

Zoning Information Guide



"Planning with People for a Better Phoenix"

City of Phoenix
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Mobile Vending Do I need a mobile vending license?

Who needs a mobile vending license?

Any person doing business as a mobile vendor on private property or employing or hiring another person to do so (City Code Chapter 10, Article XIV, Section 10-161.A)

Who does not need a mobile vending license?

There are several exceptions to the mobile vending license requirement, although you still may need a privilege (sales) tax license:

- A "temporary use" under Section 708.D of the Zoning Ordinance, if you operate no more than five (5) days in a row and no more than four (4) times a year at the same location as permitted by the Planning and Development Department. (Section 10-169).
- Vendors at a swap meet that is licensed by the city. (Chapter 10, Article V, Section 10-34)
- Vendors at a promotional event at a shopping center regulated by Section 637.A.4 of the Zoning Ordinance. (Section 10-169)
- Vendors selling seasonal items exclusively such as Christmas trees or pumpkins sold before holidays such as Christmas or Halloween. (Section 10-160.7)
- If you visit more than one private property location on a daily basis for one hour or less per location, you do not need a mobile vending license. (Section 10-160.11, 14) Examples are vendors who serve food from catering trucks during breaks and lunch hours.
- If you operate on a public street (as ice cream trucks operate), you need a street vending license. (Section 31-23)
- If you operate on a public sidewalk, you need a sidewalk vending license. (Section 31-26) (Example: hot dog and water vendors near the downtown sports venues) **Sidewalk vending is limited to the downtown area.** For information about street and sidewalk vending licenses, call License Services at (602) 262-4638 or visit them on the 1st Floor of Phoenix City Hall, 200 West Washington Street.

Do my employees need a mobile vending license?

Only the owner of the business needs a mobile vending license. If the owner has more than one mobile vending unit, a license is needed for each location (only one unit allowed per location). Also, there must be a manager for each location. (Section 10-161.B, C)

Definitions: *The below definitions are an excerpt from the City of Phoenix Zoning Ordinance. It is intended for convenience only and does not replace the ordinance itself.*

Mobile vendor: A person who peddles, vends, sells, serves, displays or offers to sell or gives away goods, wares or merchandise, or food from a mobile vending unit which is parked or located on a parcel of private property. This term does not include a mobile vending unit that visits multiple private property sites on a daily basis for no more than one hour thirty minutes per site per day.

Mobile Food Vendor: Mobile food vendor: A person, who sells, serves, offers for sale, or gives away only food from a mobile food vending unit which is parked or located on a parcel of private property. This term does not include a person who operates a mobile food vending unit that visits multiple private property sites on a daily basis for no more than thirty (30) minutes per site per day.

Mobile vending unit: Any motorized or non-motorized vehicle, trailer, kiosk, pushcart, stand, display, blanket, ground covering or other device designed to be portable and not permanently attached to the ground from which any is used to sell goods, wares, merchandise or food, are peddled, vended, sold, served, displayed, offered for sale or given away. This includes any display consisting solely of the goods, wares, merchandise or food being peddled, sold, served, displayed or offered for sale.

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