



Food Vendor Terms & Conditions

Folk School Fall Festival

Saturday and Sunday, October 4 & 5, 2025 | 10 AM to 5 PM

Guidelines for Food Vendors

Please read before applying

The Folk School will kick off our 100th Anniversary during the 49th Annual Fall Festival, which will take place on October 4th and 5th. This year's event will feature enhanced national public relations, marketing, and communications as we celebrate a century of the Folk School. Established in 1976, the Festival has evolved into a beloved arts and crafts event, drawing over 10,000 visitors from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, and Tennessee. The Folk School campus will be transformed by over 200 craft and food vendors, featuring both juried and non-juried categories, making this a fun and vibrant annual event. Our 270-acre campus includes 17 studios, beautiful wooded paths, and ample parking for both visitors and vendors.

Below is a list of information, rules, and regulations for food vendors.

Application Process and Timeline

- An Application fee of \$30 is required & non-refundable.
- Applications are due Monday, May 5th by 5 PM, and notifications will be sent the week of May 19.
- Booth fees are due July 1st at 5 PM, and notification to the Folk School of cancelation must be made by July 15th at 5 PM for a full refund.
- Due to changes in the N.C. State Health Regulations, all prospective food vendors must first apply with the Cherokee County Health Department before submitting an application to the Folk School.
- Once you have applied for the Health Department permit, please submit your application.
- Permits will be issued by the health department after the on-site inspection, Oct. 3rd.
- The number of booth spaces available is limited and cannot be expanded.
- JCCFS may limit any food category to provide a diversity of food throughout the Festival and to give vendors a reasonable chance for successful sales.

No applications accepted after
this date

May 5, 2025

Important Dates:

May 5 by 5 PM

Registration for festival
closes

Week of May 19th

Final confirmations
sent to vendors

July 1st

Booth fees due

October 3rd

Booth set-up begins
Friday at 1 PM

October 4th

Final booth set-up
complete by 9 AM

October 4 & 5

Fall Festival
10 AM to 5 PM

Any questions please contact
Morgan Budzinski at
mbudzinski@folkschool.org
or call 828-837-2775 ext 116

Guidelines for Craft Vendors Cont'd.

Booth Fees and Locations

- Food Vendors are located in outdoor spaces and placed at various locations throughout the grounds. Booth size is 20' x 20.'
- JCCFS cannot guarantee any particular space assignment.
- For those who participate annually, please be aware that your booth location may change from year to year.
- Items displayed that are deemed detrimental to integrity of race, religion, political affiliation, or gender are not acceptable.

Vehicles

- Please plan your operation so that it does not depend on having a car close to your booth, as vehicles are NOT ALLOWED in sales areas during Festival hours.
- You will be able to unload equipment before the Festival begins, and then park in Vendor Parking or Public Parking areas.
- You may come and go from Public Parking, but Vendor Parking is closed during Festival hours.

Food

- For the success of each vendor and a pleasant experience for attendees, we strive to prevent duplication of food items at the Fall Festival and we require you to provide an exact listing of the food items you will serve.
- Please understand that you may sell only the food items that are listed on your application and approved by the Folk School upon confirmation. Food vendors will be asked to remove unapproved items.
- Alcoholic beverages are not permitted.
- We recommend the use of garden carts/wheelbarrows for replenishing stock from your parked vehicle.
- No solicitation of food items outside of assigned booth space. No open fires.
- No loud generators, refrigerators, or freezers allowed.
- Electrical load may not exceed a total of 20 amps (2400 watts). (i.e. a coffee maker pulls 1500 watts.)

Registration for Festival closes May 5, 2025

No applications accepted
after this date.

Fees for Folk School Fall Festival Food Vendors:

Booth Fee: \$250
Electricity: \$50
(Electricity load may not
exceed 20 amps)

Cancellation Policy

There is no rain date for the Festival and it is considered a rain or shine event. Accepted vendors must cancel by July 15 to receive a full refund.

Cancellations made by August 1 will be refunded 50% of booth fee.

Cancellations made after August 1 will not receive a booth fee refund.

No Shows/No Calls will not receive a refund and will not be invited back for future festivals.

Guidelines for Craft Vendors Contd.

Supplies- All vendors must provide their own:

- A fire extinguisher is required in each booth.
- Heavy duty extension cords and power strips.
- Chairs, tables, canopy, and change.
- Ice and other supplies and materials needed.

Miscellaneous

- Each vendor is responsible for sales tax collection and reporting.
- Security guards are provided Friday and Saturday nights.
- JCCFS is not liable for booth items or accessories that become broken or stolen.
- The Folk School cannot provide housing for Vendors. Contact the Clay County Chamber of Commerce (828-389-3704) or the Cherokee County Chamber of Commerce.
- Vendors are required to collect local and state taxes. NC state tax rate is 7%. For questions contact the NC Dept. of Revenue, 877.252.3052, <https://www.ncdor.gov/#registration>

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