

## Ride-along (Shadow) Information for the Public

Thank you for applying to shadow a food safety investigator with Denver Environmental Health's Public Health Inspection division. Below is information and requirements for review prior to the ride-along.

- Ensure you arrive to the inspection on-time. If you arrive early, please do not enter the facility. You must wait in your car or at the specific location (near facility entrance) the investigator indicated. Remember, these inspections are unannounced to the facility.
- If you need to cancel, please contact the investigator directly with as much notice as possible. If you do not have their direct number, please call 720-865-5392.
- Do not bring bags or large purses into the facility. A pen and notepad are recommended.
- The investigator will lead the way into the facility. They may walk directly into the kitchen to introduce themselves and you. Please refrain from speaking with the operators/employees or asking questions until the investigation is completed.
- Be prepared to wash your hands after the investigator when you first enter the kitchen. Avoid touching food or equipment during the inspection.
- You should write down questions you may have during the visit and the investigator will take time at the end to answer them.
- After the facility is inspected, the investigator will complete the report (in the facility) and present it to the operator. At this time you may ask questions, then you can leave or stay. If you stay, the operator may offer food or drink to you and the investigator. It is okay to accept tap water only. Politely decline any food or other beverages offered by the operator.

Recommended attire:

- Business casual. Dress pants and a dress shirt are ideal. Shoes must cover the entire foot and should be professional. Individuals with facial hair may need to wear a beard net.
- Good personal hygiene is required.
- Jewelry is permitted, however it should NOT be excessive or dangling so it does not get caught on equipment and can allow for proper hand washing.
- Chewing gum and eating are not permitted during the investigation. Consuming a drink during the inspection should be restricted to public or dining areas.

Visit [www.denvergov.org/FoodSafety](http://www.denvergov.org/FoodSafety) for more information on investigations. Follow us on [www.facebook.com/DenverPHI](https://www.facebook.com/DenverPHI).

Thank you for your interest in the Public Health Investigations Division of the Department of Public Health & Environment! We look forward to meeting you!

*Denver's Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) is dedicated to advancing Denver's environmental and public health goals. DDPHE divisions include Animal Protection, Community Health, Environmental Quality, Office of the Medical Examiner, and Public Health Investigations.*

For more information about Public Health & Environment visit [www.denvergov.org/EnvironmentalHealth](http://www.denvergov.org/EnvironmentalHealth). Follow us on [Twitter.com/DenEnviroHealth](https://twitter.com/DenEnviroHealth).