

ILLUSTRATIVE SAMPLE / NOT OPERATING AUTHORIZATION

Mobile food vendor start-to-open organizer

A demonstration organizer for a fictional new Type III taco truck planning regular operation in Houston with LP-gas cooking. The operator must verify every branch directly with DSHS and the Houston Fire Marshal.

CURRENT-RULE NOTE: Texas moved to statewide DSHS mobile-food-vendor licensing on July 1, 2026. Older local health-permit checklists may be stale.

Fictional operating profile

Field	Sample fact
Operator status	New operator; no current mobile-food license
Vehicle	Self-contained food truck
Menu / process	Tacos; raw preparation; cooking; hot/cold holding; reheating
Fuel	LP gas for cooking
Territory	Regular operation inside Houston city limits
Illustrative indicator	Type III indicators appear present - operator must verify with DSHS

Do-not-operate gate

DSHS states that a new applicant without a current mobile-food license cannot operate until the pre-licensing inspection is completed. This organizer is not a license, inspection result, or permission to operate.

Likely path for verification

Step	Action	Evidence / owner
01	Confirm license type from actual processes	Operator + DSHS / S-01
02	Complete DSHS application and pay published fees	Operator / S-01 and S-02
03	Prepare for and complete pre-licensing inspection	Operator + DSHS / S-01
04	Confirm Houston LP-gas fire-permit branch	Operator + Houston Fire Marshal / S-04
05	Receive required authorization before operating	Operator + authorities

02 / LICENSE AND INSPECTION LEDGER

Published branches mapped to supplied facts

ID	Requirement / branch	Sample result	Source
P-01	Statewide DSHS license	Required for mobile food vendors beginning July 1, 2026	S-01
P-02	Type III indicators	Cooking plus holding and reheating appear present; verify	S-01
P-03	Application and fees	Use current DSHS application and published fee table	S-01/02
P-04	Pre-licensing inspection	New operator must complete inspection before operating	S-01
P-05	Sales-tax permit	Verify and complete Texas Comptroller registration	S-03
P-06	Houston LP-gas permit	Annual permit branch appears applicable; verify	S-04
P-07	Local/site branches	Confirm property, event, zoning, restroom, and other territory rules	Official local authority

Operator preparation checklist

Status	Document / fact	Why needed
OPEN	Complete menu and process narrative	Verify license indicators against actual operation
OPEN	Vehicle photos and layout	Support preparation and equipment inventory
OPEN	Cooking, holding, cooling, reheating, and refrigeration list	Map process and inspection branches
OPEN	LP-gas system details	Confirm Houston fire-permit and inspection path
OPEN	Water, wastewater, servicing-area, and CPF setup	Prepare accurate authority questions
OPEN	Manager and handler credentials	Confirm current personnel-document expectations
OPEN	Application summary and payment receipt	Track status and scheduling handoff

Questions to confirm with authorities

- Does the final menu and process place this operation in Type III?
- Which attachments are required for this vehicle and operator?
- What evidence should be ready for the pre-licensing inspection?
- Which Houston fire-permit and inspection steps apply to the LP-gas system?
- Are event, site, zoning, parking, sales-tax, servicing-area, or other non-DSHS requirements triggered by the plan?

03 / SOURCE REGISTER AND HANDOFF

Official instructions control

ID	Official source	Used for
S-01	Texas DSHS - Mobile Food Vendors Open licensing page	Statewide licensing, type indicators, inspection rule, and fee entry point
S-02	Texas DSHS - Forms and Publications Open forms page	Current application, guide, and training resources
S-03	Texas Comptroller - Sales Tax Permit Open permit page	Texas sales-tax registration entry point
S-04	Houston Fire Marshal - Food Trucks Open fire page	Houston fire guidance and LP-gas permit branches

Operator verification handoff

- Verify license type, application instructions, fees, and inspection scheduling directly with DSHS.
- Verify the Houston fire-permit branch and current inspection requirements directly with the Houston Fire Marshal.
- Submit applications, book appointments, make required changes, and retain official confirmations.
- Do not operate until all required licenses, permits, inspections, and authorizations are complete.

BOUNDARY: This sample organizes public instructions against customer-supplied facts. It is not legal, food-safety, engineering, fire-code, tax, or licensing advice and does not certify compliance or authorize operation.

Standard offer: \$79 plus applicable tax for one operator, one vehicle, and one supplied operating plan. One administrative revision included. Target return is one business day after complete intake is confirmed.