

DSHS Inspection Checklist for Texas Food Trucks

28 points DSHS reviews during your pre-licensing inspection, organized by Type I, II, and III. Use this to prepare before your inspection date — and check off each item as you confirm it.

SECTION 1 — ALL TYPES

Required Documentation

- Valid driver's license or CDL
- Proof of vehicle insurance
- TXDOT weight records
- Complete menu of all items sold
 - Must include every item — not just your main offerings*
- Food allergen poster
 - Must be visible to customers during operation*
- Operating schedule / itinerary
- Employee health policy
- CPF authorization letter and most recent inspection report (if applicable)
 - Required for most Type II and III operations*
- Food Manager Certification (TCS operations)
 - Required if you handle meat, dairy, seafood, or other TCS foods*
- Servicing area authorization (if applicable)

SECTION 2 — ALL TYPES

Vehicle Equipment — Base Requirements

- Labeled potable water tank — sloped to drain
 - Must be labeled "POTABLE WATER"*
- Wastewater tank — minimum 15% larger than potable tank
 - If potable is 30 gallons, wastewater must be at least 34.5 gallons*
- Handwashing sink installed with hot and cold water, soap, and paper towels
- 16-mesh screening at all ventilation openings
 - Prevents insect entry*
- Smooth, light-colored, cleanable walls, floors, and ceiling
- Vehicle fully movable — no permanent connections at time of inspection
 - Cannot be on jacks or connected to utilities during inspection*

SECTION 3 — TYPE II AND III

Additional Equipment Requirements

- Three-compartment sink for washing utensils

Required for operations with food preparation

- Adequate hot and cold TCS food holding equipment

- Employee restroom access during all operating hours

Can be at your CPF or nearby facility — document the access

SECTION 4 — BEFORE YOU APPLY

Know This Before Submitting Your Application

- Your confirmed MFV classification (Type I, II, or III)

Determines your fees and requirements

- Whether you're Category 1 or Category 2

Cat 1 = current local permit. Cat 2 = no active TX permit

- All food sources and approved suppliers documented

- Potable and wastewater tank sizes in gallons

- Confirmed servicing area location and authorization

- CPF identified (if applicable) and authorization letter obtained

Required for most Type II and III before inspection

- CPF exemption verified (if you qualify)

Very few operators qualify — confirm with our audit

Not sure about an item on this list?

Our \$99 audit reviews your specific truck, county, and situation — and tells you exactly what's ready and what's missing, in priority order. Results in 48 hours.

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