

FOOD SAFETY CERTIFICATION MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS

All members must meet minimum food safety certification requirements and have at least one staff or volunteer member trained in safe food handling. **Certifications must be current** and must be submitted with membership applications. Certificates are valid for either 3 or 5 years depending on what type of training you complete. All certificates must be renewed before their expiration date.

Food Pantry Food Safety Resources

The following training is intended for programs that provide food to households to take home. This training is not appropriate for programs that prepare meals for consumption (soup kitchens, residential programs, day cares, etc.) In those instances, courses provided by ServSafe® are required.

Food Pantry type organizations may complete the online course on our website, centralpafoodbank.org. Look under the Partner Agencies tab - Food Safety & Nutrition - to register for the Food Safety Video and Quiz. You should also share the following link with your volunteers. These videos provide great food safety reminders and practices for your distribution programs. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PZjvWYuXfPk>

Onsite Meal Programs Food Safety Resources

If your program is preparing and offering meals to consumers, you are required to take a food preparation food safety course. The food pantry curriculum is not appropriate for meal programs. Options for agencies that are preparing food for consumption onsite (soup kitchens, residential programs, day cares, etc.) include:

ServSafe® Course - This course is intended for soup kitchens, residential programs, day care programs, etc. Successful completion of this course provides certification for 5 years.

- Offered at a cost of \$65.00 per registration by the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank in Harrisburg and Williamsport. Information is located under the Partner Agencies tab – Partner Agency Education on our website, centralpafoodbank.org
- Offered by Carol H. Gilbert Consulting. You may contact them at (717) 229-6619 or chgilbert.com
- Offered by Penn State Extension - Contact the Penn State Extension office in your county for more information.

ServSafe® Food Handler Program - Abbreviated Food Safety Course: This course is intended for food prep assistants, snack programs, etc. Successful completion of this course provides certification for 3 years.

- Offered at a cost of \$10.00 per registration by the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank in Harrisburg and Williamsport. Information is located under the Partner Agencies – Partner Agency Education on our website, centralpafoodbank.org.
- Offered at a cost of \$15.00 online through ServSafe® -servsafe.com

Penn State Cooperative Extension's Cooking for Crowds – Contact the Penn State Extension office in your county for more information.

PA Department of Agriculture Food Safety Division's Food Safety for Non-Profits – Offers group training opportunities. Contact the Bureau of Food Safety at 1-866-366-3723 for more information.

For more information on food safety training options, please contact the Agency Services Department at the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank at 717-564-1700.

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