TENNESSEE MOBILE FOOD UNIT PERMIT REFERENCE GUIDE

Division: Fire Prevention – Permits & Licensing

Permit Type

- Mobile Food Unit Permit

Fees

Transaction	Fee
Application Fee	**$300**

The application fee is non-refundable.

New Applications

Mobile Food Unit Permit

Required Documents

- Completed Mobile Food Unit Permit Application
- $300 non-refundable application fee
- Owner and operator contact information
- Business name
- Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)
- License plate number
- Description of cooking equipment and fuel being used
- Type of cooking/processes performed
- Anticipated locations of operation
- Preferred inspection region
- Any additional documentation requested by the Division

Inspections

- Once a complete application and fee are received, the applicant will be instructed to schedule an inspection.
- A permit will be issued after the Mobile Food Unit passes inspection and complies with applicable fire safety requirements.
- If the unit fails inspection, deficiencies must be corrected before a follow-up inspection is scheduled.

Renewals

There are no renewals.

- Mobile Food Unit permits are valid for **365 days** from the date of issuance.
- After expiration, the owner must submit a **new application**, pay the application fee, and obtain a new permit.

Helpful Notes

- The permit must be **prominently displayed** on the mobile food unit while it is operating and be visible from the outside of the unit.
- Tennessee's Mobile Food Unit Permit is recognized by local governments, which may not require an additional local fire permit or fire inspection for a unit holding a valid state permit, as provided by state law.
- Mobile Food Unit permits are administered by the Tennessee Department of Commerce & Insurance, Division of Fire Prevention.