



Issue Submission Form

Food Code Section/Reference 05210	Date Submitted 12/13/2024	Issue Number: 24-02
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Contact Information

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Issues must be submitted at least 30 days before the next meeting in order to be considered.

Issue Information

Issue/Concern Description

Section 05210 (1) of the Retail Food Code notes a minimum temperature requirement for hot water at handwashing sinks. There is not currently a maximum temperature listed. The State adopted plumbing code does have a high temperature limit for public lavatories noted in Section 407.3, however handwashing sinks in food service establishments are not considered by all jurisdictions to be equivalent to 'public lavatories' as defined by State plumbing and energy codes. Because hot water is often distributed at temperatures that could induce immediate scalding within commercial kitchens, having a prescribed maximum temperature limitation at handwashing sinks is an important safety measure that should be considered.

Recommended Solution (if any)

Option #1 - Amend Section 05210 (1) to include a maximum temperature limitation of 120°F.

Option #2 - Amend Section 05210 (1) to require compliance with State plumbing code (Uniform Plumbing Code as amended by the State of Washington) section 407.3 for all handwashing sinks in food service establishments.

Other Comments

Text of WA UPC Section 407.3 is as follows:
 407.3 Limitation of Hot Water Temperature for Public Lavatories. Hot water delivered from public-use lavatories shall be limited to a maximum temperature of 120°F (49°C). The maximum temperature shall be regulated by one of the following means:
 (1) A limiting device conforming to either ASSE 1070/ASME A112.1070/CSA B125.70, or
 (2) A water heater conforming to ASSE 1084.

Contact the Food Safety Advisory Council Coordinator at 360-236-3330 or food.safety@doh.wa.gov with questions.

Submit this form by **email**:

Open the online Word form and complete it, save the form to your computer, and then attach the form to an email addressed to food.safety@doh.wa.gov.