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Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction

Hair Restraint Policy

410 IAC 7-24-138 Effectiveness of hair restraint

Authority: IC 16-42-5-5

Affected: IC 16-42-5

Sec. 138. (a) Except as provided in subsection (b), food employees shall wear hair restraints, such as hats, hair coverings or nets, beard restraints, and clothing that covers body hair, that are designed and worn to effectively keep their hair from contacting:

- (1) exposed food;
- (2) clean equipment, utensils, and linens; and
- (3) unwrapped single-service and single-use articles.

(b) This section does not apply to food employees, such as counter staff who only serve beverages and wrapped or packaged foods, hostesses, and wait staff, if they present a minimal risk of contaminating:

- (1) exposed food;
- (2) clean equipment, utensils, and linens; and
- (3) unwrapped single-service and single-use articles.

(c) For purposes of this section, a violation of subsection (a) or (b) is a noncritical item. (*Indiana State Department of Health; 410 IAC 7-24-138; filed Oct 13, 2004, 12:30 p.m.: 28 IR 845; readopted filed Jul 15, 2010, 12:12 p.m.: 20100728-IR-410100261RFA*)

FAQ

Q: Do all foodservice staff have to wear a hair restraint?

A: Yes, anyone of the food service staff working with exposed food, etc, such as in the kitchen or on the serving line, should wear a hair restraint, such as a hat or hairnet.

Q: Are cashiers required to wear a hair restraint?

A: A person working the cash register may not be required to wear a hair restraint, dependent on their other duties and ensuring their hair does not become a hazard. For example, wait staff often do not have to wear hair restraints, but need to have the hair restrained (like pony tail) so it is not falling into the food.