

Pet Dogs in Outdoor Patio Dining Areas

Effective January 1, 2015, the California Retail Food Code has been amended to allow pet dogs in outdoor dining areas of restaurants, at the discretion of the food facility operator under the following conditions:

- Comply with both State and Americans with Disability Act (ADA) regulations on Service Animals
 - *Service Animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals.*
- Dogs are not allowed to enter into the restaurant to access the outdoor patio dining area. A separate entrance directly from the outside must be available.
- Dogs are not allowed on chairs, seats, benches, and tables.
- Food facility employees may not prepare food or beverages in the outdoor dining area. A beverage glass may be re-filled on the patio from a pitcher or other container.
- Food facility employees are prohibited from having direct contact with the dogs while on duty.
- Dogs are prohibited from eating or drinking out of restaurant glassware or dishware. The food facility may provide single-use disposable containers for food and water.
- The dog is on a leash or confined in a pet carrier and under the control of the pet dog owner.
- The outdoor dining area is to be maintained clean. In cases where excrement or other bodily fluids (e.g. urine, saliva, vomit) are deposited, an employee shall immediately clean and sanitize the affected areas.
- The restaurant operator is expected to exclude undisciplined, uncontrolled and/or aggressive dogs.

Recommendations that can be implemented by the restaurant operator to assist the consumer:

- A sign visible to the public may be posted indicating access to the “Dog-Friendly Outdoor Patio Area”.
- Hand sanitizer may be made available in the dog-friendly area.

Food facility operators are required to adhere to all local ordinances related to sidewalk, public nuisance, and other regulations that are applicable. Refer to the Pasadena Municipal Code @ <http://www.cityofpasadena.net/CityClerk/MunicipalCode>.

For purposes of these guidelines, outdoor patio dining areas are those that are not fully enclosed. A fully enclosed dining area shall be considered part of the interior area of the facility.