



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program



Sidewalk Vending

About the Department of Economic Opportunity

The Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity ("DEO") provides services to foster economic development. DEO is responsible for the County's Sidewalk Vending program thanks to the County Board of Supervisors' ("Board") approval of the Sidewalk Vending Ordinance (SVO) in 2024. Since 2020, the County (including DEO) has provided support to the sidewalk vending community through pilot programs initiated by Board directives intended to assist with finding pathways to entrepreneurship for financial resiliency, while protecting the public's health, safety, and wellness.

Mission

We create quality jobs, help small business and high-road employers start and grow, and build vibrant local communities and spaces.

Vision

An equitable economy with thriving local communities, inclusive and sustainable growth, and opportunity and mobility for all.





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program



Helping vendors in the unincorporated areas of L.A. County and the City of L.A.



DEO has joined in partnership with the City of Los Angeles Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) to distribute **California Code Compliant Food Carts at no-cost** to eligible vendors operating in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County or the City of L.A. The program will distribute a total of 180 County carts and 143 L.A. City Carts to eligible vendors. Eligible applicants can apply for the following:

- ✓ **Integrated Grill Carts** – for foods such as tacos, hot dogs, corn, etc.
- ✓ **Cold-Hold Ice Cream Carts** – for prepackaged ice cream.
- ✓ **Hot-Holding Carts** – for warm food to be kept at safe temperatures such as wraps, tamales, gyro sandwiches, etc.
- ✓ **Cut Fruit Carts** – for fresh fruit vending such as biónicos (fruit bowl), acai bowls, etc.



Steps to completing the initial application process:

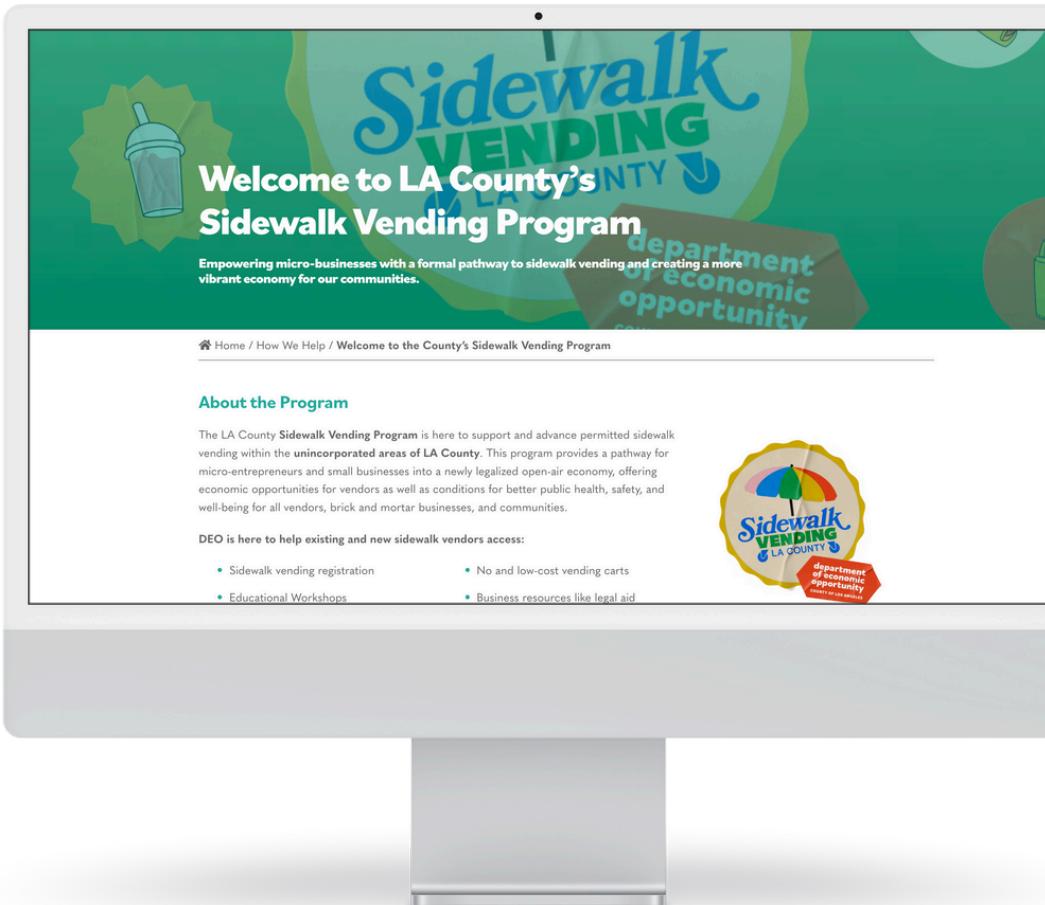
- 1 Visit main application site to learn about the program at opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts
- 2 Check if you are eligible
- 3 Prepare required information and documents
- 4 Apply at bit.ly/CartApplication
- 5 Upon initial approval, applicants will be contacted by a DEO or City representative with next steps and help getting permitted



