

# Status Codes

CIT Distance Learning  
FPF Introductory Topics



Today we will discussing different status codes that are used in establishments.

# Inspections, Statistics and Fees Unit

- Developed status codes
- Monitors activities of local health departments
- Maintains a statewide database of inspection statistics
- Collects yearly permit fees from food and lodging establishments

## Inspections, Statistics and Fees Office

919-707-5854

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-The Inspections, Statistics and Fees Unit developed and maintains the status codes we use today.

-This unit monitors the activities of county health departments regarding sanitation inspections of food, lodging, institution, swimming pool and tattoo establishments and maintains a statewide database of inspections statistics.

-They are also responsible for collecting Permit fees collected from food and lodging establishments.

-Contact information is provided on the slide. Contact this office if there is a question about a permit fee, which status code to use, BETS issues, or issues with inspection compliance totals.

# List of Status Codes

- Document available on the DEH website
- Describes each status code and when to use them
- Lists status codes that can be used at a later date depending on the situation

## STATUS CODES

- A - Establishment open for business. An establishment with an "A" status can go to an A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H or W status at a later date.
- B - Permit or license valid, but establishment not open for business at a particular time of year (seasonal). The establishment still has a valid permit or license, therefore, each inspection period the "B" status is reported, an Environmental Health specialist should verify the establishment is not operating. The visit should be documented and reported to this office with the date the verification is made; the "B" status can go to an A, B, C, D, H, G, E or J status at a later date.
- Permit is valid and the mobile food establishment (pushcart, mobile food unit) is in operation, but is not operating within the permitting county. The permitting county should verify that the mobile food establishment is not operating within their county through schedules provided by the mobile food establishment. If the mobile food establishment is operating in the permitting county during a given inspection period, a "B" status should not be reported.
- C - Permit or license valid but establishment not open for business for unknown reasons (bankruptcy, etc.) The establishment still has a valid permit or license, but it cannot be determined why the establishment is closed. Since the permit or license is still valid, an Environmental Health specialist must verify the establishment is not operating each inspection period and document the date the verification is made. An establishment with a "C" status can go to an A, B, C, E, G, H or J status at a later date.
- When an establishment has been closed for one (1) year and the closure has been properly documented, it must be put into the "J" status by the local health department.

-For this presentation, ask participants to download a copy of the current status codes and their definitions. We will review the most commonly used codes in this presentation. This document is available on the DEH website.

<https://ehs.ncpublichealth.com/faf/isf/docs/StatusCodes-121517.pdf>

## A – Active

Most establishments are in ‘A’ status. This means they are open, operating, and not undergoing a change in ownership



The most common status code will be “A”. This code means the establishment is ACTIVE or open and operating.

## B – Seasonal

- Establishments that are closed for a grading period can be placed into ‘B’ status, if they are not closed permanently
  - Limited food service establishments
  - Mobile food units/pushcarts
  - Restaurants/Food Stands
- School cafeterias should not be placed into ‘B’ status. They should be inspected as required since they operate during every grading period



Next we have “B” status- this status is used for establishments that are not open for business at a particular time of the year. They still have a valid permit. Examples include limited food service establishments like basketball concession stands, baseball concession stands or MFU and PC’s that don’t operate during the winter months due to weather.

School cafeterias are typically open from end of August to first of June. Do not place school cafeterias in a B status. They operate in each grading period.

# C – Closed

Establishments that are closed for unknown reasons and/or permanently closed



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C status is used for those establishments that are closed for unknown reasons. They still have a valid permit. They are just closed.

Maybe there is a sign on the door that says closed til further notice. Documenting the closure on a comment addendum is crucial for creating a timeline.

# E – Permit Suspended

- Permit has been temporarily suspended due to Rule or Law violation
- Document violation(s) on the *Immediate Suspension Form*
- **Example:** Inadequate refrigeration could close a restaurant if it cannot operate safely (i.e. two walk-in coolers are down)
- Permit can be re-instated once violation(s) have been corrected



Status code E is used when a permit is suspended due to a rule or law violation. The establishment would be closed until rule or law violation is corrected. Proper documentation is important. Complete the Immediate Suspension Form.

Example: During an inspection, you observe 2 walk in coolers not holding foods at 41F or below and they have only a couple make units or prep units for cold holding and a refrigeration technician is not able to service the immediately. This scenario could result in an immediate suspension of the permit. The establishment would be placed into an E status code. Once the units were repaired, the permit could be reinstated or the immediate suspension lifted. The establishment would then be placed back into A status.

# G – Permit Revoked

- Establishment has closed (permanently) and equipment removed, or building demolished/destroyed
- Once placed in “G” status, establishment can never reopen without a new permit and ID number
- No transitional permit can be issued
- Plan review required
- Complete the *Immediate Revocation Form*



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G status is used when an establishment has closed permanently. This would include removing of the equipment, fire destroyed the building, building was demolished. Once an establishment is placed into G status, it can never reopen without a new permit and new ID number. It is not eligible for a transitional permit. It would be subject to plan review.

