
Bureau of Meat and Poultry Inspection

State Fairgrounds • P.O. Box 19281 • Springfield, IL 62794-9281 • 217/782-6684 • TTY 866/287-2999 • Fax 217/558-6033

"Meat broker", "poultry broker", or "meat and poultry broker" "means any person, firm or corporation, engaged in the business of buying, negotiating for purchase of, handling or taking possession of, or selling meat or poultry products on commission or otherwise purchasing or selling of such articles other than for the person's own account in their original containers without changing the character of the products in any way. A broker shall not possess any processing equipment in his or her licensed facility".

To become a broker, an Application for Broker License form must be completed and sent to the Springfield Office along with the \$50.00 application fee. The check should be made payable to the Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Meat and Poultry Inspection.

If selling meat and poultry products to private parties and end consumers only, a person, firm, or corporation is not required by the IL Department of Agriculture to obtain a Meat and Poultry Broker's License. However, if a person, firm, or corporation will be selling to any type of wholesale or retail consumer at any point in time, that person must first obtain a Meat and Poultry Broker's License prior to engaging in said sales.

The IL Department of Agriculture does not require a person, firm, or corporation to obtain a Meat & Poultry Broker's license in order to sell meat and poultry at Farmer's Markets. However, the Department of Public Health in the county in which the Farmer's Market is held may require a meat and poultry seller to hold a Broker's License with the IL Department of Agriculture.

Regardless of licensee status, in order to sell meat and poultry products, the product must have been processed at a State or Federally Inspected Facility and must have the State or Federal Mark of Inspection present on the container or packaging.

The IL Department of Agriculture does not require a person, firm, or corporation to obtain a Meat & Poultry Broker's License in order to sell meal kit products to end consumers. These types of products are regulated by the Department of Public Health in the county in which the person, firm, or company resides.

For more information on how to become a licensed Illinois Meat and/or Poultry plant, please contact:

Illinois Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Meat and Poultry Inspection
State Fairgrounds, P.O. Box 19281
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9281
Telephone: 217/782-6684.
<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/agr/Animals/meat-inspection/Pages/default.aspx>

NOTICE: This institution is an equal opportunity employer and provider.