



Policy Statement

Exemption from Permitting Low-Risk Food Items

Policy:

In addition to AMC 16.60.060 the Anchorage Health Department will **not require permits** for vendors offering only the following food items:

- Shaved ice with flavored syrup, provided no dairy or other time/temperature control for safety (TCS) toppings are used.
- Non-TCS jerky
- Fried pork rinds made from rendered pork skin pellets
- Rope licorice and other non-TCS candies
- Similar non-TCS food products that do not require temperature control for safety and do not support the growth of foodborne pathogens.

AHD finds that these food items are considered low-risk and do not require time/temperature control for safety or support the rapid growth of foodborne pathogens.

Justification

This policy eliminates unnecessary plan reviews and permitting for businesses producing these foods, while allowing the Department to focus inspections and oversight on higher-risk operations without reducing public health protections.

While our current code lists examples of exempted foods (such as lemonade, popcorn, and cotton candy), the foods covered by this policy share the same low-risk food safety characteristics as the items identified in code and in this policy.

References:

Section 1-201.10 of the 2013 FDA Food Code defines TCS foods and guides our classification of these product

Anchorage Municipal Code 16.60.060(C)(4)