

Making changes together



The City of Long Beach has a network of social service agencies and faith based groups, which work in partnership to assist members of the community. In order to maintain a safe and healthy community, we are requesting your cooperation and assistance. You may wish to explore the option of partnering with these agencies and groups located in Long Beach. They are accessible and close to the community to be served and also are equipped with kitchens and sanitary facilities. For additional information on these agencies and groups, contact Teresa Chandler at 562-570-4011.

City Phone Numbers for additional permit information

Environmental Health

(562) 570-4132

Fire Department

(562) 570-2500

Office of Special Events

(562) 570-5333

Public Works

(562) 570-6383

Parks, Rec, & Marine

(562) 570-3229

Long Beach PD

(562) 570-7462

City of Long Beach

Department of Health and
Human Services
Bureau of Environmental Health

2525 Grand Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90815
Phone: (562)570-4132
Fax: (562)570-4038
www.longbeach.gov



City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services

Charitable Food Distribution Guidelines and Laws



A charitable group may distribute food in public areas a maximum of 3 times in a 90 day period without a health permit.

(Per CA Health and Safety Code-CalCode Section 113789(c)(3))

City of Long Beach
Bureau of Environmental Health
Phone: (562)570-4132

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Overview

The City of Long Beach appreciates the willingness of charitable groups to assist members of the community with food distributions. However, City parks have been adversely impacted by these activities resulting in excess trash, loitering, and public urination/defecation. In addition, there are concerns regarding proper food safety at some of these food distributions. Children, the elderly, and the immune suppressed are especially susceptible to food borne illnesses resulting from improper food safety. Finally, Charitable Groups are limited in the number of feedings that can be conducted without a public health permit. For these reasons, the City encourages all charitable groups to follow the requirements described in this brochure.

Food Distribution Guidelines and Laws

A charitable group may distribute food a maximum of 3 times in a 90 day period citywide without a public health permit. CalCode Section 113789(c)(3))

If a charitable group exceeds 3 feedings anywhere in the city within a 90 day period, then they are required to obtain a City of Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services Organizer permit, Temporary Food Stand permit and all other permits required by the City two weeks prior to the next food distribution.

Failure to comply with these requirements will result in referral to the City Prosecutor. Fines of up to \$1,000 and/or imprisonment up to six months can be assessed.



If a Charitable Group wants to conduct feedings more than 3 times in a 90 day period, the below listed Temporary Food Stand Requirements must be met*

1. Obtain an Organizer Permit and a Temporary Food Stand Permit at the Long Beach Health Department.
2. Obtain a three compartment utensil washing sink with hot (at least 120°F) and cold running water.
3. Provide a fully enclosed booth that is entirely enclosed with four complete sides, ceiling, and a floor.
4. Maintain temperature control:
 - Hot food must be maintained at or above 135°F.
 - Cold food must be maintained at or below 45°F.
5. Restrooms must be located within 200 ft of the booth
6. A handwash setup must be supplied.

*Contact Keith Allen, Environmental Health, Food Facility Inspection Program Supervisor at (562) 570-4161 for a complete list of requirements.