

Reminder Notice from the Board of Health

The Massachusetts Food Code Contains a Section on Food Allergy Awareness That is Now in Effect

In June 2010, the state Food Code was amended to comply with the Act Relative to Food Allergy Awareness in Restaurants which the Governor signed into law in January 2009. Copies of the new regulation and related documents are available on the MDPH/BEH Food Protection Program website. To find this information:

- (1) Go to the FFP website at <http://www.mass.gov/dph/fpp>
- (2) Under "What's New", select the link for "[Food Allergen Awareness Training and Regulation](#)"
- (3) Under "Special Operations", look under the title "Food Allergen Awareness Training and Regulation", and select a link for information.

Requirements that took effect on October 1, 2010:

- **Poster in Employee Work Area** - The 8.5" by 11" poster that must be displayed in the employee work area is available on line at <http://www.foodallergy.org/page/restaurant-poster>. The "employee work area" is a conspicuous and accessible place where notices to employees are usually placed and easily read. See 105 CMR 590.009(G)(1) for more details about this requirement..
- **Notice to Consumers on Menus and Menu Boards** - Menus and menu boards must include a notice which reads, "Before placing your order, please inform your server if a person in your party has a food allergy." The notice must be displayed in a clear and conspicuous manner, and the notice on menu boards must meet the font size requirements discussed in 105 CMR 590.009(G)(2)(b).

Requirements that took effect on February 1, 2011:

- **Allergen Awareness Certificate** - At least one certified food protection manager in each affected establishment must obtain a certificate which shows that they have viewed the MDPH-approved allergen awareness training video. Three private vendors are approved by MDPH to issue these certificates in accordance with 105 CMR 590.009(G)(3)(a). The name and contact information for these vendors is posted on the FPP website listed above.