



**BRISTOL-BURLINGTON HEALTH DISTRICT**

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**From:** Charles I. Motes BBHD Director of Health  
**To:** Licensed BBHD Food Establishment Owner /Operators  
**Date:** September 26, 2017  
**Subject:** **Adoption of the FDA Model Food Code**

The CT General Assembly passed a bill that will make the **FDA Model Food Code** Connecticut's food code beginning **July 1, 2018**. This new law will result in a variety of changes for the food establishments in CT. Some changes will begin on **October 1, 2017**. The Bristol Burlington Health Districts (BBHD) Environmental Health Program is committed to working with you throughout the transition process and providing updates on the BBHD website to help you better understand the changes.

**We are sending this letter to inform you of this change and provide a preliminary list of key changes that you should be aware of and begin preparing for:**

- **Effective October 1, 2017**, cold holding temperatures will decrease from **45 °F degrees** or below to **41 °F degrees** or below. (Problem areas can be reach-ins, walk-ins, sandwich units, and cooling of food. We recommend checking and servicing of gaskets, compressors, fans, refrigerant and keeping lids closed) Provide air temps of 33-37°F to keep foods 41°F or less.

**BBHD will be enforcing new danger zone temperatures and will debit potentially hazardous foods. We will waive reinspection fees for temperature violations related to the new code from 10/1/17 to 6/30/18**

- **Effective October 1, 2017** hot holding temperatures will change from a minimum of **140 °F degrees** to a minimum of **135 °F degrees**.
- **Effective October 1, 2017** the class definitions for a food establishment will change. (This will **not** change your current fee from your existing license that expires on June 30, 2018) New fee rates effective on July 1, 2018.
- **Effective October 1, 2017** an owner or operator who disagrees with violations noted on an inspection report or an order to hold or destroy food **may** appeal to the Director of Health within 48 hours from when the inspection report was issued. After reviewing the appeal, the director of health may vacate, modify, or affirm the order. The owner or operator if still aggrieved, may appeal to the Commissioner.
- **Effective July 1, 2018**, Qualified Food Operators (QFOs) will become known as **Certified Food Protection Managers**. Class II, III, & IV food establishments will be required to have trained **Certified Food Protection Managers**. **Current Certified Food Protection Managers (QFOs) will be required to renew expired certifications.**
- **Effective July 1, 2018** ALL food establishments will be required to *register* with the Connecticut Department of Public Health before a license is issued, or renewed by the BBHD
- New Inspection forms will be used and reports will no longer provide a number score. **Violations cited will be categorized as "Priority", "Priority Foundation" and "Core" which align with risk of that violation as it relates to foodborne illness**

BBHD is committed to working with you throughout the transition process and will continue to provide updates, and answer any pending questions. **We encourage you to work with our BBHD inspectors and begin reviewing information currently available in preparation for this important transition. For more information go to: [www.bbhd.org](http://www.bbhd.org)**