



## **Food Bank of Manatee Agency Membership Packet**

811 23rd Ave East  
Bradenton, FL 34208  
Phone: (941) 747-FOOD

**[www.MealsOnWheelsPLUS.org](http://www.MealsOnWheelsPLUS.org)**



# AGENCY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## Criteria for Membership in the Food Bank Program

In accordance with Section 170(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, the following criteria must be met by all The Food Bank of Manatee (FBM) recipient agencies/churches:

1. The agency must be a non-profit, tax exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or an established church that meets the Internal Revenue Service 14-point guidelines for churches.
2. The agency/church must use the food to serve the ill, needy or infants (children under 18 years of age). Must provide on-site and/or emergency food to those who qualify without cost.
3. The Feeding Program of the agency/church must fit under one of the following categories:
  - (a.) Residential/Congregate Feeding Program: Where meals are prepared and served on site.
  - (b.) Food Pantry Program: Where food products are distributed to needy families and individuals.
  - (c.) Emergency Family & Baby Baskets
  - (d.) After School/Snack Program
4. The agency/church must not charge for meals, sell food, or exchange food for services or other property. The agency/church may not require or solicit donations from recipients for food. The agency/church must not use food bank products for any other purposes, i.e., banquets, parties, etc., or for fundraising purposes. The items must be used only for needy clients.

The agency/church must notify FBM immediately if:

- (a.) The program is discontinued.
  - (b.) Authorized ordering person(s) is replaced.
  - (c.) The program changes location.
5. The agency/church must have adequate refrigeration and dry storage space for the amount of food received, to ensure integrity of the food until used or distributed.
6. The agency/church must accept full responsibility for the care, preparation, distribution and use of food once it leaves FBM.
7. The agency/church must not discriminate in the distribution of food or feeding of individuals on the basis of race, religion, color, creed, etc.

8. The agency/church must agree to monitoring by FBM staff.
9. The agency/church must abide by FBM policies on shared maintenance contributions.
10. The agency/church must assume responsibility for the payment of all charges incurred by the agency/church. Only agency/church checks or credit cards may be used for payment. NO cash, personal checks, or money orders will be accepted.
11. The agency/church must agree to meet local and health department requirements, if applicable.
12. The agency/church must provide its own transportation to FBM warehouse.
13. The agency/church must agree to attendance and participation of annual agency meetings & training.
14. FBM and the original donor are released by the recipient agency from any liability resulting from the condition of received product, and further, FBM and the original donor are indemnified and held free and harmless against any and all liabilities, damages, losses, and/or claims whatsoever arising out of or attributed to any action of said agency, or personnel employed by said agency, in connection with the storage or use of the received product.
15. Failure to maintain terms of this agreement may result in "product hold" status or closure as member agency.

### **Notice of Shared Maintenance**

A shared maintenance contribution (SMC) helps to partially offset the costs of transportation and storage of food. In this system, recipient agencies/churches "share" FBM operational expenses by making an \$.18 per pound contribution for the food it receives. It must be emphasized that the contribution is not a direct charge for the food received but rather a sharing of the cost of operating FBM.

Each agency will be required to pay their SMC at the time the food is received.

Representing my agency, I agree that the above conditions are true and that we will abide by same.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicants Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval – FBM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



### **Prerequisite for Membership Application**

Agency has read and acknowledges the criteria for membership information.

1. Complete the attached membership application form.
2. Provide a copy of the Internal Revenue Service Letter of Determination stating that the agency is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3). If an agency is a church and does not have a 501(c)(3), an IRS 14-point guideline for churches letter must accompany submitted application. (See attached)
3. Submit a current Consumer's Certificate of Tax Exemption.
4. Submit proof of address where food will be stored is being treated by a licensed pest control company.

Once the application form has been completed and the documentation submitted, a FBM representative will conduct an on-site inspection to verify that the information provided is accurate. This visit also gives FBM representative the opportunity to answer any questions regarding the FBM services and requirements.

FBM representatives will conduct periodic inspections of each member agency/church to ensure compliance with all FBM directives and requirements. During these visits, please be prepared to provide up-to-date records on their food distribution or feeding programs.

