

About Certification of Food Handlers

The companies listed below offer



or



certification. Both are good for 5 years and are accepted in all Indiana counties.

Indiana Restaurant Association

Website: www.indianarestaurants.org

Phone: Toll free! 800-678-1957

Safe Food Handler's Corporation

Website: www.sfhcorp.com

Phone: Toll free! 888-793-5136

Kentucky Food Safety Consulting

Phone: 505-552-2204

e-mail: kyfoodsafety@insightbb.com

In February, 2001, Senate Bill 404 created Indiana Code 16-42-5.2. This bill:

- created food safety certification rules in Indiana,
- mandated that the State develop a rule to administer the program and
- mandated that the state develop penalties for non-compliance (fines up to \$100 per day).

As of January 1, 2005, Indiana requires at least one certified food handler per food service establishment.

- The food handler must pass an accredited exam (by ServSafe or the National Registry of Food Safety Professionals -- see above for more information).
- A food service establishment has 6 months to initially get a certified food handler and 3 months to get one if/when their certified food handler leaves.
- Only one certified food handler is required if the owner operates more than one food service establishment on contiguous properties.
- The certified food handler must provide their name, certification, and photo ID upon request. A person cannot represent themselves as certified unless they are legally certified.
- Schools, prisons and jails must also comply.
- The certified person does not need to present at all times.

Exemptions:

- Hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living and continuing care facilities.
- Food establishments that minimally handle food, such as: serving precooked hot dogs/sausages, nachos, pretzels or frozen pizza, preparing or serving continental breakfasts, other minimal food operations such as preparing beverages or ice, grinding coffee beans, non-potentially hazardous prepackaged foods, heating of bakery products, providing food in its original packaging.

