



**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
SAN ANTONIO FIRE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL**

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## **Mobile Food Establishments**

Mobile food establishments continue to gain popularity and have become a routine attraction at special events and local venues. Our goal is to ensure these operations are conducted in a safe manner to help ensure the continued operation of the business while reducing potential hazards that may threaten public safety. Routine inspections help to identify and eliminate fire and life hazards and educate vendors on potential hazards, while promoting a safe community and providing excellent customer service.

This document provides guidance on fire code requirements for mobile food establishments, to include food trucks, trailers, and other types of mobile food operations operating within the San Antonio city limits. Compliance with fire code requirements does not replace the vendor's obligation to obtain a health permit and/or comply with any other applicable public health and safety requirements.

### **International Fire Code:**

Fire code requirements related to Mobile Food Establishments are outlined in the adopted Fire Code [2021 International Fire Code (IFC)] and local code amendments, which took effect on February 1, 2023. Additionally, a self-survey (see Page 2) is provided as a courtesy to assist with identifying routine issues, achieving, and maintaining compliance.

### **Operational Permit:**

An operational permit is required for the operation and maintenance of any mobile food establishment. Operational permits must be renewed annually to ensure compliance with all fire and life safety code requirements and promote safe operation and maintenance.

### **Application:**

A fire permit application for Mobile Food Establishments must be completed and submitted electronically, using the online portal system, accessible at <https://aca.sanantonio.gov/CitizenAccess/Default.aspx>. The Mobile Food Establishment annual inspection fee of \$300.00 shall be paid at the time of application. Our goal is to process the application within approximately 6 business days and then schedule your inspection. Prior to issuance of a Mobile Food Establishment operational permit, an inspection is required for all permit applications to include initial application and/or applications for renewal.

### **Approvals:**

Upon successful inspection, the operational permit sticker will be issued and must be posted in a conspicuous location on the vehicle. Additionally, the vendor must acquire and post a valid health permit and comply with any other applicable public health and safety requirements.

### **Permit Renewal:**

It is the responsibility of the Mobile Food Establishment operator to renew the permit. To stay current, applicant must apply for renewal and successfully pass inspection every 12-month period of operation. Operational permits, issued every 12 months, may be revoked prior to the expiration date.

Permitted vehicles may be subject to inspection at any time.