

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Food Service Chapter 246-215 WAC August 2019

ACTIVITY	ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE	DATE COMPLETED
Form Food Safety Advisory Council (FSAC)	October 2017	October 2017
Attend Conference for Food Protection (CFP)	April 2018	April 2018
Brief the SBOH	June 14, 2018	June 14, 2018
Summarize FDA Food Code changes since 2013 and other revisions	June 2018	June 2018
File CR101	August 2018	July 2, 2018
Collect FSAC/Stakeholder recommendations on potential rulemaking	July 12 – August 17 2018	Online survey open 7/12/18 – 8/29/18
Analyze 2017 Food Code for possible changes to chapter 246-215 WAC	August 2018	9/5/18
Food Safety Advisory Council to evaluate proposed changes, stakeholder input, and 2017 FDA Food Code	9/26/18 10/24/18, 11/29/18, 1/23/19, 2/27/19, 3/27/19, 4/23/19, 5/1/19	5/1/19
Finalize rule evaluation and propose draft rules	May 31, 2019	5/31/19
Public Meetings	Kennewick 7/16/19 Spokane 7/17/19 Ferndale 7/22/19 Renton 7/23/19 Vancouver 7/24/19 Webinar 7/25/19	7/25/19
Stakeholder comments on proposed rule	May 31 – July 31, 2019	
SBOH briefing	August 14, 2019	
FSAC final review	September 25, 2018	
Finalize proposed rules and required analyses	October 2019	
SBOH briefing	November 18, 2019	
File CR 102	November 2019	
Last day to submit written comments	December 2019	
Public Hearing	March 11 2020	
Respond to stakeholder comments	March 18 2020	
File CR 103	April 2020	
Train stakeholders on rule	April 2020-ongoing	
Rule Effective	May 2020	

Purpose

The purpose of revision is to update chapter 246-215 WAC, Food Service, by incorporating portions of the 2017 FDA Model Food Code. These updates will provide clear food safety standards that align with national standards.

In addition, this rule revision will incorporate recent legislative activities affecting retail food establishments. These changes are designed to increase consistent application across the state.

Recent Issues and Activities

Food safety program staff completed a series of in-person public meetings and an online webinar on the draft rule language in July. Approximately 200 stakeholders directly participated and others have provided comment through email or phone.

Next Steps

Program staff will compile informal comments received in July to share with stakeholders and will continue to prepare sample educational materials. The FSAC will review comments on the proposed rule and draft educational materials in September 2019.

Rule Revision Website:

www.doh.wa.gov/CommunityandEnvironment/Food/FoodWorkerandIndustry/FoodSafetyRules/FoodCodeRuleRevision

For detailed information about the Food Service rule revision process, please see the Department of Health website at <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/food/rule.html> or contact Susan Shelton, Food Safety Program, at 509-212-1206 or email Susan.Shelton@doh.wa.gov