Complete the immediate revocation form.

# H – Permit Invalid

- If an establishment changes ownership and/or a business closes and a new one reopens in the same location, the former permit gets an "H" status
- **Example:** A Taco Bell closes. La Taqueria reopens in the building that used to be Taco Bell. The Taco Bell permit gets an "H" and La Taqueria gets a new permit



H status is reported when the permit is invalid due to the sale of the business or the establishment has been upgraded from a food stand to a restaurant or if the license or permit issued from another agency has become invalid.

Once placed in H status, the establishment can never come out of this status.

Example of business sale: A Taco Bell closes and La Taqueria opens in the same location.

The Taco Bell permit would be placed into H status and La Taqueria would get a transitional permit or new permit.

Example of other agency license: If a child care center has their license revoked by NC Division of Child Development and Early Education, the child care center would be placed into an H status

# I – New Permit Issued

- Issued to a new establishment
- The first documented visit, inspection, or activity of any kind would be assigned
  - A, B, C, D, E, G, H or W



I status means that a new permit is issued to an establishment. The I status is only used one time for each establishment. After the permit is issued, the next visit, inspection or other activity a different status code would be assigned. This could include an A status code- this is used on the first inspection. It could also include an E status code- Immediate Suspension due to a rule or law violation.

Please refer the status code definitions document for further examples.

## J – Permit Expired

- After 365 days of being in "C" or "E" status, a permit expires
- Expired permits should be changed to a "J" status
- Once expired, no transitional permit can be issued



Remember when I said that proper documentation of the C status and E status was very important. This status is the reason for that. After 365 days of being in a C or E status, a permit expires. If an establishment is closed due to unknown reasons (C status) or permit suspension (E status) for more than 365 days, their permit is expired. At that time, a J status would be reported. Once placed into J status, the establishment can never come out of J status. So they are not eligible for a transitional permit.

# W – Intent to Suspend

- Issued when facility is under an intent to suspend.
- Establishment should not be in "W" status for longer than **30 days**
- **Example:** Hot water issues that are not resolved during a verification visit may warrant an intent to suspend to be issued. After 30 calendar days, if corrected, restaurant could be placed back into "A" status



A W status is issued when the establishment has received an Intent to Suspend for rule violations. This is usually issued during an inspection. The intent to suspend status should not exceed 30 days.

Example: During an inspection, hot water was not sufficient to supply peak demands. The EHS notes that a verification visit will be conducted to check hot water. At the verification visit, hot water is still not sufficient to supply peak demands, a 30 calendar day ITS is issued. If the hot water issue is corrected within the 30 calendar days, the establishment would be placed back into an A status. If it is not corrected, the establishment would be issued an E status-Immediate Suspension.

-add 30 day notice picture, possibly a calendar

# T – U – K – A – Transitional Permitting

**This is the code sequence for issuing a transitional permit.**

- T – *Transitional Permit Issued*
  - Change in ownership of an establishment in A, B or C status
  - **You cannot issue a transitional permit from H or J status**
- U – First activity/inspection after issuing the transitional permit while in transitional permitting phase (180 days)

When a transitional permit is issued, the T status is reported. The T status is only reported once. A transitional permit may only be issued to establishments if the previous establishment was in A, B or C statuses (permit still valid)

U status code is used starting the first inspection after the transitional permit is issued. It can also be used on subsequent inspections but not longer than 180 days.

# T – U – K – A – Transitional Permitting

- **K – *Transitional permit conditions have been met***
  - No longer in transitional phase (180 days have passed and permit conditions were met)
  - A new permanent permit is issued with the same ID number
- **A\*** – First activity/inspection after transitional permit conditions have been met
  - \*Could also be a B, C, D, E, G, H or W status if necessary*
- **F – *Transitional permit conditions are not met***
  - 180 days have passed and permit has expired, facility closed
  - A new permit must be issued at this point

K status is issued once all conditions listed on the transitional permit have been met. This is when the transitional permit becomes a permanent permit. The K status code shall be documented on a new permanent permit with the same ID number. The permit issued with T status would be considered expired 180 days after issuance.

\*After the permanent permit is issued, the first activity or inspection would be reported as an A, B, C, D, E, G, H or W status.

Now if after 180 days, the transitional permit conditions are not met, an F status would be reported. The F status means that a transitional permit has expired and the establishment is closed due to noncompliance of conditions of the transitional permit. If a permit is issued later, an I status code would be used and a new ID number would be assigned.

# End of Presentation

If you have questions about this presentation, please contact the Inspections, Statistics and Fees Unit or your Regional Specialist.

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If you have questions concerning which status code to use for your particular situation, discuss with your supervisor or Regional Specialist.

You can always contact the Inspections, Statistics and Fees Unit

Refer to the status code definition document