

Road Map to



Mobile Vending in Grand Junction

Every food truck business needs insurance, local and state sales tax licensing, Fire Department inspections, and approval from Mesa County Public Health. Depending on your business model, you may also need additional approvals. Follow the steps below to determine what approvals you need.

Do you plan on operating at special events on public property, such as at City or County parks, Farmers' Markets, and Food Truck Fridays?

If yes, contact the City of Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department to get on the list of approved vendors for special events.

Do you plan to make short stops at many private businesses, spending no more than 48 hours at any location over the course of 120 days?

If yes, you do not need a permit, but you must comply with City regulations for Temporary Uses and sales tax licensing. You also cannot operate in a Residential zone district (except for the R-24 zone district) unless approved as part of a special event.

Do you plan to conduct business for more than 48 hours, but less than 120 days, at a single private property?

If yes, you need to apply for a Temporary Use Permit with the City and all city regulations for Temporary Uses. The permit is valid for 120 days and costs \$35.00.

Do you plan to conduct business at a private property for more than 120 days?

If yes, you or the property owner need to apply for a minor site plan approval with the City. This will require an agreement showing access to three parking spaces and access to a restroom within 750 feet of your location.

General FAQ

What is the difference between a food truck, a mobile food vendor, and a mobile food preparation business?

There is no difference. Different agencies use different names to refer to food trucks because of the different codes that they use. All of these terms generally refer to food trucks, and include trailers as well as trucks.

Where should I dispose of wastewater?

Wastewater from cooking and utensil cleaning should be disposed only at an approved industrial pretreatment facility with a Fats, Oils, and Grease Interceptor. These facilities are available at commissary kitchens such as the Grand Junction Business Incubator.





Can I park my food truck on a City street and conduct business?

No. Food trucks cannot operate in a City public right-of-way, unless explicitly permitted to do so as part of a special event. When not conducting business, a food truck should comply with the parking rules that apply to all vehicles.

How do I know what the fire safety requirements are for my food truck business?

The City of Grand Junction Fire Department enforces the 2018 International Fire Code, which gives details on required fire suppression systems. Contact the Fire Department for more information and a list of local certified suppression system installers.

Can I operate in a residential neighborhood?

No. The only time a food truck can operate in a residential area is if it is at a property with R-24 zoning, or if it is at an approved special event.

What kind of signage can I use to promote my business?

A food truck can be painted or otherwise decorated with any appropriate advertising. A food truck on private property, whether temporary or long-term, can have up to 32 square feet of free-standing signage.

May I hook up my food truck to public water or water sewer services?

No. the only circumstance in which a food truck can connect to public water or sewer services is at an approved mobile food vendor court.

Do the same rules apply for non-motorized food carts, tents, or produce stands?

Different rules apply to mobile food businesses that do not use motor vehicles but these may still need to comply with City temporary Use regulations and Mesa County Public Health rules, and must be approved by the Parks and Recreation Department to work at special events on public property.

Check with the City Community Development Department for further questions.

Contacts

Special Events on Public Property

City Parks and Recreation Department
(970) 254-3866

Fire Safety

Grand Junction Fire Department
(970) 549-5800

Food Safety

Mesa County Public Health Department
(970) 248-6900

Wastewater

Persigo Treatment Plant
(970) 256-4180

Temporary Use Permits & Site Plants on Private Property

City Community Development Department
(970) 244-1430