

The Food Handler Training Requirement.

It's our job at *Serve It Up Safe!* to properly train Food Safety Managers in our 5-hour ServSafe exam prep class, and we have 147 classes a year in Florida. Then you take the ServSafe Managers exam, and when you pass, you get a Food Managers certification that is valid for 5 years. Then it's *your* job to properly train your staff, called *"food handlers"*. How do you accomplish that?

To that end, there are 130 **DBPR Div. of Hotels/Restaurant** Approved Programs that can satisfy Fl. S~ 509.049 (the Food Handler training requirement). 120 of them are privately owned programs that are owned by, and for the exclusive use of, a particular corporate chain, like McDonalds, Burger King or Taco Bell for example. I can't use those programs because they own it for their exclusive use. That leaves about 10 other DBPR Approved Programs I have access to. The materials used to train and subsequently certify 1 employee (for the 3 year certificate) ranges in price from \$7 to \$20, and you have good options:

- 1) **Food Safety First** is the program that is least expensive and easiest to use and fully complies with 509.049. You buy 1 book for \$20, but you only need 1 book per establishment—then you buy 1 certificate per employee, and each certificate is only \$7.00. Buy 1 book and as many certificates as you like—that's uncomplicated! DO NOT lose your training guide book; you have to have 1 on the premises at all times!
- 2) **Food Safety Principals** by the National Registry of Food Safety is a combination book & certificate all-in-one, and it is \$10 per book. This is best for smaller establishments with only a few employees. Shipping is cheap & there are no handling costs.
- 3) **On-line** option is \$9.95 each by going to <u>www.serveitupsafe.com</u>. Near the bottom of my homepage is the 'Food Handler Certificate- Online'. It takes about an hour and is self-paced. The employee prints their certificate at the completion of the on-line training module.
- 4) **SafeStaff** is a combination book & certificate all-in-one, and is \$10 per book. This is best for smaller establishments with only a few employees. BEWARE: they gouge on shipping & handling, and the shipping is a pass-thru cost thus the expensive part. What is "handling" anyway?

--- ORDERING IS EASY ---

Simply send me an email to <u>dave@serveitupsafe.com</u> and tell me your name, the business name, your full address <u>and</u> which program you want including your quantity! Payment is via a CC on my secure website after they've shipped. It's uncomplicated!