1.0 State of Delaware Food Code

Name. These Regulations shall hereby be known as the “State of Delaware Food Code”.

Effective Date. The State of Delaware Food Code shall be effective May 11, 2014.

Prior Regulations Repealed. All current or previous regulations or parts of regulations in conflict with this State of Delaware Food Code are hereby repealed.

Location. A copy of the complete State of Delaware Food Code is available for public view at the following locations:
Jesse S. Cooper Building, 417 Federal St, Dover DE 19901

Severability. Should any part, sub-part, section, paragraph, sentence or phrase of this State of Delaware Food Code be declared unconstitutional or invalid by any competent authority, the remainder of this Code shall not be affected in anyway.

2.0 Adoption of United States Public Health Service 2013 Food Code

2.1 The State of Delaware Food Code adopts, as if fully set forth herein, the “United States Public Health Service 2013 Food Code” excluding Annex 1 through Annex 7, as amended herein:

2.1.1 Amend Subpart 1-101.10 by inserting the words “State of Delaware” before the words “Food Code” and after the words “as the”.

2.1.2 Amend Subpart 1-102.10 by deleting the subpart in its entirety and by inserting in lieu thereof the following, “The purpose of this Code is to safeguard public health, reduce the risk of foodborne illness and provide to consumers food that is safe, unadulterated and honestly presented. The purpose is also to regulate, within the State of Delaware, the production, transportation, storage, processing, handling, preparation and consumer service of human food; the inspections of food establishments; the issuing and revocation of permits to food establishments; and the application of compliance and enforcement procedures.

2.1.3 Subpart 1-201.10(B) Terms Defined

2.1.3.1 Amend Subpart 1-201.10(B) by adding thereto a new defined term after the defined term “Prior Foundation Item” and before the defined term “Public water system” to read as follows: “Private” means a use or function that is intended for a particular individual or group, such as a celebration of a birthday, wedding, anniversary or funeral, and that is not intended for consumers as members of the general public.

2.1.3.2 Amend Subpart 1-201.10(B) by deleting the definition for “Regulatory authority” and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “Regulatory authority” means the Secretary, Delaware Health and Social Services, or his/her authorized representative.

2.1.4 Amend Chapter 8 by adding thereto a new part “8-6” to read as follows:

8-6 Enforcement Procedures
8-601 Re-inspection Fee

8-601.10 Fee Assessment and Failure to Pay

(A) A re-inspection fee shall be assessed under one or more of the following circumstances:

(1) Priority (P) or Priority Foundation (Pf) violations are shown to exist during a follow-up inspection.

(2) Core (c) violations are shown to exist on successive routine inspections.

(3) A complaint inspection requires a follow-up inspection to confirm compliance.

(4) An inspection is required to determine compliance with the terms of a corrective action plan or an administrative hearing.

(5) An inspection to determine the proper posting of a valid permit.
(6) Any other follow-up inspection deemed necessary by the Regulatory Authority to
determine compliance with this Code.

(B) The fee shall be that required by Chapter 1, Section 134 of Title 16 of the Delaware Code.

(C) Failure to pay the re-inspection fee, as specified, shall result in the automatic suspension of
the permit to operate a food establishment. The permit shall remain suspended until the
Regulatory Authority receives full payment of all fees.

8-602 Administrative Action

8-602.10 General

If the Regulatory Authority determines that a food establishment is operating without a valid
permit; that one or more conditions exist which represent an Imminent Health Hazard; or that
serious violations, repeat violations, or general unsanitary conditions are found to exist, administrative action may occur. Administrative action will be conducted in accordance with the law.

(A) Operation without a Permit

(1) Immediate Closure Order. If a food establishment is found operating without a valid permit
as required by subpart 8-301.11 of this Code, the Regulatory Authority shall order the
facility immediately closed.

(2) Notice of Closure. The closure shall be effective upon receipt of a written notice by the
person in charge of the food establishment or an employee of the food establishment. A
closure notice statement recorded on the inspection report by the representative of the
Regulatory Authority constitutes a written notice.

(3) Duration of Closure. The food establishment shall remain closed until a permit application,
applicable fees and any required plans have been received and approved by the
Regulatory Authority.

(B) Imminent Health Hazard(s)

(1) Permit Suspension without Hearing. If some condition is determined to exist in a food
establishment which presents an imminent health hazard to the public, the Regulatory
Authority may suspend the operating permit of the food establishment without a prior
hearing. The suspension shall be effective upon receipt of written notice by the person in
charge of the food establishment or an employee of the food establishment. A suspension
statement recorded on the inspection report by the Regulatory Authority constitutes a
written notice.

(2) A permit issued pursuant to subpart (1) shall not be suspended for a period longer than ten
(10) government business days without a hearing. Failure to hold a hearing within the ten
(10) government business day period shall automatically terminate the suspension.

(3) Hearing Request. The permit holder of the food establishment may request, in writing, a
hearing before the Regulatory Authority at any time during the period of suspension, for
the purpose of demonstrating that the imminent health hazard(s) no longer exist. The
request for hearing shall not stay the suspension.

(C) Serious Violations, Repeat Violations and General Unsanitary Conditions. When conditions
exist in a food establishment that represent serious violations, repeat violations or general
unsanitary conditions, the Regulatory Authority may initiate a corrective action plan or
schedule a hearing.

8-603 Agency Emergency Actions

8-603.10 Examination of Food.

Food may be examined or sampled by the Regulatory Authority as often as necessary for
enforcement of this Code.

8-603.20 Wholesome and Free from Spoilage.

All food shall be wholesome and free from spoilage. Food that is spoiled or unfit for human
consumption shall not be kept on the premises. The established administrative
procedures for the implementation and enforcement of the provisions of Chapter 33 of
Title 16 of the Delaware Code, relating to the embargo of misbranded or adulterated food,
and penalties shall be applicable to this subpart.
8-604 Penalties

8-604.10 Operation in Violation of Code.
Any person (or responsible officer of that person) who violates a provision of this Code, and any person (or responsible officer of that person) who is the holder of a permit or who otherwise operates a food establishment that does not comply with the requirements of this Code shall be subject to the provisions of Section 107 of Title 16 of the Delaware Code.

8-604.20 Refusal, Failure or Neglect to Comply with Order of the Regulatory Authority.
Any person (or responsible officer of that person) who violates a provision of this Code, and any person (or responsible officer of that person) who is the holder of a permit or who otherwise operates a food establishment that refuses, fails or neglects to comply with an order of the Regulatory Authority shall be subject to an administrative penalty of not less than $100 and not more than $1,000, together with costs.

8-604.30 Injunction.
The Regulatory Authority may seek to enjoin violations of this Code.

8-604.40 Public Notification.
A placard, as provided by the Division, shall be prominently displayed at all entrances of food establishments that have failed to obtain a valid permit or have a permit that is suspended, revoked, or expired.

The following url’s are provided for those that wish to obtain the Food Code.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 Purpose and Definitions
Chapter 2 Management and Personnel
Chapter 3 Food
Chapter 4 Equipment, Utensils and Linens
Chapter 5 Water, Plumbing and Waste
Chapter 6 Physical Facilities
Chapter 7 Poisonous or Toxic Material
Chapter 8 Compliance and Enforcement

Index

14 DE Reg. 822 (02/01/11)
17 DE Reg. 1084 (05/01/14)