

CHARLOTTE PRIDE VENDOR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQS)

How does the application process work?

Once you complete and submit your online application, we will review the application for completeness and accuracy. We may attempt to contact our new vendors via phone to review the application and confirm information.

If everything checks out and vendor space remains for your type of vendor, we will email you an approval notice along with an invoice for your registration fees. Once we receive payment for your registration fees, you will receive a final approval notice from us.

Your participation is not considered final until payment is received, and you are sent a final approval email. Payment is due within 30 days of your invoice or your registration.

Additionally, all vendors will be required to attend an in-person or online meeting to ensure all policies are followed appropriately.

Charlotte Pride reserves the right to approve or deny a vendor application for any reason.

How long does it take to hear back?

As we continue to determine capacity of our 2021 event, we will work through applications as quickly as possible. It will likely take longer than usual for you to hear back on your application this year.

Please do not email requesting status updates before the end of June. If you have not be contacted by your appropriate notification date, please email vendors@charlottepride.org. Food vendors are not being accepted for 2021.

Please do not email requesting status updates before your submission notice date. If you have not be contacted by your appropriate notification date, please email vendors@charlottepride.org.

How many vendors will you have?

It depends. There are several factors we look at, one of which is the size of the footprint. We also look at the types of vendors applying, and we do limit applications if we get too many of a single type of vendor applying (i.e. t-shirt vendors, pride merchandise vendors). Not only do we want to have a successful event for ourselves, but we also want the event to be successful and profitable for our retail/commercial vendors.

How many food vendors will you have?

For 2021, we are not accepting food vendors.

What is the difference between a regular vendor and a food vendor?

Food vendors are subject to applicable Temporary Food Establishment regulations established by the Mecklenburg County Health Department and are required to obtain a permit to serve food at the festival. The primary distinction is with cooked or prepared foods that require temperature control for food safety reasons. If you do not follow the required guidelines, CFD or MCHD may shut down your booth. No refunds will be given for food vendors who do not properly fulfill these requirements. Food vendors will apply through the Food Vendors Application.

Vendors selling only dipped ice cream, popcorn, candy apples, cotton candy, cakes/muffins, funnel cakes, soft pretzels and/or prepackaged chips or candy are considered snack vendors.

Snack Vendors only need to apply as a regular vendor and select "Snack" as type of vendor.

Please contact our Vendor Coordinator at vendors@charlottepride.org if you would like clarification or a determination about whether you will be considered a food vendor. If you apply under the wrong application, your application will be denied.

How much does it cost to be a vendor?

We have different rates for different types of vendors.

Nonprofit rates are \$200.

Retail/Commercial/Political vendor rates are \$500.

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**Some retail/commercial/political vendors will be required to sponsor instead of participating as only a vendor beginning in 2020. If you have questions, please email jerry@charlottepride.org.
Neighborhood Market spots are \$300.
Registration fees cover both days of the festival.**

What are the festival hours?

September 18, 2021 – 12 – 6pm.

What if my organization is also participating in the parade?

You must complete a separate parade application, or you will not be considered for the parade.

What do the registration fees include?

Standard registration fees include the space and one table/two chairs. Tents and electricity are not included in the standard fee and are unavailable for rental this year. Tent anchors are required for those bringing a tent and cannot be rented.

How big are the vendor spaces?

**Single vendor spaces are 10x10 and include one table and two chairs.
Only single vendor spaces are available this year.**

What size are the tables that are provided in the booth?

All tables are 6'x30".

I need a little more space than a 10x10 spot, what can I do?

Vendors are not permitted to use the sidewalks or tree planters or expand outside of their 10x10 space. Doing so may cost will incur penalties and fines. Please contact our Vendor Coordinator at vendors@charlottepride.org if you need to discuss space beyond a 10 x 10 space.

Should I bring my own tent?

Absolutely! Maximum tent size should be 10' x 10'. Only brought tents will be available this year; no tents can be rented. Please note, that all tents do require appropriate weights. You must have appropriate weights or you space may be shut down. The Charlotte Fire Department (CFD) requires a 40lb weight/anchor for each tent leg. This is equivalent to a filled 5-gallon water bucket with lid. All participants bringing their own tents must supply 40lb weights on each leg of their tent.

