
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
NEWS RELEASE



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Kent County Health Department Extends Food Service Licensing Fee Deadline
Restaurants Still Required to Submit Renewal Application

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (April 17, 2020) – The Kent County Health Department announced today it is extending the deadline for the annual food service licensing fees due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The deadline for the fees was originally April 30, 2020 but has been extended to August 31, 2020. Late fees will be assessed on or after September 1, 2020.

While the fee deadline is being extended, all restaurants are required to submit a renewal application by April 30, 2020. The application will ensure establishments remain licensed during the 2020-2021 operating period. If an establishment does not intend to renew its license, the application still should be returned but include a signed note requesting its license be cancelled.

“We know restaurants are doing everything they can to meet the current challenges while continuing to comply with the stay-at-home executive order,” said Kent County Health Department Director Dr. Adam London. “We hope to offer some relief to these establishments by extending the food service fee deadline.”

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer recently issued an executive order extending the temporary closure of dine-in services at all bars and restaurants through April 30, 2020. The order does not restrict a place of business from offering food and beverage using delivery service, window service, walk-up service, drive-through service, or drive-up service. Restaurants may allow five people inside at a time to pick up orders, so long as they stay six feet apart from each other.

All 2,324 food service establishments (permanent, temporary, fixed, or mobile) in the county are licensed via the Kent County Health Department, and fees are based on the classification and size of the restaurant.

Restaurant owners with questions should contact the Kent County Health Department, Environmental Health Division at 616-632-6900 or KCEHMail@kentcountymi.gov.

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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 260 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit www.accesskent.com/health.

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