

The 2017 Food Code (9th edition) reflects the agency's continued commitment to maintaining cooperative programs with state, local, tribal, and territorial governments.

The 2017 edition reflects the input of regulatory officials, industry, academia, and consumers that participated in the 2016 meeting of the Conference for Food Protection (CFP). Collaboration with the CFP and our partners at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services helps ensure the Food Code establishes sound requirements that prevent foodborne illness and injury and eliminates the most important food safety hazards in retail and foodservice facilities.

FDA encourages its state, local, tribal, and territorial partners to adopt the latest version of the FDA Food Code. The benefits associated with complete and widespread adoption of the 2017 Food Code as statutes, codes and ordinances include:

- Reduction of the risk of foodborne illnesses within food establishments, thus protecting consumers and industry from potentially devastating health consequences and financial losses.
- Uniform standards for retail food safety that reduce complexity and better ensure compliance.
- The elimination of redundant processes for establishing food safety criteria.
- The establishment of a more standardized approach to inspections and audits of food establishments.

Members of FDA's National Retail Food Team are available to assist regulatory officials, educators, and the industry in their efforts to adopt, implement, and understand the provisions of the FDA Food Code and the Retail Program Standards. Inquiries may be sent to [retailfoodprotectionteam@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:retailfoodprotectionteam@fda.hhs.gov) or directly to a Retail Food Specialist located in one of FDA's three Retail Food Protection Branches across the country.

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[Changes in FDA Food Code 2017](#)