

2024 SAN ANTONIO FIRE PREVENTION

FOOD BOOTH REQUIREMENTS

2024 IFC and 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments

SECTION 323: FOOD BOOTHS

1. PERMITS:

- [105.5.59](#) Food booths. An operational permit is required for the operation of a food booth. For permit to operate a food booth, see Section [323](#). Permit fee information can be found in Chapter 11, Section 11-16 of the City Code.
- [323.1](#) Permits. For permit to operate a food booth, see Section [105.5.59](#). It shall be unlawful to operate a food booth without a permit.

2. FIRE EXTINGUISHERS: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.2](#)

- A minimum of one 2A:10BC fire extinguisher shall be required for all food booths.
- A 3A:40BC portable fire extinguisher, in addition to the other required fire extinguishers, will be required for the use of a portable generator. (2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [4106.6.4](#))
- Booths containing deep fat fryers shall have a class K portable fire extinguisher for up to four fryers having a maximum cooking medium capacity of 80 pounds each.
- For every additional group of four fryers having a maximum cooking capacity of 80 pounds each, an additional class K extinguisher will be required.
- For individual fryers exceeding 6 square feet in surface area, class K extinguishers will be installed in accordance with manufacturers' recommendations.
- Solid fuel (wood or charcoal) cooking appliances with fireboxes 5 cubic feet or less in volume shall have a minimum 2.5 gallon or two 1.5-gallon Class K wet-chemical portable fire extinguishers. (2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [906.4.1](#))
- All fire extinguishers shall have a current annual inspection sticker (within a year) issued by a licensed extinguisher company or provide proof that the extinguisher is new (store receipt).

3. FOOD BOOTH LOCATION: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.3](#)

- Food booths utilized for cooking shall have a minimum of 10 feet clearance on two sides.
- Booths shall not be placed in fire lanes unless otherwise approved by the fire code official.
- Booths shall not be placed within 10 feet of amusement rides or devices.

4. COOKING EQUIPMENT LOCATION: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.4](#)

- Barbeque pits shall not be located within 10 feet of combustible materials.
- Barbeque pits shall not be located under food booth canopy.
- Propane tanks shall not be located within 10 feet of a building door or window. (2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.9](#))

5. ACCEPTABLE COOKING SOURCES: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.5](#)

The following are the only approved cooking sources for food booths.

- Wood or charcoal
- Propane
- Natural Gas
- Electricity

6. DEEP FAT FRYING:

- If deep fat frying is conducted under a canopy or tent, the surface of the canopy or tent must be kept clean of grease accumulations. For multiday events, canopy/tent surfaces must be cleaned every day prior to start of cooking operations.
- All deep-fat fryers shall have a steel baffle between the fryer and surface flames of an adjacent appliance or shall maintain a 16-inch separation distance. The baffle, if installed, shall be eight (8) inches in height. (2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [4106.8](#))

7. GENERATORS: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.6](#)

- Fuel tanks shall be of adequate capacity to permit uninterrupted operation during normal operating hours. Refueling of a running or hot portable generator shall not be permitted.
- Storage of gasoline is not allowed near generators or food booths.
- Generators shall be isolated from contact with the public and public pathways to prevent persons from tampering with electrical cords and prevent persons from coming into contact with hot equipment.
- Towable Generators shall be installed not less than 10 feet from combustible materials and shall be isolated from the public by physical guard, fence or enclosure installed not less than 3 feet away from the internal combustion power source. (2024 IFC [3107.6.2](#))

8. DECORATIONS: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.7](#)

- All decorative material shall be at least six (6) feet away from any open flame, cooking element, or heat source or be flame resistant.

9. ESCAPE ROUTE: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.8](#)

- All concession stands shall have a minimum of a three (3) ft. aisle for emergency escape.

10. PROPANE: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.9](#)

- All equipment (hose, connections, and regulators) used in conjunction with propane tanks must be UL listed for the purposes in which they will be used. Hoses shall be rated at 350 psi. (2024 NFPA 58 5.11.7.4)
- Tanks shall be secured to prevent falling.
- Tanks shall only be white or aluminum in color.
- Only one spare tank will be allowed in food booth.
- Emptied propane tanks are to be removed from the site immediately after use.
- Regulators shall be attached to the tanks as close as possible.
- Leaks can be detected using a soap and water solution.
- Tank shutoff valves and/or additional shutoff valves shall be accessible and away from the cooking appliance(s).
- Propane tanks shall not be within five feet of an ignition source.
- Propane tanks shall not be located within 10 feet of a building door or window.

11. AREA: 2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section [323.10](#)

- A food booth shall consist of an area 10 feet by 10 feet.
- Extended food booths that exceed 10 feet by 10 feet space and used for cooking will be charged additional fees. These fees will be charged in one hundred square foot increments and any portion thereof.

12. FOOD BOOTHS WHICH ARE REQUIRED TO PAY PERMIT AND FIRE INSPECTION FEE:

- All booths which cook or warm with open flame or electrical appliance

13. FEE INFORMATION:

- A food booth shall consist of an area 10 feet by 10 feet (one hundred square feet). Extended food booths that exceed 10 feet by 10 feet space and used for cooking will be charged additional fees. These fees will be charged in one hundred square foot increments and any portion thereof.
- Food Booth permit fees:
 - Per day, prepaid: Thirty-five dollars (\$35.00), plus the technology fee for a total of \$36.05 (2024 San Antonio IFC Amendments, Section 11-16(a)(14)).

14. PAYMENT INFORMATION

- Pre-payment can be made in person prior to event at:

San Antonio Development Services Center
1901 S. Alamo St.
San Antonio, TX 78204

Monday thru Friday, 7:45AM to 4:00PM

- Online permitting system available at:
 - [Types of Permits & Inspections - City of San Antonio](https://www.sa.gov/Directory/Departments/SAFD/Permits-Inspections/Types)
 - <https://www.sa.gov/Directory/Departments/SAFD/Permits-Inspections/Types>
 - [Food Booth Application - Step by Step](https://www.sa.gov/files/assets/main/v/1/safd/documents/food-booth-application-tutorial.pdf)
 - <https://www.sa.gov/files/assets/main/v/1/safd/documents/food-booth-application-tutorial.pdf>

NOTE: Other requirements may follow, pending results of fire inspection

[San Antonio Fire Department - Fire Codes and Standards](https://www.sanantonio.gov/SAFD/Business-and-Inspections/Fire-Codes-and-Standards)
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For any questions, please email:
FireSpecialEvents@sanantonio.gov