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 1: Learn about the program

Visit us and learn about program details, eligibility guidelines, expectations, and much more! You can also call, visit, or email DEO's Office of Small Business for any general questions.



Visit: bit.ly/SVCartProgram





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 2: Check if you qualify

You **must** live in the County of Los Angeles and operate your business in either the unincorporated areas of the County or the City of L.A.:



**Must check
to qualify**

Live in Los Angeles County (Verify location [here](#))



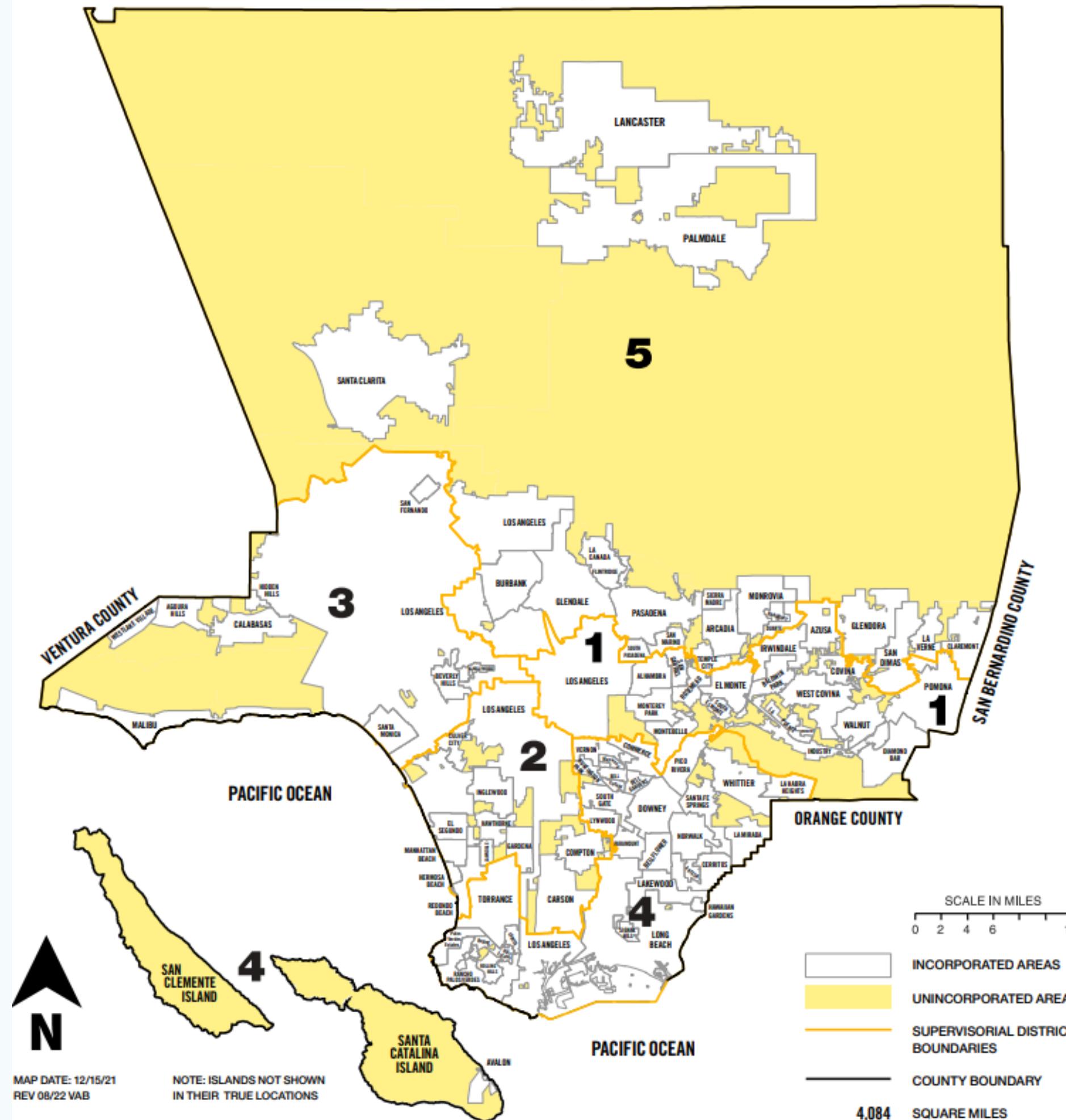
**Must check
either to
qualify**

(If operating in
multiple locations in
both County, check
where the majority
of time is spent)

Operate a vending business in the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County
for more than one year (Verify location [here](#))

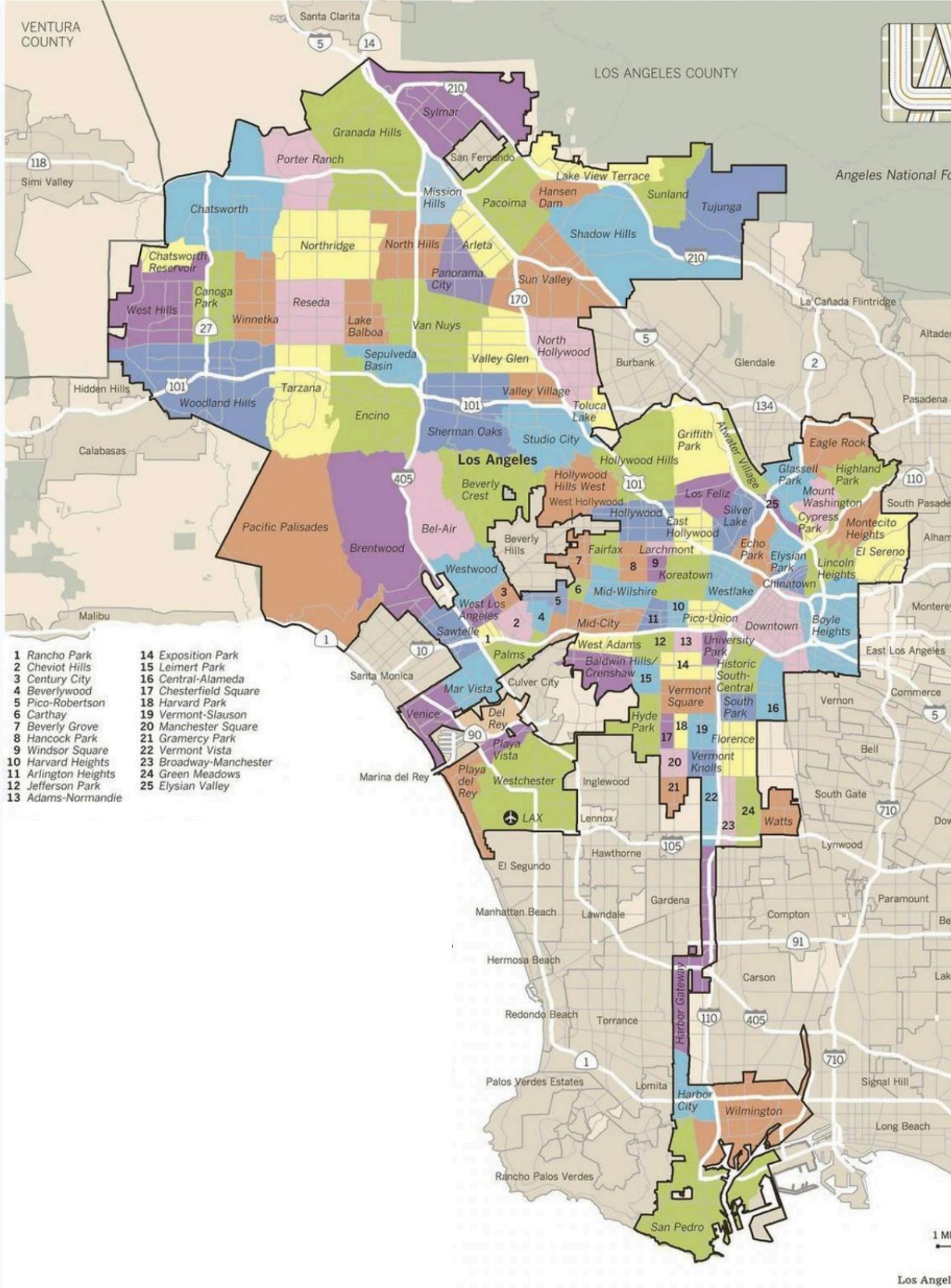
Operate a vending business in the City of Los Angeles for more than one year
(Verify location [here](#))





Do you operate in the unincorporated areas of the County?

