

LEVEL 2 - Additional SkillsFood Service, Retail and
Manufacturing Sectors





GUIDE TO FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

LEVEL 2 - Additional Skills

Food Service, Retail and Manufacturing Sectors

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FOREWORD

Food safety training is an essential component in ensuring a food safety culture. It is a legal requirement that staff involved in a food environment are adequately trained and/or supervised commensurate with their work activity. The responsibility for training and supervision of staff lies clearly with the proprietor of every food business. This is the case for all staff whether they are part-time, full-time or casual or whether they are employed in the public or private sector. There is no excuse for employers in this area to ignore the law.

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland's (FSAI) responsibility is to ensure that staff from the farm gate to point of sale are trained in compliance with legislation. The Authority also has a role in fostering the establishment and maintenance of high standards of food hygiene.

The Authority is setting training standards, which must be demonstrated at various stages of employment in order to produce safe food in accordance with current legislation and in line with best practice. Training standards will be incorporated into the service contracts with our official agents and in turn they will be used by the enforcement officers during inspections to ascertain the level of training in place and industry's compliance with legislation.

The training standards are outlined in a series of guides. Each guide is produced in consultation with the FSAI's Food Safety Training Council. The guide is intended to be a user-friendly guide for employers on training of staff in food safety and will also be used by enforcement officers when assessing food safety training in the workplace. To assist the employer, the guide also outlines the activities which are necessary to support the training and which allow the employee demonstrate best practice.

This Food Safety Training Standard – Level Two outlines the training, which must be demonstrated following satisfactory demonstration of induction level skills. Additional skills level training has two suggested time scales to facilitate those working in high and low risk activities. This is a generic guide in that it applies to all three sectors of the industry, namely, manufacturing, retail and food service.

Food safety training is the key to food safety. It does not have to be certified. Training is only effective when the training standards are being demonstrated in the food operation. It is imperative that the food industry, through the use of these standards, ensures that effective training is an on-going activity in their business.

Dr Patrick G. Wall
Chief Executive

INTRODUCTION

This guide outlines the standard of food safety training which must be demonstrated by all food handlers¹ and non-food handlers² within 3-12 months of commencing employment, in compliance with legislation and in line with best practice. Training does not have to be certified. The best practice as outlined in the standard must be demonstrated. The guide is aimed at all food³ businesses to assist them in their implementation of the standard. Review of the standard will be carried out on a regular basis to reflect changes in food safety legislation and best practice.

Use of the Standard

The training standard should be used by:

- industry (manufacturing, retail and food service sectors) in training staff
 (for a list of the types of establishments included in each sector see Appendix 2)
- enforcement officers during inspections to determine compliance with legislation as it relates to food safety training.

Food Safety Skills

The training standard is expressed in terms of food safety skills, i.e. what the employee must be able to demonstrate in the area of food safety commensurate with their activity.

Employees to Whom the Standard Applies

- All food handlers who are:
 - Full-time members of staff
 - Part-time members of staff
 - Seasonal/occasional workers
 - Voluntary workers
 - Food handlers involved in high-risk activity⁴
 - Any member of staff who is a nonfood handler

- 1. A food handler is any person involved in a food business who handles food in the course of their work, or as part of their duties, to any extent whether the food is open or pre-wrapped.
- 2. A non-food handler who can affect food safety is a person involved in a food business whose duties and responsibilities can impinge on food safety, e.g. managers, maintenance staff, cleaning staff.
- 3. Food includes (a) any substance used, available to be used or intended to be used, for food or drink by human persons, and (b) any substance which enters into or is used in the production, composition or preparation of these substances, and references to food include, as the context may require, reference to a particular food or class of food (Food Safety Authority of Ireland Act, 1998).
- 4. High-risk activity is any activity where high-risk ready-to-eat foods are prepared and where the potential exists to put vulnerable groups (infants, the frail elderly, pregnant women and the sick) or a large number of consumers at risk. Examples of such foods are: ready-to-eat shellfish and fish, cooked meat and meat products, cooked poultry and poultry products, cooked-chill and cooked-freeze meals, milk and milk products, egg and egg products, cooked rice and foods containing any of these examples as ingredients.

Recommended Timing of Additional Skills Level Training

- The training standard for additional skills level applies to food and non-food handlers as follows:
 - those involved in a high-risk activity.

 Additional skills level should be completed within 3-6 months of commencing work.
 - all other employees should complete this level within their first year of employment.
- Additional Skills level training follows
 Induction Skills level training. The FSAI
 has produced a separate standard for
 Induction Level training, Guide to Food
 Safety Training Level I Induction Skills.

Supervision of Employees at Additional Skills Level

The food safety practices of all employees who are not trained to Supervision Skills Level (Level 3) should be supervised. However, the level of supervision may be reduced following this level of training.

Format of the Training Guide

For clarity and ease of use, the food safety skills are presented in a table format. The table comprises of three columns.

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities

Food Safety Skills

Food safety skills are the skills which the employee must be able to demonstrate in the area of food safety commensurate with their activity i.e. they are the specific outcomes of training carried out at that level.

What the Employee must do to Demonstrate this Skill

To confirm the employee has acquired the food safety skills, they must be able to demonstrate the skill. This section in the document lists the tasks (performance criteria) the employee must be able to complete in demonstrating that they have acquired the specific skills.

• Employer's Supporting Activities

This section provides advice to the employer on supporting training. Information provided in this section refers mainly to standards of codes of good practice. Guides and standards used in compiling this document are listed in the bibliography.

Training Checklists

Suggested checklists for delivery of training and supervision of training are provided at the end of the food safety skills for additional level training.

