



## ASOTIN COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

431 ELM STREET

CLARKSTON, WASHINGTON 99403-2694

(509) 758-3344

# Food Worker Card Information

**Exam Location:**

Asotin County Health District  
431 Elm St. (corner of 5<sup>th</sup> St. and Elm St.)  
Clarkston

**Exam Times:**

Monday – Friday  
9:30 A.M., 10:30 A.M.  
1:30 P.M., 2:30 P.M., and 3:30 P.M.

Please be at the site at least 5 minutes **prior** to desired start time.

**Cost:**

\$10.00 (cash /check /money order)

**"Food service worker"** means an individual who works (or intends to work) with or without pay in a food service establishment and handles unwrapped or unpackaged food or who may contribute to the transmission of infectious diseases through the nature of his/her contact with food products and/or equipment and facilities. This does not include persons who simply assist residents or patients in institutional facilities with meals, or students in K-12 schools who periodically assist with school meal service. ***This includes cooks, waiters, dishwashers, food prep workers, and other employees that meet this definition.***

**WAC 246-217-015 states that:**

- (1) All food service workers must obtain a food worker card within **fourteen calendar days** from the beginning of employment at a food service establishment.
  - (2) In the case of temporary food service establishments, at a minimum the operator or person in charge each shift or during hours of operation shall have a valid food worker card obtained prior to the event.
  - (3) **Employers at any food service establishment (permanent or temporary) must provide information or training regarding pertinent safe food handling practices to food service workers prior to beginning food handling duties if the worker does not hold a valid food worker card. Documentation that the information or training has been provided to the individual must be kept on file by the employer and be available for inspection by the health officer at all times. Note: This issue is resolved by having food workers obtain a food worker card prior to beginning employment at a food service establishment.**
- Please make a copy of your issued card and sign it in blue ink to provide to your employer to have available upon inspection of the establishment. The original card is the property of the food worker and signed copies may be left at all food service establishments that an employee works at.
  - All initial food worker cards are valid for **2 years** from the date of issuance. If renewed **prior to expiration**, a renewal card may be issued for a period of **3 years**. Food worker cards issued in any Washington County may be used throughout the state of Washington.
  - Please contact ACHD for questions on the issuance of 5-year cards or "limited duty" food worker card.

**NOTE FOR DAYCARE WORKERS:** WAC 388-295-3170 states that "You must maintain on site at least one person with a Washington state department of health food handler's permit to:

1. Monitor and oversee food handling and service at the center; and
2. Provide orientation and ongoing training as needed for all staff involved in food handling. Anyone cooking full meals must have a food handler's permit.