Acton	Roosevelt
Agoura	Rowland Heights
Agua Dulce	San Clemente Island
Alpine	San Pasqual
5 Altadena	Santa Catalina Island
Antelope Acres	Saugus
Athens (or West Athens)	Soledad
Avocado Heights	South San Gabriel
Baldwin Hills	South San Jose Hills
Bandini (islands)	South Whittier
Bassett	Stevenson Ranch
Big Pines	Sulphur Springs
Bouquet Canyon	Sun Village
Calabasas (adjacent)	Sunland/Sylmar/Tujunga (adjacent)
Calabasas Highlands	Sunshine Acres
Canyon Country	Three Points
Castaic	Topanga Canyon
Castaic Junction	Fernwood
Charter Oak (islands)	Glenview
Citrus (Covina islands)	Sylvia Park
Crystalaire	Topanga
Deer Lake Highlands	Twin Lakes
Del Aire	Universal City
Del Sur	Val Verde
East Azusa (islands)	Valencia
East Rancho Dominguez	Valinda
East Los Angeles	Valyermo
Belvedere Gardens	Vasquez Rocks
City Terrace	Veterans Administration Center
Eastmont	View Park
East Pasadena	Walnut Park
East San Gabriel	West Arcadia (islands)
East Whittier	West Carson
El Camino Village	West Chatsworth
El Dorado	West Pomona (islands)
Elizabeth Lake	West Puente Valley
Fairmont	West Rancho Dominguez/ Victoria
Firestone	West Whittier
Florence	Westfield
Forrest Park	Westmont
Franklin Canyon	White Fence Farms
Glendora (islands)	Whittier Narrows
Gorman	Willowbrook
Graham	Wilsona Gardens
Green Valley	Windsor Hills
Hacienda Heights	Wiseburn
Hi Vista	Wrightwood
Juniper Hills	
Kagel Canyon	
Kinneola Mesa	



Do you operate in a community in the City of Los Angeles?

Interactive Map

Adams-Normandie
 Alsace
 Angeles National Forest
 Angelino Heights
 Arleta
 Atwater Village
 Baldwin Hills
 Bel Air
 Beverly Crest
 Beverlywood
 Boyle Heights
 Brentwood
 Brookside
 Cadillac-Corning
 Canoga Park
 Carthay
 Central
 Century City
 Century Palms/Grove
 Chatsworth
 Cheviot Hills
 Chinatown
 Cloverdale/Cochran
 Country Club Park
 Crenshaw District
 Crestview
 Del Rey
 Downtown
 Eagle Rock
 East Hollywood
 Echo Park
 El Sereno
 Elysian Park
 Elysian Valley
 Encino
 Exposition
 Exposition Park
 Faircrest Heights
 Figueroa Park Square
 Florence-Firestone
 Glassell Park
 Gramercy Place
 Granada Hills
 Green Meadows
 Hancock Park
 Harbor City
 Harbor Gateway
 Harbor Pines
 Harvard Heights
 Harvard Park
 Highland Park
 Historic Filipinotown
 Hollywood
 Hollywood Hills
 Hyde Park
 Jefferson Park
 Koreatown
 Lafayette Square
 Lake Balboa
 Lakeview Terrace
 Leimert Park
 Lincoln Heights
 Little Armenia
 Little Bangladesh
 Little Tokyo
 Longwood
 Los Feliz
 Manchester Square
 Mandeville Canyon
 Mar Vista
 Marina Peninsula
 Melrose
 Mid-City
 Miracle Mile
 Mission Hills
 Mt. Washington
 North Hills
 North Hollywood
 Northridge
 Pacific Palisades
 Pacoima
 Palisades Highlands
 Palms
 Panorama City
 Park La Brea
 Pico-Union
 Playa del Rey
 Playa Vista
 Porter Ranch
 Rancho Park
 Regent Square
 Reseda
 Reseda Ranch
 Reynier Village
 San Pedro
 Shadow Hills
 Sherman Oaks
 Silverlake
 South Carthay
 South Park
 St Elmo Village
 Studio City
 Sun Valley
 Sunland
 Sycamore Square
 Sylmar
 Tarzana
 Temple-Beaudry
 Thai Town
 Toluca Lake
 Toluca Terrace
 Toluca Woods
 Tujunga
 University Hills
 University Park
 Valley Glen
 Valley Village
 Van Nuys
 Venice
 Vermont Knolls
 Vermont Square
 Vermont Vista
 Vernon Central
 Victoria Park
 Watts
 Wellington Square
 West Adams
 West Hills
 West Los Angeles
 West Vernon
 Westchester
 Westlake
 Westwood
 Wholesale District
 Wilmington
 Wikshire Center
 Winnetka
 Woodland Hills