Companies may use their own checklist or records to demonstrate that training has been carried out.

Delivery of Training Checklist

This checklist could be used to record the training in food safety skills delivered to the employee. The checklist could be completed by the manager/supervisor/training provider after completing training with employees. Both manager/supervisor/training provider and employees should sign off the checklist. This may then be kept as a record of training.

Supervision of Food Safety Skills Checklist

It is suggested that the manager/supervisor could use this checklist when supervising the food safety skills of the employees at a specific level of training. Failure to demonstrate the skill(s) being supervised must be followed by refresher training.

GENERAL ADVICE ON FOOD SAFETY TRAINING

Current food hygiene legislation specifies that "food handlers are supervised and instructed and/or trained in food hygiene matters commensurate with their activity". (S.I. No. 165 of 2000). Proprietors, managers and supervisors must ensure that this requirement is met.

Below is a list of frequently asked questions in relation to food safety training. They are intended to advise proprietors, managers and supervisors and should not be regarded as comprehensive.

Approach to Training

Q. Is it necessary that managers/ supervisors should be trained in food safety?

A. Yes. Managers and supervisors should have the necessary knowledge to be able to judge potential risks and take the necessary action to remedy deficiencies.

Proprietors, managers and supervisors who are not food handlers, but who may have an influence on the hygienic operation of the business should be trained to a level which will allow them to make informed decisions about food safety management systems in use on the premises.

It should be noted that supervisors and managers can undermine the effectiveness of staff training if they are not trained themselves.

Larger businesses should consider the extent to which the decisions of their senior managers (e.g. purchasing, finance or personnel) affect the operational side. Senior management must also understand and act in a manner, which will achieve a good food safety management system on their food premises.

Q. What is the preferred approach to training in food safety?

A. It is recommended that training in food safety be competency based.

This approach emphasises the practical application of the training and the standard to which it must be achieved, i.e. what the trainee/employee should be able to do.

• Organising Training

Q. How can training be organised in the workplace?

- A. It is useful to have a training plan, which includes:
 - the assessment of staff skills and knowledge
 - the skills and knowledge necessary for their work activities

This will help identify the training necessary for each member of staff.

Q. Who should assess the training needs of employees?

A. Ideally each company should assess their own training requirements and develop training methods suitable for these needs.

Q. How are the training needs of employees assessed?

A. In assessing food safety training needs the proprietor should consider the specific food safety related elements of the job type and ensure that the content of the training is commensurate with the work activities of each employee.

Q. What should be included in a training plan?

- A. A training plan should identify:
 - training needs of all food handlers and non-food handlers
 - stages of employment when specific hygiene training should be carried out.

Q. Where should training take place?

A. Training can take place on- or off-site. Training on-site can be very effective, (as it can be related directly to the work situation), provided it is free from distractions and the normal pressures of work.

When considering in-house training, businesses may find it beneficial to have written trainer notes. This will help to ensure consistency in training over time.

Suggested Training Plan

Category of Employee	Additional Skills Level Training
All food handlers - Full-time members of staff - Part-time members of staff - Seasonal/occasional workers - Voluntary workers	Within 6 to 12 months of induction
Food handlers involved in high-risk areas	Within 3 to 6 months of induction
Non-food handlers Whose duties and responsibilities can impinge on food safety	Within 6 to 12 months of induction

Q. Who should train the employees?

A. Training may be delivered by an in-house company trainer/instructor or by external training providers. Any trainer, either in-house or external, needs to know the standards which have to be achieved, have technical skills in the subject and be competent in training and presentation.

Training may be formal or informal; it may be carried out in groups or on a one to one basis depending on the needs and the resources of the establishment. To ensure the requirements of this document are met, the employer should check external training programmes.

Q. What do I do if a new member of staff claims to have been trained already?

A. All new staff must be trained in the practices and procedures of their new employment as they may well differ from their previous employment.

Any documentary evidence provided should be kept as a record. If this cannot be provided it is reasonable to assume that they have not been trained. In all circumstances, a re-assessment of needs should be performed and competencies assessed.

Q. What should I do if some of my employees do not have English as their first language or have literacy or learning difficulties?

A. Special arrangements may be necessary for persons whose first language is not English or have learning difficulties. Refer to Appendix 3 for contacts and other training information that may be of assistance.

How the Employer Can Facilitate Training

Q. What attitude should management adopt?

A. An approachable proprietor, manager or supervisor creates an ideal environment for employees should they encounter problems in training, in acquiring food safety skills or in reporting food safety issues.

The release of employees for training should also be facilitated.

Q. What role should the workplace supervisor play in food safety training?

A. The workplace supervisor has a very important role in food safety training. Staff who are being trained or are trained must be supervised to ensure that the training is being put into practice. Assessment should immediately follow training. It may be written, oral or carried out through practical demonstration. This assessment involves reinforcing good hygiene practice and identifying poor hygiene practice or a lack of understanding of food hygiene principles.

Supervision should also be used to assess when any refresher/re-training is necessary.

Q. Does supervision vary with the category of employee?

A. The hygiene practices of all employees should be supervised.

Close supervision will be necessary after the employee joins the staff. A reduced level of supervision can follow subsequent training. Where an employee is involved in high-risk areas it is recommended that they have a demonstrable understanding of the risks involved.

Q. Should the supervisor assess the food safety skills of the employees?

A. Yes. To ensure members of staff are competent in their workplace performance, it is good practice to carry out an assessment. A competent supervisor should carry out the assessment in accordance with the training standard.

Q. How can the supervisor assess workplace competence?

A. Competence can be assessed through observing and interviewing staff to ensure that the knowledge and instruction delivered in training is actually applied and practised consistently to the required standards. A sample of a checklist, which can be used to assess the competence of staff members, is available at the end of the additional skills section.

