providers are experienced with educating learning or language challenged adults and provide training aids that facilitate learning. Examination proctors will also allow language readers and American Sign Language readers to translate the certifying examination under specific restrictions. Contact your CFH Provider for an explanation of the services allowed during the examination.
Q: **WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I DO NOT BECOME A CFH?**
A: If there is no CFH for your facility for more than 60 days, a violation (4 points) will be marked on your inspection report, and an infraction may be punishable for a fine of not more than one hundred dollars ($100) for each day of operation in violation.

Q: **WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF THE CFH LEFT MY EMPLOY?**
A: The certification goes with the employee. You would have 60 days for you to become certified or to hire a certified person.

Q: **HOW LONG IS AN APPROVED CFH TRAINING COURSE?**
A: Most approved courses are at least eight (8) hours.

**ADDENDUM:**
Los Angeles County Certified Food Handler Certificate (LAC CFHC)
Although the applicant has been certified by an accredited food protection manager certification organization, the LAC CFH Certificate will be issued contingent upon request and submission of an application to the LAC Consultation and Technical Services unit. Applications must include the following information and can be submitted by the provider or individually:

- A legible copy of your Certificate
- A legible copy of a Valid Photo Identification or Valid Drivers License.
- Social Security Number.

A LAC CFH Certificate can be obtained free of charge.

For additional information, contact your local Environmental Health Office. For a listing of closures and the grades/scores of all food facilities go to our web site at [www.lapublichealth.org/eh](http://www.lapublichealth.org/eh).

Visit us online!
[environmental health online](http://www.lapublichealth.org/eh)

Office Stamp
CONSULTATION & TECHNICAL SERVICES
5050 Commerce Drive
Baldwin Park, CA 91706
(626) 430-5320
### Community Colleges and Universities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Contact Person(s)</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Email(s)</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>California State University Long Beach</td>
<td>Lee Blecher, PhD, RD</td>
<td>(562) 985-4493</td>
<td><a href="mailto:blecher@csulb.edu">blecher@csulb.edu</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 022 Offers ServSafe® Course English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of the Canyons Extension</td>
<td>Gevork Kazanchyan</td>
<td>(661) 362-3300</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gev.kaz@gmail.com">gev.kaz@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 139 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crafton Hills College</td>
<td>Benson Li</td>
<td>(909) 382-4075</td>
<td><a href="mailto:naneash@charter.net">naneash@charter.net</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 033 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Los Angeles College, Community Services</td>
<td>Anthony Battaglia/Andrew Feldman</td>
<td>(323) 265-8793</td>
<td><a href="mailto:delatoi@elac.edu">delatoi@elac.edu</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 085 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles City College</td>
<td>Community Services</td>
<td>(323) 669-1031</td>
<td><a href="mailto:simpsoj@lacitycollege.edu">simpsoj@lacitycollege.edu</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 059 Offers ServSafe® Course English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles Mission College</td>
<td>Eloise Cantrell, Ph.D.</td>
<td>(818) 366-6737</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eloiseclimatell@earthlink.net">eloiseclimatell@earthlink.net</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 007 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Bernardino Valley College</td>
<td>Benson Li</td>
<td>(909) 382-4076</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bensonli@earthlink.net">bensonli@earthlink.net</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 119 Offers NRFSP Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glendale College</td>
<td>Anthony Battaglia/Andrew Feldman</td>
<td>(323) 265-8793</td>
<td><a href="mailto:delatoi@elac.edu">delatoi@elac.edu</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 084 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
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### Organizations and Private Companies

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<tr>
<td>A School for The People/ La Escuela de La Gente</td>
<td>Anthony Battaglia/Andrew Feldman</td>
<td>(888) 851-3663 or (818) 988-2941</td>
<td><a href="mailto:contactone@aschoolforthepeople.com">contactone@aschoolforthepeople.com</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 114 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
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<tr>
<td>AAA Food Handler Training School</td>
<td></td>
<td>(877) 222-3487</td>
<td></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 035 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aardvark Safety &amp; Sanitation Specialists</td>
<td></td>
<td>(626) 796-7437</td>
<td><a href="mailto:execchefier07@aol.com">execchefier07@aol.com</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 012 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC Food Safety</td>
<td></td>
<td>(800) 676-3121 or (714) 451-0075</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@abc-foodsafety.com">info@abc-foodsafety.com</a></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 24 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Food Safety Institute</td>
<td></td>
<td>(800) 723-3873</td>
<td></td>
<td>LAC Provider No. 001 Offers ServSafe® Exam English</td>
</tr>
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The list includes information on trainers and certification providers for the County of Los Angeles Certified Food Handlers Program as of January 2008. Each entry details the name of the institution, contact person(s), phone numbers, emails, provider number, and the services offered, including ServSafe® Course, Prometric Exam, NRFSP Exam, and offers in multiple languages.
American Institute of Food Managers  
(310) 659-7446  
Website:  www.aifmcertification.com  
LAC Provider No. 136  
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams  
English/Spanish