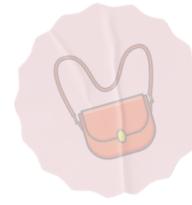
Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 2: Check if you qualify (cont...)

You **must** be 18 years old or older, have a household revenue of \$75, 000 or less, be actively operating for more than 1 year:

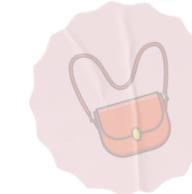
**Must check
all
to qualify**

- You are 18 years old or older
- Your household earns less than \$75,000 per year
- You are currently vending on a public sidewalk in an unincorporated area of the County of Los Angeles or within City of L.A. boundaries
- You have been in operation as a sidewalk vendor for at least one year
- You are the owner of your business and operate from only one location at a time (may not be an employee or operate multiple locations simultaneously)





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program



Step 3: Collect Required Information and Documents



Prepare the following information to apply:

- Full name
- Age
- Household income
- Residential address
- Contact information
- Business name
- Business operations address and/or route, including hours and days of operation
- List of items sold
- Verification of being sole proprietor with only one cart/set-up (employees do not qualify)
- In good standing with County/City
- If in City, impact from COVID-19



**Applicants that live in low, moderate, high, and highest need areas per the Covid-19 Index will be prioritized*

Applicants that have the following will be prioritized*:

- CA Seller's Permit
- Doing Business As (DBA), if needed
- Food Handler's Permit
- Compact Mobile Food Operations (CMFO) Subsidy



PLEASE NOTE: Those selected must acquire a CMFO Permit from the County's Department of Public Health, a County Sidewalk Vending Registration Certificate (SVRC) or City Sidewalk Vending and Park Permit, and agree to a 5-year covenant agreement prior to receiving a cart.

Applicants have a 45-day deadline to complete compliance requirements from time of conditional award. Some costs related to acquiring a Health Permit may apply, however full or partial subsidies are available.

Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply

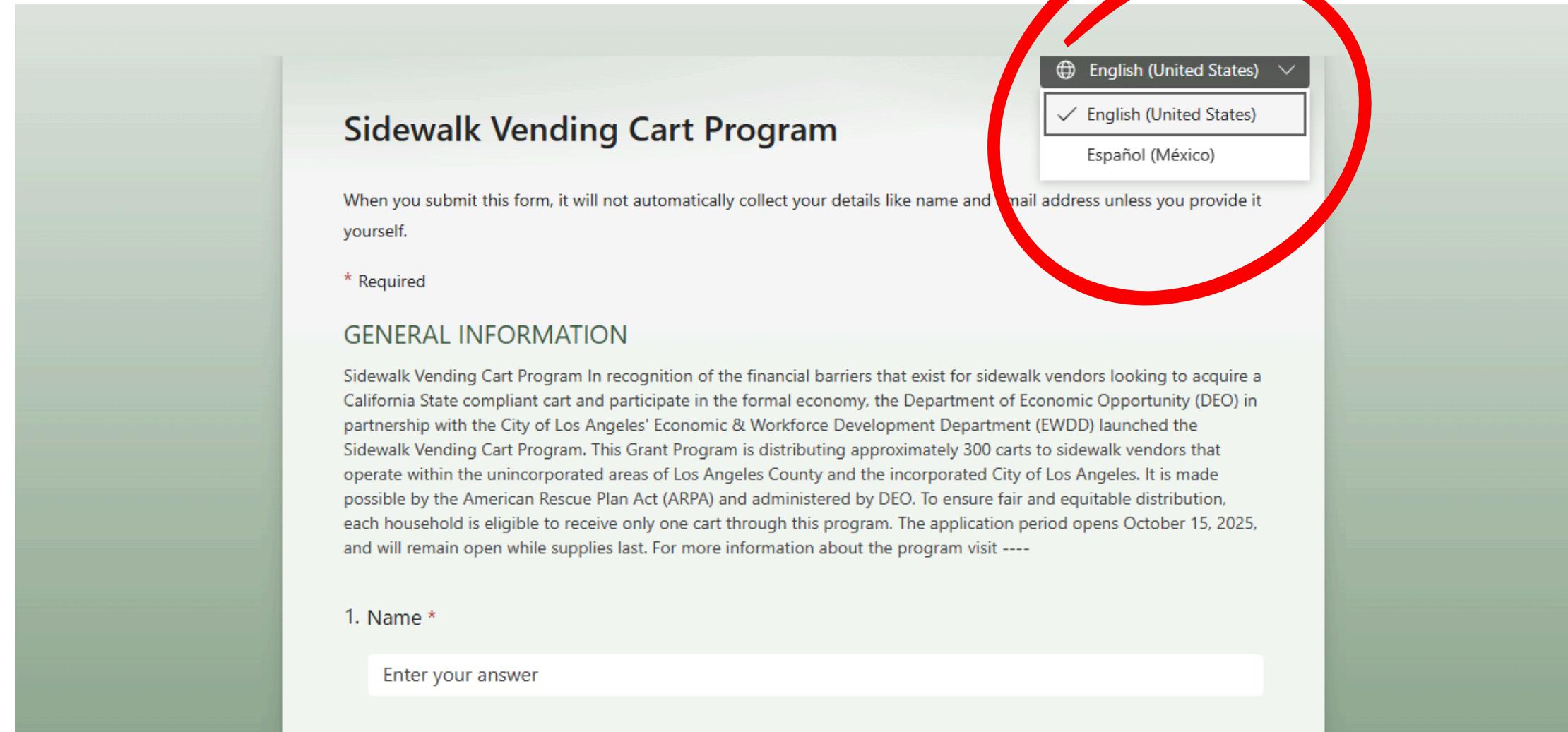
Visit [Sidewalk Vending Cart Program](#) and click on the “Apply Now” button to go to the application. Once in the application, please click “Start Now.”



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply (cont...)

If you prefer to fill out your application in Spanish, please click “Español” in the right top corner of the application:



The screenshot shows a portion of a web-based application form for the Sidewalk Vending Cart Program. At the top right, there is a dropdown menu for language selection. The menu is currently set to "English (United States)". Below the dropdown, there are two other options: "English (United States)" with a checked checkbox and "Español (México)". A large red circle highlights the "Español (México)" option, indicating it is the target for users who prefer Spanish. The background of the form is white, and the text is in a standard black font. The overall layout is clean and user-friendly.

Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

* Required

GENERAL INFORMATION

Sidewalk Vending Cart Program In recognition of the financial barriers that exist for sidewalk vendors looking to acquire a California State compliant cart and participate in the formal economy, the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) in partnership with the City of Los Angeles' Economic & Workforce Development Department (EWDD) launched the Sidewalk Vending Cart Program. This Grant Program is distributing approximately 300 carts to sidewalk vendors that operate within the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County and the incorporated City of Los Angeles. It is made possible by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and administered by DEO. To ensure fair and equitable distribution, each household is eligible to receive only one cart through this program. The application period opens October 15, 2025, and will remain open while supplies last. For more information about the program visit ----

1. Name *

Enter your answer



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply (cont...)

Please fill out your full name, email address, and select “Yes” if you are 18 years old or older. If you are younger than 18, you will not qualify. Then press “Next.”

Click yes or no if you live in LA County. Then press “Next.”

Click yes or no if your gross annual income of your household is \$75,000 or less. Then press “Next.”

Mark if you currently a food sidewalk vendor and select the length of time of food sidewalk vending.



1. Name *

2. Email *

3. Are you 18 years old or older?

Yes

No

Next



Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply (cont...)

Please fill out your home address, phone number, business name, vending address, vending location major cross streets, and number of days of the week you vend. Then press “Next.”

10. Home Address *

Street Address (123 Main St.)