Meeting Training Requirements

Q. Do I have to keep training records?

A. It is recommended that records of training be kept whether training is carried out either in-house or externally. An enforcement officer may also request to see training records to verify that training has been carried out, who has been trained and the standard of training carried out. Future changes in the food hygiene regulations may require written records.

Q. What information should be included in a training record?

Any training record should include:

- the name of the staff member being trained
- the date when they commenced work in the business
- the training they received and the dates of delivery
- the outcome of the training in terms of assessment of workplace competence.

The trainee and the trainer should sign the training record after each training session. If an external training provider is used, the name of the training organisation and the trainer should also be recorded.

Q. Does training have to be reviewed?

A. A periodic assessment of the effectiveness of training should be made and training programmes should be routinely reviewed and updated. It should be noted that a need for training might also arise when there is a change in the duty or responsibilities of a staff member. This therefore should be incorporated into the review.

Q. Is re-training necessary?

A. Re-training should be carried out where deficiencies in workplace competence have been identified. Regular re-training is recommended as it can be used to refresh the knowledge, skills and understanding of staff members. The timing of re-training can be built into the training plan.

Q. Will staff be assessed on workplace competence during the visit of the enforcement officer?

A. Yes. During a site visit, the enforcement officer may interview and observe staff to check their level of competence.



ADDITIONAL SKILLS - AN OVERVIEW

Additional skills training is the second stage of food safety training, which employees in the food industry must be able to demonstrate.

& Timing of Training

Category of Employee Employees working in a high-risk activity should commence Additional Skills Level training within 3 to 6 months of completing Induction training.

> All other employees should commence Additional Skills food safety training within 6 to 12 months of completing Induction Level training.

Level of Supervision Required

Level of supervision can be reduced when the employer is confident that the employee can demonstrate competence in the food safety skills at this level.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS - SUMMARY

Training	Additional Skills
Employee category	Food handlers Non-food handlers who can affect food safety
Stage of employment	Within 3-6 months of induction for high- risk activity and within 6-12 months of induction for all other staff
Level of supervision	Reduce level of supervision following satisfactory demonstration of skills
Suggested delivery time	 8 hours (ideally 4 x 2-hour sessions) This is a guideline only as: not all skills may be applicable to all employees time may need to be extended for some employees. It is important that the employee can demonstrate the skill/knowledge required.
Food safety skills which the employee must be able to demonstrate at this stage Note: For further detail see Table of Food Safety Skills on pages 13 to 25	 Demonstrate the food safety skills required at Induction Level Stage I and II Outline the requirements necessary for bacterial growth Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth Describe foodborne illness and the factors which contribute to incidences of it Implement the HACCP procedures in place Apply pest control in the workplace Outline their legal food safety responsibilities Where applicable to the job: Use hygienic procedures in receiving deliveries Ensure food safety during storage Ensure food safety during preparation Ensure food safety during cooking and cooling of food

ADDITIONAL SKILLS - SUMMARY (CONTINUED)

Training	Additional Skills
Food safety skills which the employee must be able to demonstrate at this stage Note: For further detail see Table of Food Safety Skills on pages 13 to 25	 12. Ensure food safety during transportation 13. Apply correct and appropriate cleaning procedures in maintaining a clean food operation 14. Take all reasonable care to prevent cross-contamination of products by food allergens 15. Follow the procedure for dealing with recalled food products 16. Deal with a food safety complaint effectively 17. Co-operate with food safety auditors 18. Use hygienic procedures when displaying/holding or serving food 19. Deal with returns in a hygienic manner 20. Use hygienic procedures in storing raw/in-process/processed food items 21. Use hygienic procedures in storing ancillary items 22. Apply the required heat treatment 23. Label food correctly 24. Take samples for laboratory analysis 25. Test raw, in-process and/or processed food items to ensure food safety
Suggested training checklists Note: For further details see Delivery of Training and Supervision of Training checklists.	Delivery of training Supervision of food safety skills Note: Companies may use their own checklist/records to demonstrate that training has been carried out.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS - TABLE OF FOOD SAFETY SKILLS

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(I) Demonstrate the food safety skills required at Induction Level Stage I and II	 Wear and maintain uniform/protective clothing hygienically Maintain a high standard of hand-washing Maintain a high standard of personal hygiene Demonstrate correct hygienic practices if suffering from any ailments/illnesses that may affect the safety of food Refrain from unhygienic practices in a food operation Demonstrate safe handling practice Maintain staff facilities in a hygienic condition Obey food safety signs Keep work areas clean Know their legal responsibility in ensuring safe food for the customer Recognise how food safety can be put at risk by chemical, physical and biological hazards Demonstrate an understanding of cross contamination and the hygiene practice necessary to prevent it Explain the difference between high- and low-risk activities 	Ensure employee receives adequate instruction in Induction Level Skills and understands food safety risk and responsibility associated with their job Carry out regular assessment verbally and through observation to reinforce best practice Give positive/negative feedback on hygiene practice

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(I) Demonstrate the food safety skills required at Induction Level Stage I and II	 Avoid unnecessary handling of food, food utensils and surfaces Where applicable to their job: record the temperature of foods as required Keep appropriate food safety records Keep pests out of the food operation and operate a satisfactory waste disposal system Take action when aware of unhygienic practices that may put the safety of food at risk Co-operate with authorised enforcement officers Where applicable to their job: check deliveries appropriately 	
(2) Outline the requirements necessary for bacterial growth	Explain how time, temperature, moisture and the type of food influence bacterial growth	Have controls in place to prevent/minimise bacterial growth

