

Reducing Single-Use Foodware Accessories

The State of California (AB 1276) now requires all retail food facilities **and** food delivery platforms to provide single-use foodware items upon request only. This law was established to help reduce the amount of waste generated by single-use items and to encourage consumers to choose reusables.

AB 1276 does not apply to school cafeterias, residential and health care facilities, and correctional facilities.

Under the Law:

- Single-use foodware items, including self-service items, cannot be bundled or packaged in a way that prevents a consumer from taking only the item needed.
- A food facility using a third-party delivery platform must list on its menu the availability of single-use items and condiments, and provide those items only when requested.
- Single-use foodware items can be offered to drive-through consumers, but cannot be bundled or packaged in a way that prevents a consumer from taking only the item needed.

Single-use foodware accessories include:

1. Utensils (forks, knives, spoons, and sporks)
2. Chopsticks
3. Condiment cups and packets
“Standard Condiment” means relishes, spices, sauces, confections, or seasoning, and may include ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, soy sauce, hot sauce, salsa, salt and pepper, sugar, and sugar substitutes.
4. Straws
5. Stirrers, splash sticks and cocktail sticks

Choose Reusable

The State of California (AB 619) allows consumers to bring their own clean, reusable food and beverage containers for takeout orders and leftovers. Following all sanitary guidelines, reusable containers can be filled by food facility staff or the consumer.

AB 1276 includes all single-use items, including those made from bioplastics, compostable plastic, bamboo and paper.