Is water available on site?

**Hydrant water will be available at multiple locations to fill buckets and other utility needs.
Drinking water will be available for purchase through our information/ticket tents.**

What about electricity?

Electricity is not available in 2021.

Can I bring my own generator if I have one?

No. For safety and security reasons, we do not allow any personal generators of any kind.

Can I use the outlets in the tree planters?

No, the City of Charlotte controls the tree planter outlets and they may not be used. More than likely, the City will turn them off for the duration of the festival.

Where is the festival at this year?

The festival will be held in Uptown Charlotte at a variety of locations to help spread out our community and ensure safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. Final locations will be made

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public over the early Summer, and your location will be assigned by end of August.

Can I request a specific spot/location at the festival?

We make every effort to accommodate vendor location requests. However, for logistical and other reasons, this is not always possible. Requests for specific placement on the festival footprint will be considered, but we can NOT guarantee fulfillment of such requests. Vendor placement is at the sole discretion of Charlotte Pride.

Can I share a space with another vendor?

Yes. We allow our vendors to share spaces at no additional charge. Booth fees for shared spaces will be based on the most expensive vendor type participating (i.e. a nonprofit and corporation sharing a booth will pay the corporate rate).

Can I use a trailer or vehicle as my booth?

You can, but this will likely affect your load in/out time and location; vendors with vehicles or trailers in their spaces will need to load in late Friday evening. Please contact our Vendor Coordinator at vendors@charlottepride.org with further questions.

When is load in/out?

The Charlotte Pride Operations Team will provide specific load in/out instructions and times once final logistics have been worked out, typically about two weeks before the festival. All vehicles must be clear of the festival footprint two hours before the festival opens on Saturday and Sunday, and no vehicles will be allowed back onto the site until enough patrons have left that it is deemed safe. The safety of the public is our highest priority.

Can I bring my car onsite for load in/out?

Possibly. Vendors will receive instructions prior to the festival about when and where to load into the site. Cars will be allowed on site for the times specified in those instructions, but not before or after those times. Cars will not be permitted on site for load out until it is deemed safe to do so by the Charlotte Police Department and Charlotte Pride. We will determine the possibility of using cars for loading upon final selection of our spaces this year. We will communicate this information at the Vendor meeting in August.

Where do I park my car?

There are a number of public parking decks and lots, as well as on street parking available within easy walking distance of the festival footprint. Charlotte Center City Partners has a useful parking map that we recommend: <http://www.charlottecentercity.org/transportation/parking/>

Is there help available to unload/load?

We will not be able to provide assistance for vendor load-in/load-out. Please plan to complete that with your team.

Can I sell "Charlotte Pride" merchandise?

"Charlotte Pride", "Charlotte Pride Festival & Parade", Charlotte Pride logo(s), and their derivatives are trademarks of Charlotte Pride, Inc., and may not be used without permission. Please contact our Communications Director, Matt Comer, matt@charlottepride.org for more information.

What about any permits, licenses, insurance or sales tax?

Vendor is responsible for obtaining, at own expense, any necessary permits, licenses, and/or insurance that may be required by the City of Charlotte and/or Mecklenburg County, and/or the State of North Carolina. Vendor is responsible for any applicable North Carolina sales/use tax registrations, collections and remittances.

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Can I sell/distribute beverages?

Beverage sales are a major fundraising activity for Charlotte Pride and help pay for the festival. We reserve all rights to the sale and distribution (including free) of all alcohol and other beverages during the event. You may not sell or distribute any beverages without prior consent from us.

Can I buy ice at the festival?

Absolutely! We sell bags of ice through our information/ticket tents. Bags are \$10/each.

What if it rains?

The Charlotte Pride Festival is a rain or shine event. In the event of severe weather, the Charlotte Police Department may request that the event be temporarily closed for the safety of the public.

Do you offer refunds?

Requests for refunds must be received no later than July 23. No refunds can be processed after this date. All refund requests, if approved, will be subject to a \$75 processing fee.