Anthony Battaglia  
(818) 241-2914 or (818) 568-4461  
Email: mbatt@glendale.edu  
LAC Provider No. 103  
Offers ServeSafe® Exam  
English

Baldwin Park Adult Community Education  
(626) 705-9564  
Email: chefjeff74@sbcglobal.net  
LAC Provider No. 138  
 Offers ServSafe® Exam  
English

C de C & F.S.T. - Temp Enterprises  
Marcella Rechersamer Sanchez  
(562) 633-5226 or (213) 447-6500  
E-Mail: msi1942@sbcglobal.net  
LAC Provider No. 113  
Offers ServSafe® Exam  
English/Spanish

California Restaurant Association  
(800) 765-4842 ext. 2756  
Website:  www.Calrest.org  
Email: kgriley@calrest.org  
LAC Provider No. 006  
Offers ServSafe® Exam  
English/Spanish

Cara Rice & Associates  
(310) 493-9336  
FAX: (310) 257-8558  
Website:  www.tabletip.com  
E-Mail: FaceRice@aol.com  
LAC Provider No. 034  
Offers Prometric Exam  
English/Spanish

CBA Food Handler Training  
Peter Yee  
(626) 279-9976  
LAC Provider No. 132  
Offers Prometric Exam  
English/Chinese/Korean

Dynasty School  
(800) 888-8827  
Website:  www.dynastyschool.com  
E-mail: DynastySchool@yahoo.com  
LAC Provider No. 023  
Offers NRFSP Exam  
English/Chinese/Spanish/Mandarin

EcoSure  
(847) 480-9898 x 125 or (866) 326-7871  
Website:  www.ecosure.com  
LAC Provider No. 120  
Offers ServSafe® Course  
English/Spanish

Family Health Services Training Center  
Food Handler Education and Safety Program  
(619) 294-2192  
Website:  www.familyhealth-services.com  
E-mail: FamilyHealthSvs@aol.com  
LAC Provider No. 005  
Offers Prometric Exam  
English/Spanish/Japanese/Chinese/Vietnamese

Food Safety Associates  
(888) 366-3233 or (818) 832-4303 or (661) 260-1776 or (310) 883-5284  
Website:  www.foodsafetyassociates.net  
Email:  drwmanos@yahoo.com  
LAC Provider No. 020  
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams  
English/Spanish

FS Investments:  
Joyce A. Solis or Richard Solis  
(909) 941-7402 or (951) 242-5545  
Website:  cafoodsafetycertification.com  
Email:  fsnvest@sbcglobal.net  
LAC Provider No. 027  
Offers NRFSP Exam  
English/Spanish

Gary Wang & Associates  
Food Handlers of California  
A.k.a. Preparadores de Comida de California  
(626) 288-6898 or (888) 698-1688  
Website:  www.foodhandlersofcalifornia.com  
Email:  Abigail@garwang.com  
Provider No. 043  
Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exams  
English/Chinese/Spanish

George Liu’s Construction Co.  
George Liu  
(626) 202-3392  
FAX: (626) 577-5077  
Email:  gliuconstruction@yahoo.com  
LAC Provider No. 124  
Offers ServSafe® Exam  
English/Chinese

H & H Environmental Consultants  
(562) 983-9273  
Email:  rhistman@aol.com  
LAC Provider No. 135  
Offers ServSafe® Exam  
English/Spanish

Hospitality Consultants of America  
(800) 953-3822  
Fax (831) 375-1707  
Website:  www.mrfoodsafety.com  
LAC Provider No. 004  
Offers Prometric & ServSafe® Exams  
English/Spanish
I Feed U
Marie C. Venti
(888) 433-3381 or (760) 369-6789 or (760) 333-5364
Fax (760) 369-6789
Website: ifeedu.com
E-Mail: ifedu@prodigy.net
LAC Provider No. 095
Offers Prometric Exam
English

