



# FOOD TRUCK ORDINANCE

(April 2026)

The City of Guadalupe welcomes you to town! We hope your will be successful. The following information explains the process to operate a Food Truck or trailer within the City. For the purpose of this ordinance, the term “Food Truck” will also include any type of trailer that is moved via a licensed motor vehicle.

To operate in the City, you will need a valid Health Permit issued from the County of Barbara, an Administrative Use Permit (AUP), and business license from the City. The full ordinance for Food Trucks can be found in the Guadalupe Municipal Code at

<https://cityofguadalupe.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/6G.-Second-Reading-of-Ordinance-No.-2026-526-Food-Trucks.pdf>

The application for a food truck AUP can be picked up at the Planning Office during regular City business hours, or you can download a fillable/printable application online at <https://cityofguadalupe.org/planning-department/>. When completed, bring the application along with a current Health Permit for the specific vehicle intended for this permit, to the Planning Office along with the fees for a one-year permit. The fees are currently \$340.00. Upon approval of the AUP, you will be required to obtain the annual business license.

There are several scenarios for which an AUP is required and these are explained below:

1. Owner/Operator that wants to operate within the City at one or more locations, selling to the general public. The Owner/Operator must obtain the permits before starting up their operation.
2. Owner of an industrial business that wants to contract with a Food Truck to exclusively serve his/her employees while on the property. The business owner would obtain the permit, but the food truck would still be required to have a valid Health Permit and business license.
3. A Commercial business owner in the City might want to supplement their business with a Food Truck during normal business hours. If the food truck can't be parked on the private property, per standard ordinance conditions then the vehicle would need to meet conditions for parking within the Right-of-Way of a public street. The business owner would obtain the AUP permit, but the Food Truck would still be required to have a valid Health Permit and business license.
4. If a landowner within a Residential zone wanted to have a private party or a block party, one owner would be required to obtain the permit. The Food Truck could either be parked on the private property or at the curb adjacent to the property. Only guests of the landowner would be allowed to utilize the Food Truck. Unless a Food Truck was supporting a private party, it would otherwise not be permitted in a residential neighborhood. The property owner would obtain the AUP permit, but the Food Truck would still be required to have a valid Health Permit and business license.

5. If an organization or private individual was permitted to have an event on City owned property (e.g. park, parking lot, or building), then a permit would be needed from the organization or private individual to allow one or more food trucks to serve the event. When submitting the AUP, the organization would need to submit the application, copy of the signed City permit, and copy of Health Permit(s) for each food truck.

In each scenario above, there are a number of standard ordinance conditions that must be followed. During the processing the AUP, staff may require additional conditions due to special circumstances. The entire permit is processed at a staff level without hearings before the City Council. A normal application should not take more than two weeks if the application is Complete at the time of submittal. If you have questions regarding the AUP process or filling out the application, contact the Planning Department at \*805) 356-3904.