

**LAX FOOD DONATION POLICY**  
**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

**1) Does the LAX Food Donation Policy (Policy) apply to me?**

**Answer:** All businesses that sell or distribute food at LAX are subject to the Policy, including concessionaires, such as coffee shops, gift shops, sit-down restaurants, airline lounges, and caterers.

**2) What is the LAX Harvest Food Donation Program and how do I join?**

**Answer:** The Program is an award-winning partnership between LAX, Food Donation Connection (FDC) and several concessionaires. FDC facilitates the donation of unsold, edible food from concessionaires in the terminals to local charities. They also provide participating concessionaires with food containers, pre-packaged food guidelines, and documentation to enable donors to receive tax deductions for the market-value of the donated food. Register online at [www.foodtodonate.com](http://www.foodtodonate.com) and email either [steve.dietz@foodtodonate.com](mailto:steve.dietz@foodtodonate.com) or [keith.crowe@foodtodonate.com](mailto:keith.crowe@foodtodonate.com)

**3) What charities are the LAX Harvest Food Donation Program affiliated with?**

**Answer:** As of May 2020, the LAX Harvest Food Donation Program is affiliated with the following charities: Sunset Missionary Baptist Church, Doris Cares, Ocean Gate Southern Baptist, and the USO.

**4) What is the deadline to comply with the Policy?**

**Answer:** Existing concessionaires that sell or distribute grab-and-go (pre-packaged, ready to eat) food items must join a food donation program by December 31, 2020. Businesses that serve prepared food, such as airline lounges, sit-down restaurants and caterers must join a program by December 31, 2021. New concessionaires, lounges, sit-down restaurants and caterers must agree to participate in a food donation program prior to operation.

**5) Am I still required to participate in a food donation program if my business does not regularly produce surplus food?**

**Answer:** Yes. The spirit of the Policy is not to encourage or create excess edible food. If a business is right-sizing their inventory and does not have edible surplus food, they are not required to produce excess food to donate. The Policy requires that all businesses are enrolled in a food donation program, so if they have excess edible food, they can work with that agency

to donate the food to people in need. However, there is no requirement that any business donate a certain amount of food or any food at all.

**6) I donate surplus food to another charity; am I now required to donate through the LAX Harvest Food Donation Program?**

**Answer:** No. You are free to participate in a food donation program of your choice including the LAX Harvest Food Donation Program.

**7) Do I need to complete the Annual Reporting Form if I did not have surplus food to donate?**

**Answer:** Yes, annual reporting is still required regardless if food was donated or not. The Policy requires all eligible businesses to confirm participation of a food donation program, and if they do donate food, to report the amount of food they donate on an annual basis.

**8) Where can I find the most current Reporting Form?**

**Answer:** The most current Reporting Form can be found at <https://www.lawa.org/lawa-environment/lax/lax-food-donation-program>

**9) Are there tax benefits to donating surplus food, if so, what are they?**

**Answer:** On average a donor can recover 30-40% of the cost of donated food.

**10) Could I be held liable if someone gets sick from donated food?**

**Answer:** The Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (Good Samaritan Act) is a federal law that provides a national standard of liability protection for both food donors and the non-profit organizations accepting these donations. Link to law:

<https://www.congress.gov/congressional-report/104th-congress/house-report/661/1>

California state law expands upon the federal Good Samaritan Act.

Link to law:

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201720180AB1219](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180AB1219)

**11) If I have any additional questions or concerns regarding the policy, who should I contact?**

**Answer:** Please contact your BRM (Business Relationship Manager) or email [fooddonation@lawa.org](mailto:fooddonation@lawa.org)