

137F.1 Definitions.

For the purpose of [this chapter](#):

1. “*Bed and breakfast home*” means a private residence which provides lodging and meals for guests, in which the host or hostess resides and in which no more than four guest families are lodged at the same time and which, while it may advertise and accept reservations, does not hold itself out to the public to be a restaurant, hotel, or motel, does not require reservations, and serves food only to overnight guests.

2. “*Commissary*” means a food establishment used for preparing, fabricating, packaging, and storage of food or food products for distribution and sale through the food establishment’s own food establishment outlets.

3. “*Department*” means the department of inspections and appeals.

4. “*Director*” means the director of the department of inspections and appeals.

5. “*Farmers market*” means a marketplace which seasonally operates principally as a common market for Iowa-produced farm products on a retail basis for off-the-premises consumption.

6. “*Food*” means a raw, cooked, or processed edible substance, ice, a beverage, an ingredient used or intended for use or sale in whole or in part for human consumption, or chewing gum.

7. “*Food establishment*” means an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption and includes a food service operation in a salvage or distressed food operation, school, summer camp, residential service substance abuse treatment facility, halfway house substance abuse treatment facility, correctional facility operated by the department of corrections, the state training school, or the Iowa juvenile home. “*Food establishment*” does not include the following:

a. A food processing plant.

b. An establishment that offers only prepackaged foods that are nonpotentially hazardous.

c. A produce stand or facility which sells only whole, uncut fresh fruits and vegetables.

d. Premises which are a home bakery pursuant to [chapter 137D](#).

e. Premises where a person operates a farmers market, if potentially hazardous food is not sold or distributed from the premises.

f. Premises of a residence in which food that is nonpotentially hazardous is sold for consumption off the premises to a consumer customer, if the food is labeled to identify the name and address of the person preparing the food and the common name of the food.

g. A kitchen in a private home where food is prepared or stored for family consumption or in a bed and breakfast home.

h. A private home that receives catered or home-delivered food.

i. Child care facilities and other food establishment facilities located in hospitals or health care facilities which are subject to inspection by other state agencies or divisions of the department.

j. Supply vehicles, vending machine locations, or boardinghouses for permanent guests.

k. Establishments exclusively engaged in the processing of meat and poultry which are licensed pursuant to [section 189A.3](#).

l. Premises covered by a current class “A” beer permit as provided in [chapter 123](#).

m. The premises of a residence in which honey is stored; prepared; packaged, including by placement in a container; labeled; or from which honey is distributed.

8. “*Food processing plant*” means a commercial operation that manufactures, packages, labels, or stores food for human consumption and does not provide food directly to a consumer. “*Food processing plant*” does not include any of the following:

a. A premises covered by a class “A” beer permit as provided in [chapter 123](#).

b. A premises of a residence in which honey is stored; prepared; packaged, including by placement in a container; labeled; or from which honey is distributed.

c. A premises covered by a class “A” wine permit or a class “B” wine permit as provided in [chapter 123](#).

9. “*Mobile food unit*” means a food establishment that is readily movable, which either operates up to three consecutive days at one location or returns to a home base of operation at the end of each day.

10. “*Municipal corporation*” means a political subdivision of this state.
 11. “*Perishable food*” means potentially hazardous food.
 12. “*Potentially hazardous food*” means a food that is natural or synthetic and is in a form capable of supporting the rapid and progressive growth of infectious or toxigenic microorganisms, or the growth and toxin production of clostridium botulinum. “*Potentially hazardous food*” includes an animal food that is raw or heat-treated, a food of plant origin that is heat-treated or consists of raw seed sprouts, cut melons, and garlic and oil mixtures. “*Potentially hazardous food*” does not include the following:
 - a. An air-cooled hard-boiled egg with shell intact.
 - b. A food with a water activity value of 0.85 or less.
 - c. A food with a hydrogen ion concentration (pH) level of 4.6 or below when measured at 24 degrees Centigrade or 75 degrees Fahrenheit.
 - d. A food, in an unopened hermetically sealed container, that is commercially processed to achieve and maintain commercial sterility under conditions of nonrefrigerated storage and distribution.
 13. “*Pushcart*” means a non-self-propelled vehicle food establishment limited to serving nonpotentially hazardous foods or commissary-wrapped foods maintained at proper temperatures, or limited to the preparation and serving of frankfurters.
 14. “*Regulatory authority*” means the department or a municipal corporation that has entered into an agreement with the director pursuant to [section 137F.3](#) for authority to enforce [this chapter](#) in its jurisdiction.
 15. “*Temporary food establishment*” means a food establishment that operates for a period of no more than fourteen consecutive days in conjunction with a single event or celebration.
 16. “*Vending machine*” means a food establishment which is a self-service device that, upon insertion of a coin, paper currency, token, card, or key, dispenses unit servings of food in bulk or in packages without the necessity of replenishing the device between each vending operation.
 17. “*Vending machine location*” means the physical site where a vending machine is installed and operated, including the storage and servicing areas on the premises that are used in conjunction with the vending machine.
- 98 Acts, ch 1162, §6, 30; 99 Acts, ch 192, §33; 99 Acts, ch 208, §28; 2001 Acts, ch 81, §1, 2; 2002 Acts, ch 1149, §1, 3; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §37; 2006 Acts, ch 1032, §4; 2007 Acts, ch 215, §210, 211; 2012 Acts, ch 1064, §1, 3; 2014 Acts, ch 1026, §32; 2016 Acts, ch 1086, §9
- Referred to in [§100.35](#), [§135.185](#), [§137C.35](#), [§189A.3](#), [§190C.1](#)