Enter your answer

11. Home Address City *

Enter your answer

12. Home Address Zip Code *

Enter your answer

18. Vending Location(s) Major Cross Streets *

Enter your answer



15. Vending Address *

Business Street Address (123 Main St.)

Enter your answer

16. Business Address City *

Enter your answer

17. Business Address Zip Code *

Enter your answer





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply (cont...)

Please select where you vend the most. Then press “Next” and complete the Qualifying questions.

You will then be prompted to select your household status and revenue range (not just for your or your business, but for your entire household), and if you have any of the following:

- CA Seller's Permit
- CA Food Handler Certificate
- Fictitious Business Name (DBN)/Doing Business As (DBA)
- Subsidy for Compact Mobile Food Operations (CMFO) Health Permit
- CMFO Health Permit from the LA County Department of Public Health

Then select food items you plan to sell, then press “Next.”

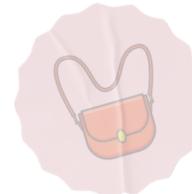
PROGRAM AVAILABILITY

This program is only available to vendors operating within the City of Los Angeles or within the Unincorporated Area of LA County.

To verify if you are **vending within the Unincorporated Area of LA County** visit the LA County District Locator at <https://bit.ly/LA> using address and if the results include the word "Unincorporated" it means the address provided is within the unincorporated area of County. To verify if you are **vending within the City of Los Angeles** visit the Neighborhood Info website by clicking here <https://bit.ly/LACI> address(es) in which you operate without any periods (e.g. 14410 Sylvan St instead of 14410 Sylvan St.). If not in City, it will not show.

20. Where do you vend most of the time? *

- City of Los Angeles
- Unincorporated LA County
- Other





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply (cont...)

Please note that a selection is required for each of the following, however “Decline to State” is an option.

Select appropriate demographic information, including disabled, veteran status, race, ethnicity, and gender.

Then press “Next.”



Applicant Demographic Information

34. Are you disabled *

Yes

No

Decline to State

35. Are you a Veteran *

Yes

No





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Step 4: Apply (cont...)

Please read the Disclosures and Attestations section carefully. By typing your full name and selecting “Submit,” you confirm that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete, and that you acknowledge all required statements.

Once you click “Submit,” you will not be able to make changes or corrections to your application. If multiple applications are submitted, only the first one received will be reviewed; all subsequent submissions will be disregarded.

You will then receive a confirmation message thanking you for applying and be provided an email confirmation within 72 hours.



English (United States) ▾

Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

* Required

Disclosures and Attestations

- By submitting this application, I acknowledge that I am requesting to be considered for participation in the Sidewalk Vendor Cart Program and for the CMFO permit subsidy offered in partnership by the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity and the City of LA. I understand that submission does not guarantee approval or selection for either opportunity.
- I acknowledge that each household is eligible to receive only one cart through this program. Duplicate applications from the same household or address will not be considered. Submitting multiple applications may result in disqualification.
- I acknowledge that the CMFO subsidy will cover up to 75% of the permit costs with Department of Public Health to obtain a CMFO permit.
- I acknowledge that this offering is valid until the program funds are exhausted.
- I acknowledge that completed applications for the food cart and the subsidy will be processed on a first come first serve basis.
- I acknowledge that receipt of a CMFO subsidy does not guarantee that I will be approved and granted a CMFO permit or a food cart.
- I certify that neither I, nor my business, is currently suspended, disbarred, ineligible, or excluded from participation in federal, State, or County assistance programs or from receiving federal or State financial or nonfinancial assistance and/or benefits.
- I acknowledge that if I am awarded a cart, I will be subject to the requirements of the California Retail Food Code

Before Cart is Awarded:

Required to get awarded

Once you apply, if you qualify and are selected, you will be contacted by a County or City representative with next steps. **You will be expected to acquire the following:**

- ✓ CA Seller's Permit
- ✓ Fictitious Business Name (DBA) if last name not used in Business Name
- ✓ Commissary space and approved storage facility
- ✓ Acquire a County Sidewalk Vending Registration Certificate (SVRC) or City Sidewalk and Park Vending permit
- ✓ Food Handler's Certificate
- ✓ Business License (City only)
- ✓ Compact Mobile Food Operations (CMFO) Permit from the LA County Department of Public Health*
- ✓ Standard Operating Procedures
- ✓ Menu
- ✓ Vehicle to transport cart to and from vending locations
- ✓ Provide signed agreement to adhere to a 5-year covenant