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(3) Use time- temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth	 Explain the need for time-temperature controls Outline the time-temperature controls in place for their particular work activity e.g. transport, delivery, storage, etc. Record times and temperatures observed while carrying out tasks Ensure that temperature probes are clean before use Maintain temperature probe calibration records where appropriate 	 Provide appropriate temperature probes, and maintain and calibrate as required Provide checklists for monitoring time and temperature at each stage of the food operation Designate an area for storage for all relevant records
(4) Describe foodborne illness and the factors which contribute to incidences of it	 Identify the main sources of food poisoning bacteria Describe the symptoms associated with foodborne illness Outline the main practices that can give rise to foodborne illness 	
(5) Implement the HACCP procedures in place	 Describe the potential hazards that are specific to their particular activity Explain how critical control points are kept under control in their particular work environment Implement control and monitoring procedures in the food operation as directed by the supervisor Take corrective action when the critical limits for a critical control point are not met 	 Induct staff on the control and monitoring procedures used on the premises Ensure food safety checklists for various stages of the process are easy to use Ensure temperature probes are readily accessible and can accurately measure the temperature of food

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(6) Apply pest control in the workplace	 Outline the importance of pest control Adhere to procedure to keep pests out of the premises Ensure insect electrocutors are left on permanently Where appropriate, empty insect electrocutor trays Report any evidence of suspected or actual infestations to their manager or supervisor 	 Ensure pest control inspection and follow-up is carried out by a competent person Ensure premises is pest proofed Have a procedure in place to deal with a pest infestation
(7) Outline their legal food safety responsibilities	Summarise the legal responsibilities of food handlers and proprietors of food operations under the European Communities (Hygiene of Foodstuffs) Regulations, 2000 (S.I. No. 165 of 2000)	Ensure employees are aware of their legal responsibilities

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(8) Where applicable to their job: Use hygienic procedures in receiving deliveries	 Check deliveries received against documentation as appropriate Check deliveries using the delivery hygiene checklist Control hazard(s) that could exist at this stage Take appropriate action if the food delivered, the delivery vehicle or the delivery personnel are unsatisfactory Follow procedure when food packaging (containers, bags, glass, etc) breaks Maintain a clean delivery area Remove outer packaging from food, where appropriate Where appropriate, decant food into clean containers and cover Transfer deliveries to their appropriate storage area as soon as possible 	 Ensure delivery vehicle/transport method used is capable of keeping food at the correct temperature Ensure the delivery area is maintained in a hygienic condition Provide a delivery checklist which also indicates the temperature requirements of the food categories on delivery Tips for Best Practice Post a notice in the delivery area highlighting the steps to follow when there is non-adherence to the delivery procedures Post a notice in the delivery area highlighting the steps to be followed when decanting food Provide appropriate containers in the delivery area for waste packing

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(9) Where applicable to their job: Ensure food safety during storage	 Store food and non-food items separately Store food in the correct storage area Store food within its shelf-life Ensure stock rotation in each storage area Use correct procedure for the storage of returns as instructed 	 Provide suitable storage containers Segregate each storage area for various categories of food stored within it Clearly identify each storage area of the food room Have returns storage controls procedure in place <i>Tips for Best Practice</i> Use colour coded stickers for food storage
(10) Where applicable to their job: Ensure food safety during preparation	 Handle and prepare raw and ready-to-eat / processed food in separate areas unless the area is cleaned after preparing raw food Avoid cross contamination Adhere to colour coding system if in place Ensure food is not placed directly under insect electrocutors Ensure food safety when washing food items Avoid over-handling food Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth Use recommended method of thawing food Ensure thawed food is not re-frozen Maintain a clean and hygienic area 	 Provide a procedure for washing food as per relevant standard Ensure that sinks for washing food have a supply of potable water Where thawing is part of the process, provide adequate facilities and operating procedures. Provide and identify adequate washing facilities as per relevant standard

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(11) Where applicable to their job: Ensure food safety during cooking and cooling of food	 Adhere to hygienic practices to avoid cross contamination Avoid over-handling of food Use potable water for the cooking of food Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth Use recommended method of re-heating food Keep cooked food separate from raw food during cooling Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth Maintain a clean and hygienic area 	 Provide sufficient equipment/utensils for the cooking of food Provide time-temperature checklists for the cooking and re-heating of food Provide a means to ensure the quick-cooling of cooked/processed food, e.g. blast chiller
(12) Where applicable to their job: Ensure food safety during transportation	 Clean delivery vehicles thoroughly between use, using the designated cleaning schedule Place food in a clean delivery vehicle Keep raw food, ready-to-eat food and non-food materials separate Ensure air is allowed to circulate around food in refrigerated vehicles Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth at the loading and transport stages 	 Provide an appropriate cleaning schedule for delivery vehicles and containers used during transportation Maintain delivery vehicles in good repair and ensure that they are designed appropriately for the transportation of foodstuffs Ensure that all vehicles are inspected before loading and provide checklists where appropriate

