

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs): Producing Juice at Retail

This FAQs document was created to assist retail food facilities that produce juice. It addresses FAQs regarding local permitting, CDPH licensing (Processed Food Registration, PFR), and Juice Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) requirements of various business models.

Juice is served or sold on-site

- 1. A permitted retail food facility produces fresh juice and only serves on-site to its customers. Does the food facility need a CDPH license (PFR) and to operate under a Juice HACCP plan?**

A retail food facility that produces fresh juice can do so under a local permit. A CDPH PFR is not required. Compliance with Juice HACCP (21 CFR 120) is not required. Please check with local jurisdictions to determine if a retail HACCP is required.

- 2. A permitted retail food facility produces fresh juice, advertises online, and sells the juice direct-to-consumer. Does the food facility need a CDPH PFR and to operate under a Juice HACCP plan?**

A retail food facility can advertise and sell online without a CDPH PFR only if the juice is sold direct-to-consumer. A CDPH PFR is not required for direct-to-consumer sales. Compliance with Juice HACCP (21 CFR 120) is not required; however, a local enforcement agency may require a retail food facility to operate under a retail Juice HACCP plan. Please check with your local agency [[HSC 114419\(a\)\(6\)](#)].

- 3. A permitted retail food facility produces and bottles refrigerated juice for on-site direct-to-consumer sales and consumption. Does the food facility need a CDPH PFR and to operate under a Juice HACCP plan?**

A retail food facility that produces and bottles refrigerated juice only for on-site direct-to-consumer sales can do so under a local permit. A CDPH PFR is not

required. Compliance with Juice HACCP (21 CFR 120) is not required. Please check with local jurisdictions to determine if a retail HACCP is required.

- 4. A permitted retail food facility produces and bottles a shelf-stable, non-refrigerated juice for on-site sales.**

Contact the CDPH Retail Team for assistance at FDBRetail@CDPH.ca.gov.

- 5. A permitted retail food facility is a cottage food operation (CFO) or a microenterprise home kitchen operation (MEHKO) seeking to produce juice.**

Juice must be produced in a commercial kitchen. Home-based kitchen operations are not allowed to produce juice.

Juice is served or sold off-site

Same-day-service

- 6. A permitted retail food facility produces and bottles refrigerated juice for off-site sales at a farmers' market, community event, temporary event, etc.**

A retail food facility may produce, bottle, and hold fresh refrigerated juice then transport it to an off-site event for direct-to-consumer sales only. The retail food facility must sell the product themselves and cannot transfer product to any other business entity. Transfer of product to another person or business will likely require a CDPH PFR. The event may or may not be in the same jurisdiction as the production site. The retail food facility may be a commissary or a shared kitchen. This is allowed under a local permit. Additional permitting (Temporary Food Facility, TFF) is required at the point-of-sale site. CDPH PFR is not required. Compliance with Juice HACCP (21 CFR 120) is not required.

Distribution/Wholesale

- 7. A permitted retail food facility produces juice, bottles, and distributes to its own locations where the juice will be held for sale direct to the consumer. What is required?**

Distribution to other retail food facility locations is not a process allowed under the retail food code, even if it is to a retail facility's own locations; this is considered

distribution and is not considered direct-to-consumer. Therefore, a CDPH PFR and compliance with Juice HACCP ([21 CFR 120](#)) is required. However, state law [[HSC 110480\(a\)\(3\)](#)] does allow a retail food facility to distribute a certain amount of juice without obtaining a PFR provided the following conditions are not met:

(A) Has gross annual wholesale sales of processed foods of more than 25 percent of total food sales.

(B) Sells processed foods outside the jurisdiction of the local health department.

(C) Sells processed foods that require labeling pursuant to this part.

(D) Processes or handles fresh seafood, frozen seafood held in bulk for further processing, or fresh or frozen raw shellfish.

(E) Salvages processed foods for sale other than at the retail food facility.

If any of these conditions is not met, a CDPH PFR is required. A CDPH PFR requires compliance with Juice HACCP ([21 CFR 120](#)) as a condition of state PFR license.

8. A permitted retail food facility produces juice, bottles, and wholesales or distributes to other business locations where the juice will be held for sale direct to the consumer. What is required?

Distribution to other retail food facility locations is not a process allowed under the retail food code, even if it is to a retail facility's own locations; this is considered distribution and is not considered direct-to-consumer. Therefore, a CDPH PFR and compliance with Juice HACCP ([21 CFR 120](#)) is required. However, state law [[HSC 110480\(a\)\(3\)](#)] does allow a retail food facility to distribute a certain amount of juice without obtaining a PFR provided the following conditions are not met:

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Other Questions Related to Retail

- 9. A retail food facility extracts juices and blends them together to make a variety of juice products or sells them as individual juices. The juice products are then bottled and sold directly to consumers. What labeling requirements does this retail operation need to follow for their juices if these juice products are not pasteurized?**

Packaged juice produced at a retail facility is subject to the food labeling regulations, found in [21 CFR Part 101.17\(g\)](#), which requires the following warning statement on fruit and vegetable juice products that have not been processed to prevent, reduce, or eliminate pathogenic microorganisms:

WARNING: This product has not been pasteurized and, therefore, may contain harmful bacteria that can cause serious illness in children, the elderly, and persons with weakened immune systems.