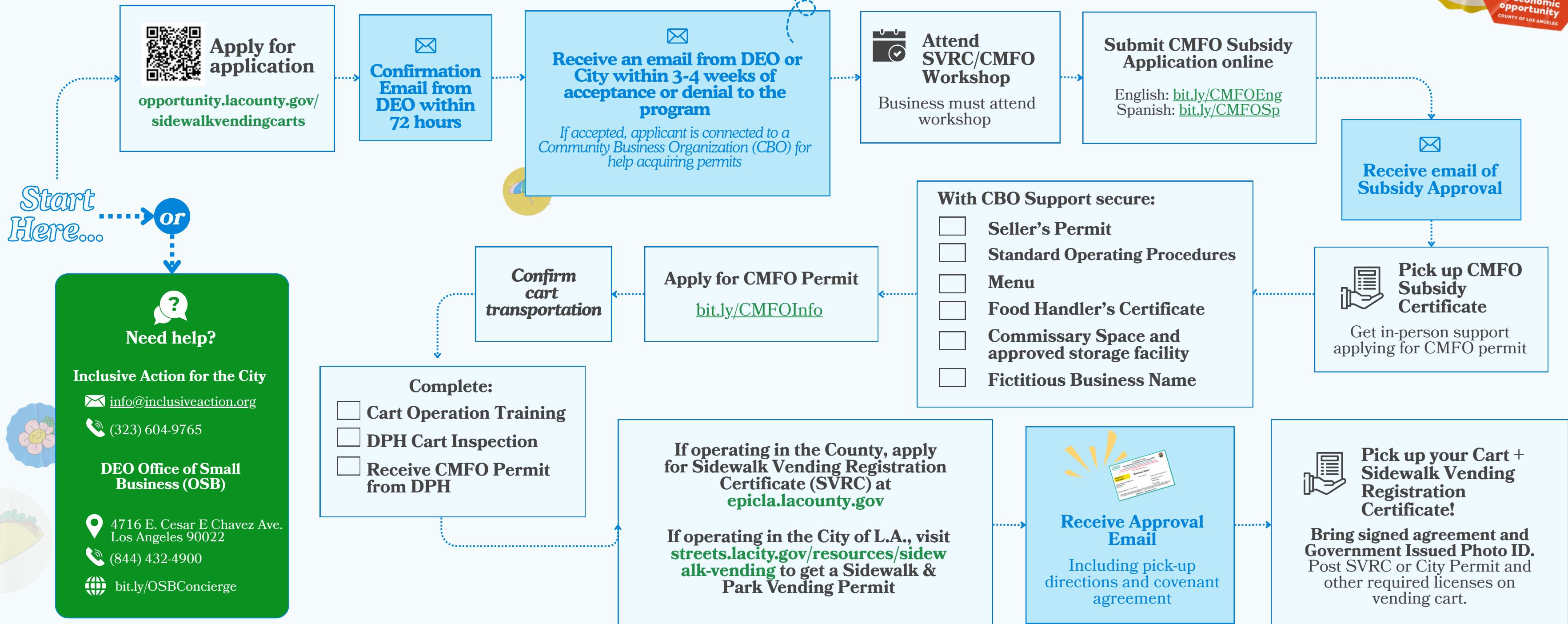
**Educational workshops to learn about CMFO requirements and acquire up to 75% subsidy on a CMFO permit may be available to those eligible for the subsidy! Vendors are expected to pay 25% of remaining costs if they qualify for the subsidy.*





Sidewalk Vending Cart Program

Application Process



IMPORTANT: After notification of acceptance to the program and the conditional award, applicants have 45 days to complete the permitting process before the cart is awarded to another applicant.

Need Help Applying?



Technical Assistance is available from the following Community Partners:

If vending in the Unincorporated Areas of LA County

Inclusive Action for the City

✉ info@inclusiveaction.org

☎ (323) 604-9765

If vending in L.A. City

Initiating Change in Our Neighborhoods (ICON CDC)

✉ infosidewalkvending@iconcdc.org

☎ (818) 647-970Z

For general questions:



DEO's Office of Small Business Concierge

Available virtually, by phone, or in-person.

BOOK NOW



Start your
application!

[opportunity.lacounty.gov/
sidewalkvendingcarts](http://opportunity.lacounty.gov/sidewalkvendingcarts)