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(13) Where applicable to their job: Apply correct and appropriate cleaning procedures in maintaining a clean food operation	 Distinguish between the removal of dirt and the removal of bacteria from surfaces Differentiate between the properties of various cleaning chemicals Follow correct procedure when using various chemicals Ensure that equipment, utensils and work surfaces in the food operation are maintained in a clean condition Use separate cleaning equipment for toilet areas; and areas to which cleaning equipment has been designated, to prevent cross-contamination 	 Ensure the premises is maintained in a good state of repair to allow for effective cleaning Provide a cleaning program, cleaning schedules and the necessary personal protective equipment if appropriate Provide adequate supplies of cleaning equipment to prevent crosscontamination between areas Verify the effectiveness of cleaning by inspection and signing of cleaning schedules
(14) Where applicable to their job: Take all reasonable care to prevent cross contamination of products by food allergens	 Describe food allergies and how they affect the consumer Follow, as instructed, the procedure in place to prevent cross contamination of products by "foreign allergens" 	 Determine the possible food allergens used in the food production process on the premises Devise a food allergen plan to organise food deliveries, storage, production and cleaning procedures to prevent cross contamination by "foreign allergens" Have a label/appropriate warning system in place to inform the consumer of the presence of a major allergen in the product Have a system for the recall of any product found to have an allergen but carrying no warning

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(15) Where applicable to their job: Follow the procedure for dealing with recalled food products	 Follow procedure in place for the withdrawal or recall of non-conforming products Ensure non-conforming products are stored separately from other food products 	 Establish traceability procedures Develop a food withdrawal/recall plan to deal with the recall of any non-conforming product
(16) Where applicable to their job: Deal with a food safety complaint effectively	Follow procedure in place for food safety complaints in: dealing with the customer reporting the incident to the supervisor/manager identifying and storing the food in a designated area recording the complaint and the corrective action taken co-operate with enforcement officers during an investigation	 Establish a reporting procedure for food safety complaints related to the establishment Keep a customer complaint record sheet which records the corrective action taken
(17) Where applicable to their job: Co-operate with food safety auditors	Assist personnel carrying out internal audits within the food premises	Tips for Best Practice • Give feedback to employees on the results of audits

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(18) Where applicable to their job: Use hygienic procedures when displaying/holding or serving food	 Pre-heat/pre-chill as appropriate the holding/display/service units/plates before use Ensure sufficient service equipment is provided at the point of service, e.g. service spoons Separate raw food and ready-to-eat food in the display unit Use time-temperature controls to control bacterial growth Record times and temperatures as required Report any faulty temperature-controlled equipment Ensure good stock rotation 	 Ensure that sufficient display/holding units are provided to allow for raw food, cooked food and ready-to-eat food segregation Ensure display/holding equipment is maintained in an efficient working order Provide checklists and calibrated thermometer probes for recording temperatures and monitor records daily
(19) Where applicable to their job: Deal with returns in a hygienic manner	 Remove from shelves, food which has passed its use by or best before date or is otherwise unsuitable for sale, and store in a designated area Store returns in a designated area Store perishable returns in a hygienic manner 	 The employer should: Have a stock control system in place for perishable and dry goods to prevent use of out-of-date materials Allocate a clearly identifiable and labelled area for: returns food which has passed its use by or best before dates or is unsuitable for sale Have a procedure in place for returns

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(20) Where applicable to their job: Use hygienic procedures in storing raw/in-process/processed food items	 Segregate raw and processed foods Reseal part-used packs Store in-process material and finished products separate from raw materials 	 Provide separate storage areas for raw food, in- process food and finished food items Provide suitable storage containers and labelling resources
(21) Where applicable to their job: Use hygienic procedures in storing ancillary items	 Label cleaning materials Store cleaning agents in a separate cleaning store Store packing and food wrapping materials as appropriate Maintain the cleaning store and the non-food store in a hygienic condition 	 Allocate a storage area for: cleaning materials packaging and food wrapping materials Provide a supply of storage labels Include all storage areas in the cleaning schedule
(22) Where applicable to their job: Apply the required heat treatment	 Outline how heat treatment influences the safety of the products being produced Ensure the correct heat treatment is applied to the food for the correct length of time during the food production process Record the time- temperature applied to foods 	 Provide time-temperature recording sheets Remind food handlers (using food safety signs) of the temperature which must be reached

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(23) Where applicable to their job: Label food correctly	 Explain the importance of a food label Identify the various labels required for their food operation Explain the relevance of the batch code in product traceability Apply correct labels to food products 	 Ensure all staff are aware of the differences in the labels used and how they are to be used Provide sufficient labels Maintain labelling equipment in good working order
(24) Where applicable to their job: Take samples for laboratory analysis	 Follow procedure for taking samples at appropriate intervals for laboratory analysis Label and store samples as required by supervisor 	 It is good practice and a legal requirement in some sectors, to develop a programme of tests to verify the safety of raw materials and products, e.g. the efficiency of cleaning programmes etc. Liaise with your enforcement officer where necessary, to develop a programme of tests which meets the food safety needs of the operation. Agree a procedure with staff for taking samples for laboratory analysis at appropriate intervals, which ensures the integrity of the sample and meets laboratory requirements

Food safety skills	What the employee must do to demonstrate this skill	Employer's supporting activities
(25) Where applicable to their job: Test raw, in-process and/or processed food items to ensure food safety	 Ensure instruments are calibrated as per procedure Follow written procedures in selecting samples and conducting tests Record results and note any observations made Inform supervisor if results are outside specified limits and/or if they indicate a potential problem with the food 	 Where staff are to conduct tests in-house, agree written procedures, which ensure that samples are taken at appropriate intervals and tests yield reliable results. Provide resources for instruments which are easy for staff to use and give reliable results



Date of Training _____

Use of Checklist

It is suggested that this checklist could be used to record the training in food safety skills delivered to employees in the food industry at this level. The checklist should be completed by the manager/supervisor after completing training with employees. Both manager/supervisor and employees should sign off the checklist. The checklist should be kept with other training records.

Name of employees	Department
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	

Where a skill has been covered during the training session place a \checkmark in the appropriate skills covered box otherwise, place an X in the appropriate box.

