

FactSheet

Food Handler Safety Training Card Program Testing Requirements Update — Effective July 1, 2018

Frequently Asked Questions

Do I need to complete the Vegas PBS training to get my Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card)?

Prior to June 30, 2018, Vegas PBS training will continue to be required. Your certificate will be valid for one year from the date you registered. If your training is completed prior to June 30, 2018, simply present your certificate for review when you apply for your Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card). If accepted, testing will not be necessary for your first time or renewal Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card). You may be asked to demonstrate proficiency in the language that was used to take the Vegas PBS test.

After July 1, 2018, Vegas PBS training will no longer be required. Training and information materials will be available on the Health District website or you may take any available food safety training courses. Please note that material from courses or websites other than the Southern Nevada Health District may or may not conform to current Health District Regulations. The test now required by the Health District to obtain your Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card) covers material from current Regulations.

How much will the testing cost?

The test for the Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card) is included in the \$20.00 card fee. If you fail the test, you will need to come back no earlier than the next business day to re-take the test after paying a \$5.00 re-test fee. A score of 70 percent or better is considered passing.

What if I fail the test?

You must pass the test with a score of 70 percent or better. If you fail the test, you will need to come back no earlier than the next business day to re-take the test after paying a \$5.00 re-test fee.

What if I paid for my Vegas PBS course before June 30, 2018, but I didn't complete my test until July 1, 2018 or after?

We can accept your completion certificate if it is dated June 30, 2018 or before. After July 1, 2018, all Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card) applicants — both first time and renewing — will be required to pass the Health District required test to obtain their card.

How long is my Vegas PBS certificate good for?

Your Vegas PBS completion certificate is good for one year from the date that you registered and paid for the course.

Can I still do the Vegas PBS training?

Effective July 1, 2018, the Vegas PBS training is not mandatory. You are welcome to complete the Vegas PBS course but you will need to pass the Health District required test before obtaining your Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card).

Can I take the eFoodHandler.com, ServSafe Food Handling, or other available courses to get my Health Card?

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Effective July 1, 2018, you will be able download food safety information from the Health District website or take any number of courses to prepare you for the test required by the Health District to obtain your Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card). Many courses are based on common food safety practices or FDA guidelines. Please be certain that the course content coincides with the Health District's Regulations Governing Food Establishments since test questions will be taken from the Regulations.

I registered for the Vegas PBS course before June 30, 2018. Can I get my money back?

Once you have registered for the course, paid the course fee and launched the training, refunds are not provided. If you have any questions, please contact Vegas PBS at (702) 799-0031 or e-mail them at GoalOnline@vegaspbs.org.

I completed the Vegas PBS course prior to June 30, 2018. How do I get a copy of my certificate?

You will need to log back into the system with your user name and password. Click Learning History to see the course(s) completed. Click the certificate icon and print your certificate.

If you cannot retrieve your certificate, your test results can be pulled up when you come in to apply for your card.

Why do I have to take a test at the Southern Nevada Health District if I've completed a course or have a training certificate?

To ensure each applicant has knowledge in safe food handling techniques, you will need to pass the Southern Nevada Health District's test to demonstrate your knowledge. Prior to taking the test, applicants will be required to present a valid photo ID as they've always done when applying for their Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card). The test will be overseen to ensure testing standards are maintained during the process.

Can I bring notes or use my phone while taking the test?

All applicants will be asked to put their phones away and place them in "silent" mode or simply shut them off. No notes, books, or reference material will be allowed in the testing area.

Any phone use or looking at notes, books, or reference material during the test will result in an automatic failure. You will be asked to return no earlier than the next business day and pay the \$5.00 re-test fee before being allowed to test again.

Why is the first-time test more comprehensive than the renewal test?

First-time applicants must demonstrate knowledge of safe food handling techniques to obtain their Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card). Once employed, Food Handler Safety Training Card holders will be under the supervision and guidance of their establishments' "Person in Charge" who is responsible for continued training and ensuring safe food handling techniques are being used. Renewal applicants will be tested on several "critical items" that all Food Handlers should know to be safe and effective while working in a permitted establishment.

Is there a time limit for the test?

There is no time limit to complete the test. Please note the closing time of the office where you'd like to obtain your Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card) and plan your visit accordingly.

If I fail the test before my expiration date, will there still be a late fee if I return after the expiration date?

The late fee is assessed based on the date that you apply and pay for your Food Handler Safety Training Card (Health Card). Taking the test and failing does not extend your expiration date and there is no grace period.

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P.O. Box 3902 | Las Vegas, NV 89127
(702) 759-1000 | www.SNHD.info