



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AND
WORKER PROTECTION (DCWP)
LICENSING CENTER
42 Broadway, Lobby
New York, NY 10004

By Appointment Only Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Last appointment: 3:30 p.m.

NYC SMALL BUSINESS
SUPPORT CENTER
90-27 Sutphin Blvd, 4th Floor
Jamaica, NY 11435

By Appointment Only Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Last appointment: 3:30 p.m.

Frequently Asked Questions: Specialized Vending Licenses for Mobile Food Vendors

What is a Specialized Vending license?

Specialized vending licenses are for veterans with a service-related disability. Vendors who hold the Citywide Specialized vending license (Yellow) or Midtown Core Zone vending license (Blue) can vend in certain restricted areas.

- For regulations that apply to mobile food vendors, visit the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) website at nyc.gov/sanitation.
- For information about mobile food vendor permits and licenses, visit the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) website at nyc.gov/health.

Are licensed mobile food vendors also required to get a General Vendor license to apply for a Specialized Vending license?

No.

Due to a change in eligibility criteria, people who hold only an active DOHMH Mobile Food Vending license can apply for a Specialized Vending license if they meet the requirements.

Before the change, people who intended to sell food first had to get a DOHMH Mobile Food Vending license *and* a General Vendor license from the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection (DCWP) to apply for a Specialized Vending license.

What does this change mean for me if I already have a Specialized Vending license?

If you already have a Specialized Vending license, there is no impact, and you don't need to take any action.

However, if you hold a General Vendor license and no longer want it, you can surrender it to the DCWP Licensing Division. As a result:

- Your Specialized Vending license would be linked to your DOHMH Mobile Food Vending license.
- *Your priority/wait list number(s) would remain the same.*
- You must maintain an active DOHMH Mobile Food Vending license to keep your Specialized Vending license. *If your DOHMH Mobile Food Vending license becomes inactive, DCWP will void your Specialized Vending license.* You must reapply for a Specialized Vending license, which will result in a new priority/wait list number(s).

If I switch to a Specialized Vending license for Mobile Food Vendors, what happens to the priority and wait list numbers associated with the General Vendor license?

You will keep the priority and wait list numbers that you have currently.

If I have a Specialized Vending license, where can I vend?

For educational resources plus applicable laws and rules, visit nyc.gov/sanitation. The regulations are the same whether you have a Specialized Vending license for Mobile Food Vendors or General Vendors.

DSNY is the coordinating agency for street vending enforcement.