	Training in Food Safety Skills	Skills covered tick ✓ or X
1.	Demonstrate the food safety skills required at Induction Level	
	Stage I and II	
2.	Outline the requirements necessary for bacterial growth	
3.	Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control	
	bacterial growth	
4.	Describe foodborne illness and the factors which contribute	
	to the incidences of it	
5.	Implement the HACCP procedures in place	
6.	Apply pest control in the work place	
7.	Outline their legal food safety responsibilities	
	Where applicable to the job: (refers to food safety skills 8 - 25 below)	
8.	Use hygienic procedures in receiving deliveries	
9.	Ensure food safety during storage	
10.	Ensure food safety during preparation	
11.	Ensure food safety during cooking and cooling of food	

Training in Food Safety Skills	Skills covered tick ✓ or X
12. Ensure food safety during transportation	
13. Apply correct and appropriate cleaning procedures in maintaining a clean food operation	
14. Take all reasonable care to prevent cross-contamination of products by food allergens	
15. Follow the procedure for dealing with recalled food products	
16. Deal with a food safety complaint effectively	
17. Co-operate with food safety auditors	
18. Use hygienic procedures when displaying/holding or serving food	
19. Deal with returns in a hygienic manner	
20. Use hygienic procedures in storing raw/in-process/processed food items	
21. Use hygienic procedures in storing ancillary items	
22. Apply the required heat treatment	
23. Label food correctly	
24. Take, label and store samples for laboratory analysis	
25. Test raw, in-process and/or processed food items to ensure food safety	
Signed by Employees	
Signed by Manager/Supervisor Da	ite:



Use of Checklist

It is suggested that this checklist could be used by the manager/supervisor when checking the employee's ability to demonstrate the food safety skills at this level. Satisfactory demonstration of these skills is recorded by placing "S" in the appropriate skills box. Where skills do not meet this level further training will be required therefore, "RT" should be recorded in the appropriate skills level box. An unsatisfactory outcome must be followed up with supervision and retraining until the employee demonstrates each of these skills to a satisfactory level.

Date		

	Food Safety Skills			Names of	Employe	ees	
S	Satisfactory demonstration of the food safety skill						
RT	 Unsatisfactory demonstration of the food safety skill and requires supervision and retraining in the food safety skill(s) 						
l.	Demonstrate the food safety skills required at Induction Level Stage I and II						
2.	Outline the requirements necessary for bacterial growth						
3.	Use time-temperature controls to prevent and control bacterial growth						
4.	Describe foodborne illness and the factors which contribute to the incidences of it						
5.	Implement the HACCP procedures in place						
6.	Apply pest control in the work place						
7.	Outline their legal food safety responsibilities						
	Where applicable to the job: (refers to food saf	ety skills	8 - 25 L	pelow)			
8.	Use hygienic procedures in receiving deliveries						
9.	Ensure food safety during storage						
10.	Ensure food safety during preparation						

Food Safety Skills	Names of Employees
Ensure food safety during cooking and cooling of food	
12. Ensure food safety during transportation	
Apply correct and appropriate cleaning procedures in maintaining a clean food operation	
14. Take all reasonable care to prevent cross contamination of products by food allergens	
15. Follow the procedure for dealing with recalled food products	
16. Deal with a food safety complaint effectively	
17. Co-operate with food safety auditors	
18. Use hygienic procedures when displaying/holding or serving food	
19. Deal with returns in a hygienic manner	
20. Use hygienic procedures in storing raw/in-process/processed food items	
21. Use hygienic procedures in storing ancillary items	
22. Apply the required heat treatment	
23. Label food correctly	
24. Take, label and store samples for laboratory analysis	
25. Test raw, in-process and/or processed food items to ensure food safety	
Comments:	
Signed by Manager/Supervisor	Date:

APPENDIX I - FOOD SAFETY TRAINING COUNCIL

The Food Safety Training Council (FSTC) was established in December 1999. The council is comprised of representatives from education and training, the food industry and inspectors from the official agencies with responsibility for food safety, such as health boards and local authorities.

There are three sub-committees of the council:

- Food service
- Retail
- Manufacturing

The purpose of the FSTC is to advise the FSAI on:

- contributing to food safety through training
- agreeing levels of skills required for best practice in food safety in Ireland
- agreeing guidelines for assessing the impact of food safety training in the work environment.

The objectives of the FSTC

To agree levels of food safety skills for employers, managers and employees which will:

- be commensurate with their responsibility and work activity
- be adopted by the Irish food industry, trainers and inspectors
- be used as a basis for assessing food safety practice in the work environment
- satisfy the requirements of the National Qualifications Authority of Ireland (NQAI) and awarding bodies
- reflect the current and future requirements of Irish legislation
- define the skills required for all possible categories of personnel who can affect food safety in the food industry.

MEMBERS OF FOOD SERVICE SUB-COMMITTEE

Organisation	Representative
B.S.L. Consultants	Grania Peden
Campbell Catering Ltd	Liz Doyle
Catercare Ltd	Brid Fox
Catering Management Association	Helena O'Brien
Catering Officers Association	Yvonne Dowler
CERT & National Hygiene Partnership	Denis Tucker
Defence Forces School of Catering	Captain Manus Ward
Dublin Institute of Technology	Barbara Delaney
Eastern Regional Health Authority	Breda Flynn/David Molloy
European Catering Association	Sheila Matthews
Excellence Ireland	Edel Colgan
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	Cliona O'Reilly/Anne-Marie Kierans
Institute of Technology, Tallaght	Annette Sweeney
IPPA The Early Childhood Organisation	Irene Gunning
Irish Hotels Federation	Donal O'Meara
Irish Nursing Homes Association	Patricia Foley
Licensed Vintners Association	Frank Fell
National Childrens Nurseries Association	Catherine Bond
National Standards Authority of Ireland	Manus O'Brolchain
O'Briens Irish Sandwich Bars	Maurice Knightly/Siobhan Reid
Paul Boksberger Advisory Service	Paul Boksberger
REHAB Care	Jeremy Ward
Restaurants Association of Ireland	Henry O'Neill/Adrian Holden
The National Food Centre	Brendan Lynch
Vintners Federation of Ireland	Mairead Howe
Western Health Board	Brendan Lawlor

