

Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards - 15 Minute Survey

This survey is completely anonymous; your candid feedback is appreciated.

This survey is designed to help the Conference for Food Protection Program Standards Committee identify benefits to industry for regulatory authorities to achieve Standard 2, Standard 4, and Standard 7 of the Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards. The Committee is due to report back at the 2016 Biennial Meeting on how the Conference can collaborate with industry to facilitate enrollment and achievement of the Voluntary National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards (Retail Program Standards).

Retail Program Standards Overview

The Retail Program Standards are comprised of nine separate Standards, each focusing on a different aspect of a retail food regulatory program. Broadly speaking, the Standards:

- Serve as a guide to retail food regulatory program managers in the design and management of retail food regulatory programs;
- Are intended to help retail food regulatory programs enhance the services they provide to the public;
- Provide a foundation and system upon which all regulatory programs can build through a continuous improvement process;
- Encourage agencies to improve and build upon existing programs;
- Provide a framework designed to accommodate both traditional and emerging approaches to food safety; and reinforce proper sanitation (good retail practices) and operational and environmental prerequisite programs while encouraging regulatory agencies and industry to focus on the factors that cause and contribute to foodborne illness, with the ultimate goal of reducing the occurrence of those factors.

Standard 2 (Trained Regulatory Staff)

The regulatory retail food program inspection staff shall have the knowledge, skills, and ability to adequately perform their required duties.

Five step training process for retail food program inspection staff:

- Completion of initial course curriculum before conducting joint inspections.
- Completion of 25 joint inspections.
- Completion of 25 independent inspections, and completion of the remainder of the course curriculum.
- Completion of Standardization process (re-standardization occurs every three years).
- Completion of continuing education.

Standard 4 (Quality Assurance Program)

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Program Management implements an on-going quality assurance program that evaluates inspection uniformity to ensure inspection quality, inspection frequency, and uniformity among the regulatory staff.

Standard 7 (Industry/Community Outreach Activities)

This standard applies to industry and community outreach activities utilized by a regulatory program to solicit a broad spectrum input into a comprehensive regulatory food program, communicate sound public health food safety principles, and foster and recognize community initiatives focused on the reduction of foodborne disease risk factors.

1. Which of the following best describes your operation?

- Food Service Operation/Restaurant
- Retail Food Establishment
- Convenience Store
- Other Type of Operation (please specify)

2. How long has your company been in business?

- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 25 years
- 26 to 50 years
- More than 50 years

3. How many employees work at your company?

- 1 to 50 employees
- 51 to 500 employees
- 501 to 5,000 employees
- More than 5,000 employees

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4. How many States does your company operate in?

- 1 to 5 states
- 6 to 15 states
- 16 to 30 states
- More than 30 states

5. What is the approximate total revenue for your company?

- \$1K to \$500K
- \$501K to \$10 Million
- \$11 Million to \$500 Million
- More than \$500 Million

6. Prior to receiving this survey, were you aware of the Retail Program Standards?

- Yes
- No

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7. How did you become aware of the Retail Program Standards? Please select all options that apply.

- Industry peers
- Local Regulatory outreach/communication
- FDA website
- Peers/Coworkers
- Other (Please specify below in 'Other' box)

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Other (please specify)

8. Would it be valuable to your company if all regulatory authority inspection staff responsible for conducting inspections at retail food establishments were trained to the Retail Program Standard 2 as outlined below?

Standard 2 (Trained Regulatory Staff)

The regulatory retail food program inspection staff shall have the knowledge, skills, and ability to adequately perform their required duties.

Five step training process for retail food program inspection staff:

- **Completion of initial course curriculum before conducting joint inspections.**
- **Completion of 25 joint inspections.**
- **Completion of 25 independent inspections, and completion of the remainder of the course curriculum.**
- **Completion of Standardization process (re-standardization occurs every three years).**
- **Completion of continuing education.**

- Very valuable
- Somewhat valuable
- Not very valuable
- Not at all valuable

Comments (Optional)

9. Would it be valuable to your company if all regulatory authorities implemented an ongoing Quality Assurance program as outlined in the Retail Program Standard 4, as outlined below?

Standard 4 (Quality Assurance Program)

Program Management implements an on-going quality assurance program that evaluates inspection uniformity to ensure inspection quality, inspection frequency, and uniformity among the regulatory staff.

- Very valuable
- Somewhat valuable
- Not very valuable

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Not at all valuable

Comments (Optional)

10. Would Industry find it beneficial if regulatory authorities invited industry to participate in food safety forums or to participate in food safety advisory boards to enhance food safety strategies or otherwise collaborate to improve food safety in the jurisdiction?

Very valuable

Somewhat valuable

Not very valuable

Not at all valuable

Comments (Optional)

11. What are the benefits to Industry when the regulatory authority invests in the Retail Program Standards by having trained regulatory staff (Standard 2), an ongoing Quality Assurance program (Standard 4) and Industry/Community outreach activities (Standard 7)? Please select all options that apply and add any additional benefits in the 'Other' box.

Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by general public

Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by Industry

Increased engagement with regulatory authority by Industry

Calibration of regulatory staff across the State/Jurisdiction

Other Benefits (please specify)

12. Please rate your identified benefits to Industry for regulatory authorities to invest in the Retail Program Standards by having trained regulatory staff, an ongoing Quality Assurance program and Industry/Community outreach activities?

No Benefit

Some Benefit

Greatest Benefit

N/A

Confidence in retail food establishment

Confidence in

Confidence in

Confidence in

Confidence in

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	No Benefit	Some Benefit	Greatest Benefit	N/A
assessment results by general public	retail food establishment assessment results by general public No Benefit	retail food establishment assessment results by general public Some Benefit	retail food establishment assessment results by general public Greatest Benefit	retail food establishment assessment results by general public N/A
Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by Industry	<input type="radio"/> Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by Industry No Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by Industry Some Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by Industry Greatest Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Confidence in retail food establishment assessment results by Industry N/A
Increased engagement with regulatory authority by Industry	<input type="radio"/> Increased engagement with regulatory authority by Industry No Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Increased engagement with regulatory authority by Industry Some Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Increased engagement with regulatory authority by Industry Greatest Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Increased engagement with regulatory authority by Industry N/A
Calibration of regulatory staff across the State/Jurisdiction	<input type="radio"/> Calibration of regulatory staff across the State/Jurisdiction No Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Calibration of regulatory staff across the State/Jurisdiction Some Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Calibration of regulatory staff across the State/Jurisdiction Greatest Benefit	<input type="radio"/> Calibration of regulatory staff across the State/Jurisdiction N/A

13. If you have multiple locations in different regulatory districts, can you identify benefits of working with a regulatory authority that is enrolled in the Retail Program Standards versus one that has is not enrolled in the Retail Program Standards?

- Not Applicable
- Yes
- No

Comments (please specify)