Self-Service Food Stations in Retail Food Establishments

Requirements

Self-service food stations in retail food establishments must follow Ohio mandates for social distancing, masking, congregating, and responding to confirmed cases of COVID-19 as outlined in the Director's Order for Social Distancing, Facial Coverings and Non-Congregating. Guidance on the order is available on the Responsible Restart Ohio: Social Distancing, Masking, and Congregating page at coronavirus.ohio.gov.

Self-service food stations in retail food establishments must follow all relevant mandates in the order, including ensuring masks are worn by anyone who is not seated.

Recommendations

Below are additional recommended best practices for self-service food stations in retail food establishments.

General

- Customers who are unable to wear a facial covering should be served by an employee.
- Hand sanitizer should be placed at self-serve food stations and used by customers prior to serving themselves.
- At least 6 feet of social distancing must be maintained between customers and should be monitored by employees.
- Use pre-wrapped disposable serving utensils if available. If not available, serving utensils should be replaced or cleaned and sanitized frequently.
- Use of individually packaged condiments is recommended instead of shared or bulk condiment dispensers.
- While in operation, ensure staff trained in food safety continually monitor self-serve areas.
- Protect food from contamination, including sneeze guards on self-serve equipment.