MEMBERS OF MANUFACTURING SUB-COMMITTEE

Organisation	Representative
Agricultural Science Association	Donal Mullane
Bord Iascaigh Mhara	Dave Garforth/Dennis Minihane
Dublin Institute of Technology	Michael Mulvey
Eastern Regional Health Authority	David Molloy
Environmental Health Officers Association	Dorothy Guina Dornan
FAS	Pat Moynihan/John Simon
Food and Drink Federation	Gerry Farrell
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	Cliona O'Reilly/Anne-Marie Kierans
Glanbia Ingredients	Brendan O'Gorman
Golden Vale plc	Vera Mortell
Green Isle Foods	Angela Blaney
Hygiene Education Unit	George Sharpson
Institute of Food Science and Technology of Ireland	Edel Jones
Irish Veterinary Association	Sean O'Laoide
Local Authority Veterinary Officers Association	John Murphy/Padraig Flynn
Rye Valley Foods	Caroline McQuaid
SIPTU	Gerry McCormack
South Dublin County Council	John Murphy
The National Food Centre	Ita White
Tesco Ireland	Karen Kaye/Bill Paterson
University College, Cork	Maria Harrington
Veterinary Officers Association	Michael O'Leary/Michael Moran

MEMBERS OF RETAIL SUB-COMMITTEE

Organisation	Representative
ADM Londis	Sharon Dormer
Associated Craft Butchers of Ireland	Pat Brady
BWG Foods Ltd	Bernard McDonagh
Caulfields Supervalu	Anne Marie Caulfield
Dublin Corporation	Paul Harrington
Dunnes Stores	Michelle McCourt/Una Crilly
Eastern Regional Health Authority	David Molloy
Eight to Twelve	Caroline Small
Food Safety Authority of Ireland	Cliona O'Reilly/Anne-Marie Kierans
Gala Retail Services Ltd	Paul Ryan
Hygiene Education Unit	George Sharpson
Independent Family Retailers	Bobby Arthur
Musgraves SuperValu Centra	Margaret Kellegher
Quality Hygiene Solutions	Rose Hibbitts
The National Food Centre	Sara Mooney
Tesco Ireland	Alison Kilpatrick

APPENDIX 2 – EXAMPLES OF FOOD BUSINESSES IN THE MANUFACTURING, RETAIL AND FOOD SERVICE SECTORS

Manufacturing

All manufacturing or processing establishments.

Retail

Includes all types of food retail activity (sales to the final consumer), particularly supermarkets, vending machines, mail order activities and market stalls, whether indoors or in the open air (but excluding takeaway food stalls).

Food Service
Includes restaurants, canteens, public houses, take-away food outlets and catering facilities in firms, schools, holiday camps and public institutions.

Bread shop	Grocery
Butchers	Health food shop
Cake shop	Newsagent/sweet shop
Delicatessen	Off licence
Fishmonger I (raw only)	Soft ice cream
Fishmonger II (mixed products)	Supermarket
Forecourt	Vending machine I (high-risk foods)
Greengrocer	Vending machine II (non high-risk foods)

Food Stalls - Retail	
Chilled foods (high-risk foods)	Passenger ferry (kitchen facilities)
Cooked meats	Rail dining cars (kitchen facilities)
Fish	Raw meat
Fruit and vegetables	

Alcoholic drinks	Ice cream
Baby food	Jam and jelly
Bakery	Meat products
Caterer	Milk products
Cereal products	Oils and fats
Chocolate and chocolate products	Other fish processing (includes freezing, but
Confectionery (including bakery)	not cooking)
Cook chill	Sandwiches and salads
Crisps and extruded starch snacks	Shellfish purification
Delicatessen foods	Soft drinks
Fish processing	Sweet/sugar confectionery
Fish smoking	Butcher
Food additives	Poulterer
Fruit and vegetable processing I (ready-to-eat)	
Fruit and vegetable processing II	

Food Service Sector	
Airline catering	Hotel
Army barracks	Meals-on-wheels
Bed and Breakfast	Nursing home
Canteen	Pre-school I (serving meals)
Cruise liner	Pre-school II (snacks only)
Fast food outlet	Prison
Ferry catering	Private club
Forecourt catering	Public house
Golf club	Rail catering
Guest house	Restaurant
Grocery	Sandwich bar
Holiday camp	School (serving meals)
Hospital	Take-away
Hostel (serving meals)	Tennis club

Food Stalls - Food Service Se	ctor	
Candy floss	Fast food van	
Caterer	lce cream	
Chip van	Popcorn	
Ethnic food		

APPENDIX 3 - USEFUL CONTACTS FOR EMPLOYERS

Below is a list of contacts which may be of assistance to employers:

- for information on training courses on food safety and hygiene in Ireland
- if their employees have literacy or learning difficulties
- if there is a need to translate training materials for non-English speaking personnel

Information on Food Safety Training

The Food Safety Authority of Ireland has constructed a database of training courses on food safety and hygiene that are currently running in Ireland. These courses are aimed at those working directly in the food industry. The database outlines contact details for the agencies responsible, as well as information on courses provided and can be viewed on our website at www.fsai.ie or obtained by email or post.

