Food Entrepreneur

RESOURCE GUIDE
The Business Incubator Center (BIC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that for more than a quarter century has been supporting the launch, growth, stabilization, and long-term success of business enterprises in Mesa County and the surrounding region. Our goal is to stimulate the local economy and retain/create the greatest number of sustainable jobs possible.

**Our Programs**

- **Kitchen Incubator**
  2,500 square foot commercial, shared-use kitchen available for businesses in the food industry from caterers to food trucks to food manufacturers.

- **Incubator Program**
  Five-year, tenant-based program designed to help guide businesses through the most critical periods. Program includes business mentoring, 35,000 square feet of mixed use space available for lease, and gigabit internet.

- **Business Loan Fund**
  Provides loans up to $300,000 for Mesa County businesses. Designed to assist eligible businesses that cannot find the capital they need through traditional sources.

- **Coworking**
  Coworking space in downtown Fruita that has high-speed internet, lounge area, and a conference room.

- **Contact Us**
  The Business Incubator Center
  2591 Legacy Way Grand Junction, CO 81503
  (970) 243-5242
  www.gjincubator.org

- **Offers free business coaching with industry experts and low/no-cost workshops and classes.**

- **Provides tax incentives to encourage business to locate and expand in designated areas of the state. Purpose is to promote a business friendly environment in economically distressed areas.**

- **A public innovation center offering tools, knowledge, and learning resources for members.**
Mesa County Public Health (MCPH)

Scope:
• Licensing of Retail Food Establishments
• Temporary Event Vendors
• Mobile Units
• Food Safety Resources
• Food Handler’s Classes
• Complaints against food service businesses
• Industry and Consumer meetings
• Blue Ribbon Award

City of Grand Junction • Parks and Rec. Admin.

Scope:
Manages the Approved Food Vendors list for events taking place in Mesa County including the City of Grand Junction, City of Fruita, and Palisade.

The lists are broken down into three categories based on MCPH department approval:

1. Catering
2. Special Event and/or On-Going Program
3. Sporting Event

They provide the Food Vendor Qualification packet which is submitted only ONCE per year.

They also collect Concessionaire Payments for City of Grand Junction events worked.

*Deadlines and event contact information is located on page 6 of the Food Vendor Qualification Packet.
Grand Junction Downtown Development Authority

Scope:
Manages the permitting process for Food Vendors who want to sell downtown on an on-going basis via their own application and fees.

They also receive the Approved Vendors List from Parks & Rec. and then coordinate the Food Vendors for events taking place in Downtown Grand Junction.

Town of Palisade

Scope:
Business licenses for operations within the Town of Palisade and Special Event Information for Vendors desiring to participate in Palisade festivals.

City of Fruita • Parks and Recreation

Scope:
Business licenses for operations within the City of Fruita including Special Event Vendors.
Grand Valley Food Truck Fridays

Scope:
Rotating Food Truck event every Friday from May through September, alternating locations between Palisade, Grand Junction, and Fruita.

Steven Pruess, Coordinator
(970) 261-8484
www.grandvalleyfoodtruckfridays.com/

Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE)

Scope:
They regulate, inspect, and give technical guidance to major food industries in Colorado, and tell consumers about food, drug and cosmetic recalls. They also provide information about food-borne illnesses.

(303) 692-3645
www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/categories/services-and-information/health/food-safety

Contact Instructions

Phone Options
- Press option “1” for Retail Food (Restaurants, grocery, and convenience stores).
- Press option “2” for Manufactured (Wholesale) Food.
- Press option “3” for schools, child care, and Cottage Foods.
- Press option “4” to speak with the operator or to leave a message on the general voicemail box. Messages left on this voicemail are answered within 72 business hours.

Email Contacts
- General questions, concerns, and complaints cdphe.commentscpd@state.co.us
- Restaurants, grocery, and convenience stores (Retail Food) cdphe_laponduty@state.co.us
- Manufactured (Wholesale) Food cdphe_mfgfd@state.co.us
- Schools, child care, and Cottage Foods cdphe_iepu@state.co.us
Additional Resources

Colorado Co-Pack Directory
https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/agmarkets/colorado-co-pack-directory

Colorado Department of Agriculture
https://www.colorado.gov/agmain

*Scope:* Resources for certified scales and egg producers retailing off-site. Maintain the Colorado Co-Pack Directory.

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
http://www.fda.gov

*Scope:* Regulations pertaining to manufacturing sauces, salsas, dried foods, etc.

Food Broker List
https://www.manta.com/mb_45_B608D7N1_06/food_brokers/colorado

Food Labeling Guide

Food Labeling Summary
https://drive.google.com/file/d/177fhsc-MZSwH12IMdHYrTYv86ARtZVSFK/view

Industrial Hemp Policy
https://drive.google.com/file/d/15jUTZ0w-MrSoejP0xwY4uSLBBHNUF4u9V/view

Labeling and Nutrition Guidance Documents and Regulatory Information
https://www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/LabelingNutrition/default.htm

United Stated Department of Agriculture (USDA)
http://www.usda.gov

*Scope:* Regulations pertaining to wholesale foods containing meat.