Agencies will be required to attend annual training.



## Membership Application Form

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person's Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Feeding Program Information: (check category or categories that best describes your Program)

Emergency Food Pantry:

Residential Program: Cooking and serving meals to clients.

Soup Kitchen: Cooking and serving meals to walk-in clients

Emergency Food Baskets

Child Nutrition Programs (After School, Summer, Etc.)

Other (Please Describe) \_\_\_\_\_



### Storage Information

Where will food be stored? \_\_\_\_\_

Cold Storage: (Please give number of cubic feet for each)

Refrigerators

Walk-In Coolers

Walk-in freezers

Chest freezers

### Documents Needed:

Churches:

Please attach a copy of your Internal Revenue Service Letter of determination stating that you are exempt under Section 501(c)(3) if you have one. If you do not, please include a letter on your letterhead and signed by the Pastor or other Chief Executive Officer, which states that you are a church in the spirit of the "14-point IRS guidelines for churches".

All other Agencies:

Please attach a copy of your Internal Revenue Service letter of determination stating that you are exempt under Section 501(c)(3)

All Churches and Agencies:

Please attach a copy of your current Consumer's Certificate of Tax Exemption and proof of licensed pest control.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicants Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval – FBM

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Use Your Letterhead**

***This is a sample letter provided by the Internal Revenue Service.  
If you do not have a 501(c)(3), you must provide a letter stating the following information  
on your church letterhead.***

### **Internal Revenue Service 14-Point Guidelines for Churches**

1. A distinct legal existence.
2. A recognized creed and form of worship.
3. A definite and distinct ecclesiastical government.
4. A formal code of doctrine and discipline.
5. A distinct religious history.
6. A membership not associated with any other church or denomination.
7. A complete organization of ordained ministers ministering to their congregations.
8. Ordained ministers elected after completing prescribed courses of study.
9. A literature of its own.
10. Established places of worship.
11. Regular congregations.
12. Regular religious services.
13. Sunday Schools for religious instruction of the young.
14. Schools for the preparation of its ministers.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Consent and Release Agreement**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Agency/Church: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

This incorporated, non-profit 501(c)(3) agency/church understands the established requirements for continued participation, and agrees to comply fully with the following conditions and restrictions:

1. To use the food products solely to serve the ill, needy, and children.
2. Not to charge for meals or emergency food baskets, sell food, or exchange food for services or other property.
3. To screen potential food recipients for eligibility.
4. To account for all food, and to keep up-to-date records on names and numbers served and submit monthly reports.
5. Agree to on-site monitoring by FBM representatives.
6. To abide by the FBM policy on Shared Maintenance Contributions.

It is further understood that the recipient agency/church is ultimately responsible for the condition and healthfulness of all food prepared or distributed to the needy. It is agreed that FBM and the original food donor are to be held free and harmless against all liability for any damages that may result from the use of any food product.

**THE PEOPLE LISTED BELOW ARE DESIGNATED TO PICK UP FOOD:**

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_





### **Compliance Checklist**

- Pink copies of shopping slips must be kept on file at your location.
- A copy of your signed contract membership agreement must be kept on file at your agency.
- Temperatures should be recorded daily and the logs kept on file.
- All food must be stored off the floor.
- Proof of licensed pest control logs kept on file (dates and actions taken)
- Pantries or areas where food is stored must be locked.
- Record all families and individuals receiving food each week. Please keep names and size of family in logs.
- Bring in new tax-exempt documents when issued.
- Do not store food by cleaning products.
- No personal checks / cash / money orders. Agency checks or credit cards only.
- Emergency food baskets allowed once a year. Baby baskets allowed weekly. Both are completed Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Fax all orders no later than 10:00am and pick up between 11:00am-1:00pm. Client to sign application and Exhibit F form.
- Post a sign with days and hours that pantry is open.
- No food should leave Manatee County.
- Only 2 people per agency allowed in FBM at a time when shopping.
- Food is not be given to or used for volunteers, staff, or church dinners.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_