



General Information About New York City Green Carts

New York City (NYC) Green Carts are food carts and trucks that bring fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods to neighborhoods that have lacked access to fresh produce. Green Cart vendors must have a New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (the Health Department) mobile food vending license, and operators of the cart or truck must have a Health Department Green Cart (Fresh Fruits and Vegetables) permit.

What foods can a Green Cart offer?

Green Carts offer whole, uncut raw fruits and vegetables such as whole carrots, bananas, apples and berries; bottled drinking water; plain nuts; and sliced or cut fruits and vegetables if the food cart or truck has equipment to keep food cold and pre-packaged. For more information on what Green Carts can sell, visit nyc.gov/greencarts.

Where can a Green Cart operate?

Green Carts operate in designated police precincts. Visit nyc.gov/greencarts to learn more.

How many Green Cart permits are there?

NYC has made 1,000 Green Cart permits available: 350 for Brooklyn, 350 for the Bronx, 150 for Manhattan, 100 for Queens and 50 for Staten Island.

How much does it cost to get a Green Cart permit?

- Initial costs: To apply for a Green Cart permit, you need to have a valid mobile food vending license. If you do not already have a license, you need to pay \$53 for the Food Protection Course for Mobile Vendors and \$50 for the license, which is valid for two years. If you are offered a Green Cart permit, the permit costs \$75 and is valid for two years.
- Renewal costs: It costs \$50 to renew your license every two years, plus a \$10 fee for tax clearance. It costs \$50 to renew your permit every two years.
- Fees for the license and permit are waived for a United States veteran with a New York State Peddler's Certificate, or a surviving spouse or domestic partner of a Veteran with this certificate.

How can I get a mobile food vending license?

Call **311** and ask for "Mobile Food Vendor License Application" or visit www1.nyc.gov/nycbusiness/description/mobile-food-vending-license.

How can I apply for a Green Cart permit?

Green Cart permits are issued to people on a Green Cart permit waiting list. There is a waiting list for each borough. A new waiting list is created once the current list has been exhausted. You can apply to be on the Green Cart permit waiting lists during the open waiting list period. To find more information on when the open waiting list periods are, visit nyc.gov/greencarts.

What happens after I submit my waiting list application form?

The Health Department will establish a waiting list of applicants for each borough based on priority groups and a lottery system. The Health Department will mail you a postcard with your waiting list number and will send you a permit application when you are selected from one of the borough-specific waiting lists.

Priority for a waiting list position is based on a point system. More points are awarded to applicants with disabilities, U.S. veterans with or without disabilities and applicants who are already on other Health Department mobile food permit waiting lists. The applications within each priority group are randomly assigned a number on the waiting list. If you are unable to show proof of your priority group when you are notified to apply for the permit, your waiting list application will be rejected for all the boroughs you select and you will have to reapply once the waiting lists reopen again.

I see that some boroughs have more Green Cart permits than others. Will my chances be better if I choose more than one borough?

Your chance of being selected to apply for a permit depends on how many applicants there are, your priority group and if you are willing to operate in more boroughs. When you apply to get on the waiting list, select all boroughs where you are willing to operate a Green Cart. If you are only willing to operate in one borough, you should select just one.

If I apply for the Green Cart waiting lists, will you remove my name from other mobile food vending permit waiting lists?

No. The waiting lists for other types of mobile food vending permits and Green Cart permits are separate. Applying to be on a waiting list for a Green Cart permit will not affect your status or position on any other mobile food vending permit waiting list.

If I already have a mobile food vending permit, can I get a Green Cart permit too?

You can only have one mobile food vending permit at a time. If you apply and are selected for a Green Cart permit and you accept that permit, you will have to give back your other mobile food vending permit.

How can I get a Green Cart?

You must buy your own cart and the Health Department must inspect and approve your cart before you operate it. Visit nyc.gov/greencarts to find a list of approved cart manufacturers.