

Rhode Island

3rd Party School Inspection Criteria

Company Requirements

The inspection agency must not provide any other products or services to the school food authority and there must be no conflicts of interests.

Inspector Requirements:

Individuals seeking approval as third party auditors must submit a resume including education and work history. Education and experience requirements are as follows:

Education

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, and 30 semester hours in one or a combination of the following:

- Biological sciences

- Chemistry

- Physical sciences

- Food science/technology

- Nutrition

- Medical Science

- Engineering

- Epidemiology

- Veterinary medical Science

- Psychology

- Related scientific fields that provide knowledge directly related to food protection and environmental health.

Experience:

Must possess a minimum of 2 years experience as an inspector for a food regulatory agency or in a private organization conducting food safety audits/inspections of retail food service establishments. Must possess a working knowledge of the RI Food Code and the ability to demonstrate proficiency in applying the provisions of the Food Code during the course of inspections.

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Applicants who do not meet the educational requirement but meet the experience requirement may be approved under the following circumstances:

1. Applicant has been standardized in the application of the food code by the RI Office of Food Protection or
2. Applicant has been standardized in the application of the FDA model food code by the Food and Drug Administration or
3. Conditional approval is granted pending passing the National Sanitation Foundation's Certified Food Safety Professional (CFSP) Exam within 3 months.

All inspectors are subject to a criminal background check prior to approval.

Inspection Requirements:

Inspections must be conducted in a manner that is consistent with current RI laws, regulations, policies and procedures using forms and other materials that are equivalent to current HEALTH inspection forms.

Inspections include the verification and assessment of all Rhode Island and federal National School Lunch Program requirements including the review of HACCP plans and verification that all inspections are posted.

All inspections must be submitted electronically to the HEALTH food inspection database within 24 hours of completion using software approved by HEALTH. Hard copies of inspections may be required for submission if the Health Dept. inspection system is down. Hard copies of inspection forms must be based on the current RI Office of Food Protection Inspection Form.

All imminent hazards to public health must be reported to HEALTH immediately upon discovery.

The work of 3rd party inspectors will be periodically audited to determine the level of compliance with these requirements. HEALTH reserves the right to disallow any company, inspector, or reports from any person or organization for failure to comply with these requirements.