



Outdoor Dining Pilot Program Frequently Asked Questions

For a complete list of requirements and the registration form, see the Department of Transportation Services' [Outdoor Dining Program website](#).

Q: Who's allowed to do outdoor dining under the Outdoor Dining Pilot Program?

A: Generally, restaurants and other food and beverage services that are on the ground floor and abut City property, such as a sidewalk. Minimum clearance requirements and other conditions and restrictions must be met. Available front yard space on private property must be used before using City property.

Q: Do I need a permit?

A: Yes; you will need to fill out an application form and satisfy the requirements listed in the form; there is a \$50.00 application fee (cash or check). You must also comply with: (1) your State Department of Health food establishment permit, if selling liquor, (2) your Honolulu Liquor Commission permit, and (3) any State Department of Health directives related to COVID-19 social/physical distancing or any requirements that may be in effect as declared in any emergency proclamations, orders, or rules in response to any global pandemic or health emergency.

Q: What do I have to do to serve food outdoors on City property?

A: Notify the State Department of Health, Food Safety Branch at (808) 586-8000 of your business' expanded dining area on City property.

Q: My restaurant serves alcoholic beverages, can I do that outdoors?

A: Yes, if you obtain approval from the Honolulu Liquor Commission at (808) 768-7323 (email: HLC@honolulu.gov) and comply with the terms of your liquor license. Alcohol sales are prohibited in pedestrian malls, parks, and playgrounds.

Q: Can I do outdoor dining in a private parking lot?

A: You should consult with your property manager. You must maintain parking stalls required under zoning regulations and the line of sight for traffic safety.

Q: Can I have live music outdoors?

A: No.

Q: I own a retail store, will I be allowed to do outdoor sales?

A: No, the Outdoor Dining Pilot Program is for outdoor dining only.

Q: Do the rules apply to restaurants and other food services along pedestrian malls, such as Fort Street Mall?

A: Yes, as long as requirements including pedestrian right of way and all applicable Americans with Disabilities Act requirements are met. See Outdoor Dining Pilot Program General Guidelines, Conditions, and Restrictions for further requirements.

Q: Can I use the parking stall fronting my restaurant or other food services for outdoor dining, similar to "parklets?"

A: Parklets have their own set of requirements. For more information, contact (808) 768-8329.

Q: If the public has any complaints regarding outdoor dining services being provided by a restaurant, who can they call?

A: Complaints or violations can be reported to the Commercial Enforcement Branch of the Department of Planning and Permitting at (808) 768-8152.