Note: This database is merely intended to provide information for those interested in obtaining data or contacts. It is not an endorsement or recommendation for any or all of the mentioned courses. It does not purport to be comprehensive or to constitute legal or other professional advice

For further information please contact Training Compliance at (01) 817 1300 or e-mail info@fsai.ie.

Training Materials in Different Languages

For those who are involved in training nonnational staff with English language difficulties, the FSAI provides:

- information on training materials in different languages
- details of interpreters currently operating in Ireland

For further information please contact Training Compliance at (01) 817 1300 or e-mail info@fsai.ie.

Literacy

National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA)

76 Lower Gardiner Street

Dublin I.

Tel: 01-855 4332 Fax: 01-855 5475

E-mail: literacy@nala.ie Website: www.nala.ie

Learning Difficulties

Dyslexia Association of Ireland

I Suffolk Street

Dublin 2

Tel: 01-679 0276 Fax: 01-679 0273

E-mail: acld@iol.ie

Translation of Training Materials

Irish Translator's Association

Irish Writer's Centre

19 Parnell Square

Dublin I

Tel: 01-872 1302

Fax: 01-872 6282

E-mail: iwc@iol.ie

Website: www.writerscentre.ie

GLOSSARY

Best before date: Date mark required on longer life foods that are not subjected to

microbiological spoilage if kept in the correct storage conditions.

Cleaning: The removal of soil, food residues, dirt, grease and other undesirable

debris.

Contamination: Presence of microorganisms or their by-products, chemicals and/or

foreign bodies, at a level sufficient to cause a potential health hazard.

Core temperature: The temperature found at the centre of the thickest part of a piece

of food.

Corrective action: The action taken when the monitoring of a critical control point

indicates a potential loss of control, or when a critical limit is not met.

Critical Control Point: A step in which control can be applied and is essential to prevent or

eliminate a food safety hazard or reduce it to an acceptable level.

Cross-contamination: The transfer of harmful or potentially harmful microorganisms

(usually bacteria) from contaminated surfaces or foods to other foods either by hand, physical contact, air or contact with food

preparation surfaces or food utensils.

Danger zone: The temperature range within which the greatest multiplication of

bacteria is possible (between 5°C and 63°C).

Enforcement officer: Authorised officer appointed to enforce relevant legislation, e.g.

environmental health officers, sea fisheries officers, veterinary

inspectors, dairy produce inspectors.

Food: Includes:

(a) any substance used, available to be used or intended to be used, for food or drink by human persons, and

(b) any substance which enters into it or is used in the production, composition or preparation of these substances, and references to food include, as the context may require, reference to a particular food or class of food. (Food Safety

Authority of Ireland Act, 1998).

Food handler: Any person who handles or prepares food whether open

(unwrapped) or packaged, even if physical contact is only a small part

of their work.

Food hygiene: All measures necessary to ensure the safety and wholesomeness of

food during preparation, processing, manufacture, storage,

transportation, distribution, handling and offering for sale or supply

to the consumer.

Food safety records: Written and/or electronically documented evidence of food safety

procedures followed at a stated time-period.

Hazard: The potential to cause harm. Hazards may be biological, chemical or

physical.

High-risk activity: Activities where high-risk ready-to-eat foods are prepared and

where the potential exists to put vulnerable groups (infants, the frail elderly, pregnant women and the sick) or large numbers of

consumers at serious risk. Such foods are as follows:

- ready-to-eat shellfish
- fish
- · cooked meat and meat products
- cooked poultry and poultry products
- · cooked-chill and cooked-freeze meals
- milk and milk products
- egg and egg products
- · cooked rice
- · foods containing any of these examples as ingredients.

High-risk food: Food which supports the growth of harmful and potentially harmful

microorganisms and which will not be subjected to any further heat treatment or processing which would remove or destroy such

microorganisms, prior to consumption. Ready-to-eat foods are high-

risk foods.

Insect electrocuter: Electronic equipment to control flying insects, usually by means of

UV lamps and a high voltage grid. This equipment is also referred to

as an electronic fly killer (EFK) or the trade name, insectocutor.

Low-risk activity: Activity where the potential to cause harm to consumers is low.

Monitoring: The systematic observation, measurement and/or recording of the

significant factors for control of a hazard.

Non-conforming

product:

Product that does not meet the required standard or specification.

Non-food handler: A person involved in a food business whose duties and

responsibilities can impinge on food safety, e.g. managers,

maintenance staff, cleaning staff.

Potable water: Water which is fit to drink or use in food preparation from the rising

main and complies with the requirements of S.I. No. 81 of 1998.

Ready-to-eat foods: Foods that have already gone through most or all of their

preparation steps. There will be a "high-risk" if these are contaminated or allowed to deteriorate because there are no further preparation steps to control the hazard, e.g. cooked meat and poultry, pâtés, meat pies, cooked meat products (e.g. gravy and stock), milk, cream, custards and dairy produce, shellfish and other seafood (cooked or intended to be eaten raw), cooked rice, cooked

eggs and products made with eggs, prepared salads, fruit and

vegetables, soft cheeses, etc.

Risk: The probability of a hazard occurring.

Stock rotation: Practice of moving (rotating) stock so that the oldest is used first

and the newest last.

Temperature probe: Part of temperature measuring equipment that can be inserted

between packs or into product to obtain temperature reading.

Use-by-date: Date mark required on highly microbiologically perishable pre-

packed foods. It is an offence to sell food after its use-by date.

Waste: Any product, packaging or materials that are unwanted and intended

to be disposed of and removed from a food area or premises.

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Telephone: (01) 661 3111

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