

Micro Market FAQ's

What is the definition of micro market?

"Micro Market" means a retail food establishment that offers the following in displays not more than two hundred and fifty linear feet:

- (a) Prepackaged non-time/temperature controlled for safety food;
- (b) Prepackaged refrigerated or frozen time/temperature controlled for safety food that is stored in equipment that complies with 3717-1-03.4 (H), 3717-1-04.1 (LL), and 3717-1-04.1 (MM) of the Administrative Code.

What might a micro market look like?

Micro markets are typically unmanned stores located in office buildings that offer fresh foods, snacks, and beverages to staff for purchasing via a self-checkout kiosk. The foods sold may be either prepackaged non-Time and Temperature Controlled (TCS) food or TCS food;

What equipment is required?

All equipment must be commercial grade and approved by a recognized testing agency. The coolers and freezers that offer TCS foods must have automatic shutoff health switches to prevent the sale of food in the event of a temperature control issue, power failure or during other equipment malfunction.

Can a micro market sell coffee?

Yes. A coffee vending machine could be located nearby for the convenience of consumers. These machines must be commercial grade and approved by a recognized testing agency.

Can a micro market have a microwave oven?

Yes. Microwave ovens are allowed inside the Micro Market.

Can Micro Market sell fresh, whole intact produce such a bananas or grapes?

Yes. The produce must be ready to eat, i.e., pre-washed and if the skin of the produce will be eaten, the produce must be provided with a suitable utensil or effective methods that protect the food from contamination. For example, an apple would need a protective cover or wrap. Fruit such as a banana or orange that will be peeled prior to being consumed won't need a protective cover. The washing and pre-packaging must occur in an appropriately licensed facility.

Are Micro Markets required to go through plan review?

Yes. micro markets have to submit a Food Plan Review Application and plan review fee, to be approved for licensing.

Does a Micro Market inside of a cafeteria need to have a separate license?

Yes. A micro market must have its own license.

Do vending machines inside of a Micro Market need to be licensed?

No. Vending machines do not need to be licensed if they are under the control of the operator of the micro market.

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