**Starting a Food Truck in Charlotte**

In order to **legally operate a food truck**, you must:

* Obtain general liability insurance
* Secure a commissary kitchen
* Obtain an inspection and a Mobile Food Unit permit from the Mecklenburg County Health Dept.
  + [Application for Health Permit](https://www.mecknc.gov/HealthDepartment/EnvironmentalHealth/FoodserviceandFacilities/Documents/Mobile%20Food%20and%20Pushcart%20Application%20Packet%202020.pdf)
  + [Additional Health Department Information](https://www.mecknc.gov/HealthDepartment/EnvironmentalHealth/FoodserviceandFacilities/Pages/mobilefood.aspx)

These steps will allow you to operate **on PRIVATE property** with written permission from the property owner. **Food trucks cannot operate in the public right of way** (streets, sidewalks, plazas) in the City limits nor in the Center City, South End or West End unless operating as part of a special event with closed streets. This is strictly enforced.

In order to be added to the Center City Partners **database of food trucks** and receive info about events and locations seeking trucks, email proof of the three items above, plus:

* Description of the menu served
* Photo of the truck
* Complete contact info for the owner/operator
* Certificate of insurance listing Charlotte Center City Partners as additionally insured.
* Health Department Certificate
* Any sustainable/ environmentally friendly practices you implement.
* Dimensions of vending unit

Email these items to:  
jhundley@charlottecentercity.org

The City operates **a pilot program wherein trucks can apply to park in designated spots on the streets** in the Center City. To be eligible for this program, a truck must:

* Be a self-propelled truck – NO TOWED TRAILERS ARE ELIGIBLE
* Have all items listed above
* Secure vehicle liability insurance
* Complete an application packet from CDOT
* Food truck can not be longer than 18 feet (must fit inside one parking space)

When a truck successfully completes the application packet for the on-street program, the owner will be notified that s/he is eligible to purchase permits and go into the on-street rotation.