



INDUSTRY BULLETIN

For Florida's Food Service Industry



SUBJECT: Food Service Employee Training Information Bulletin 2003-04 / Sept. 22, 2003

Chapter 509.049, Florida Statutes (F.S.), requires that all food service employees be certified in task-specific food safety training upon employment and also that appropriate training be immediately provided when new tasks are assigned. This certification requirement was enacted by the 2000 Florida Legislature, and employees must be re-certified every 3 years.

This bulletin is provided as a reminder that employees initially certified under this requirement will soon need to be re-certified. Please be aware of the following:

1. Chapter 509, F.S. states, "it shall be the duty of the licensee of the public food service establishment to provide training in accordance with Chapter 509.049, F.S. and 61C-4.023, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.)."
2. This training must be provided to all employees under the licensee's supervision or control who work in storage, preparation, display or service of foods to the public in establishments regulated under this chapter. Training topics must include professional hygiene and foodborne disease prevention. Everyone taking a training program must be provided proof that they are certified.
3. As provided in Chapter 509, the division contracted with the non-profit Florida Restaurant Association (FRA) to provide the required food safety training. Information regarding the FRA program, called *ServSafe-with-SafeStaff*, may be accessed by contacting FRA at 866.FRA.SAFE (866.372.7233) or www.flra.com.
4. Other training plans have been approved. A list, updated weekly, may be found on the Internet at http://www.MyFlorida.com/dbpr/hr/programs/fs_training/fs_training_list.pdf.
5. Licensees may designate any Florida Certified Food Manager to perform their training. Re-certification of current employees does not effect the requirement that all newly employed food service workers must receive certification within 60 days of employment.
6. All establishments are reviewed for compliance with the Food Service Employee Training Program requirement during each of three annual routine food safety inspections. Failure to provide proof of employee training at that time may result in administrative penalties including monetary fines.

For further information, or to view any of the statute or administrative rules referenced here, please visit our website at <http://www.MyFlorida.com/dbpr/hr/index.shtml> or contact our Customer Contact Center at 850.487.1395.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

Jeb Bush, *Governor*

Division of Hotels and Restaurants

Diane Carr, *Secretary*

www.MyFlorida.com/dbpr • www.hospitalityeducation.org