Independent Food Service Educator
(310) 391-2652
Email: w.bayoun@netscape.com
LAC Provider No. 109
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

Integrated Support Solutions, Inc.
(818) 787-2116 ext. 111, 115, 101
Website: www.e-issi.com
LAC Provider No. 064
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

IsoTech, Inc.
(626) 367-2624
LAC Provider No. 134
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Jeffrey Nelken’s Food Safety/HACCP Compliance
(818) 703-7147 or (818) 644-3550
Website: www.foodsafetycoach.com
E-Mail: jeffnelken@cs.com
LAC Provider No. 015
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Making an Impression
Delia Tidwell & Wayne Tidwell
(562) 461-9981
FAX: (562) 867-4161
Website: www.makingfoodsafe.com
E-mail: makingfoodsafe@hotmail.com
LAC Provider No. 123
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

NutriFit LLC
(800) 341-4190 or (310) 473-1989
Fax: (310) 473-1993
Website: www.nutrifitonline.com
LAC Provider No. 050
Offers Prometric & ServSafe® Exams
English

ONEgeneration
(818) 206-0116
Website: www.onegeneration.org
Email: mheredia@onegeneration.org
LAC Provider No. 122
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English

Premier Schools, INC.
Michael Proulx
(310) 312-8867
FAX: (310) 478-4043
LAC Provider No. 128
Website: www.practicalcollege.com
Email: proulx@premierschools.com
Offers Prometric Exam
English/Spanish

Quality FACTS, LLC
Akiko Tagawa, MPH, REHS
(323) 823-1764
Fax: (323) 571-1889
Website: www.qualityfacts.com
E-Mail: qualityfacts@aol.com
LAC Provider No. 131
Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exams
English/Japanese

Safe At-The-Plate
(888) 804-7233
Website: www.safeattheplate.com
Email: info@safeattheplate.com
LAC Provider No. 009
Offers NRFSP Exam
English/Spanish

Safe Food Handlers Corporation
Janet L. Thomas
(217) 793-5136 or (888) 793-5136
Website: www.sfhcorp.com
Email: sales@sfhcorp.com
LAC Provider No. 014
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

Safe Food USA
(877) 325-5060
Website: www.safefoodusa.org
E-Mail: Postmaster@safefoodusa.org
LAC Provider No. 104
Offers ServSafe® Exam
English/Spanish

Salud Para Su Profesion
(626) 484-9422
Email: robmaldonadojr@yahoo.com
LAC Provider No. 133
Offers Prometric Exam
English/Spanish

San Diego Health and Nutritional Services
(619) 470-3859
FAX: (619) 470-3822
LAC Provider No. 017
Offers ServSafe® & Prometric Exams
English/Spanish

Simply Fantastic Foods
Charlotte Ann Ferrell
(310) 562-6889
Fax: (866) 789-3772
Website: www.goodstuffca.com
Email: charlotte@goodstuffca.com
LAC Provider No. 122
Offers ServSafe® & NRFSP Exams
English
Tap Series LLC  
(818) 889-8799  
Website: www.tapseries.com  
E-Mail: Info@tapseries.com  
LAC Provider No. 129  
Offers ServSafe®, Prometric & NRFSP Exams  
English/Spanish  

Training & Development Resources  
(619) 698-3746  
Fax: (619) 698-5834  
LAC Provider No. 076  
Offers ServSafe® Exam  
English  

William Kimura  
(818) 458-6013  
E-Mail: bkkimura@yahoo.com  
LAC Provider No. 100  
Offers Prometric & NRFSP Exams  
English/Spanish

**Note:** The Los Angeles County Food Certification Program may accept current food manager certificates on a reciprocal basis from other counties. Those applicants interested in obtaining the Los Angeles County Certification must submit an approved Food Handler Certification Application provided by Los Angeles County, a valid identification, and a copy of their current Food Manager Certification.

Please be advised that Los Angeles County is in no way responsible for the services offered by the above referenced providers. Should you wish to make a complaint regarding any of the above providers please call (626) 430-5320.

For a listing of closures and the grade/score of all food establishments look up our web site www.lapublichealth.org/eh.