

Guide to implementing a Regulatory Food Safety Auditor system

September 2025

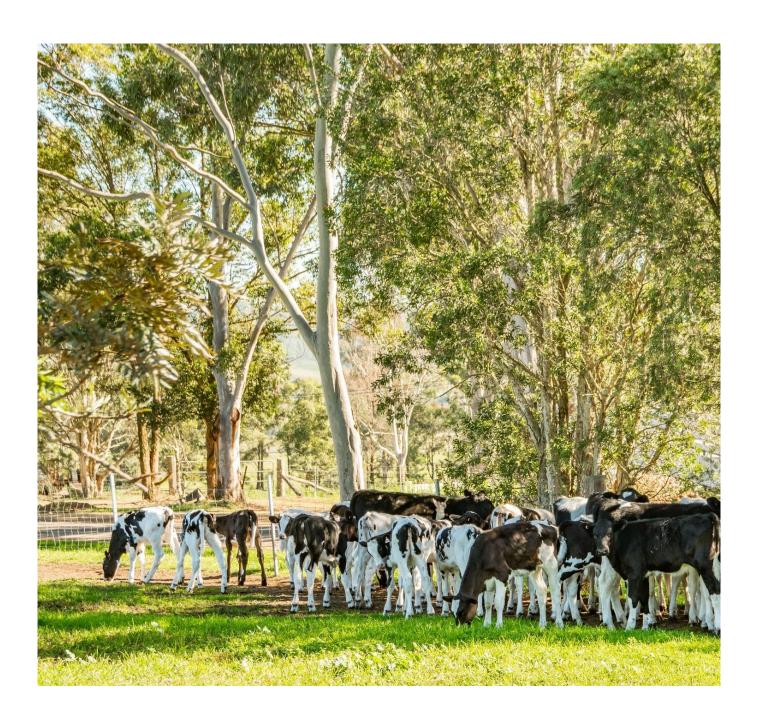


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Introduction

The NSW Food Authority (the Food Authority) is the government agency responsible for regulating food production and food safety throughout New South Wales.

Under the NSW Food Act 2003 (the Act), the role of the Food Authority is to contribute to national food policies and standards, and to develop food laws and regulations in NSW. The Food Authority is responsible for ensuring that food in NSW is safe, correctly labelled and that consumers can make informed choices about the food they eat.

Section 87 of the Act allows for the Food Authority staff or another natural person to be approved as a food safety auditor if the Food Authority is satisfied that the person is competent to carry out the functions of a food safety auditor. To help achieve this, the Food Authority has developed a Regulatory Food Safety Auditor System outlined in the Regulatory Food Safety Auditor Manual (the Manual).

The NSW Food Regulation 2025 (the Regulation) allows for a food business, with the approval of the Food Authority, to arrange for a food safety auditor who is not a member of staff of the Food Authority to carry out an audit of the food safety program, or proposed food safety program, for the food business. This approval is subject to such conditions as the Food Authority considers appropriate.

The Food Authority approves certain industry sectors to operate under the Regulatory Food Safety Auditor System.

This Guide to Implementing a Regulatory Food Safety Auditor System (the Guide) is an official document published by the Food Authority to inform licensed food businesses what is required to retain a food safety auditor under the Regulation.

If you are unable to meet these requirements, or choose not to retain a food safety auditor, your facility will continue to be audited by the Food Authority.

Scope

This document applies to licensed food businesses in NSW that wish to retain a food safety auditor who is not a staff member of the Food Authority to carry out audits of their food safety program, or proposed food safety program.

Objectives

This document advises licensed food businesses of the requirements to be able to retain a food safety auditor under the Regulation. The process for verifying the audit management system used by the Food Authority is also explained.

This document also refers to:

- processes used by the Food Authority to assess and approve food safety auditors, as outlined in the Manual
- processes for conducting regulatory audits and audit reporting on behalf of the Food Authority.

Responsibilities

The Regulatory Food Safety Auditor System (the system) aims to reduce duplication of audits for licensed food businesses in NSW.

The responsibility for the audit process is shared between the Food Authority, food safety auditors and licensed food businesses that require regulatory auditing.

The role of the licensee in the audit process

Food business licensees have a responsibility to ensure that their food safety management system is prepared, implemented, maintained, monitored, and audited at the frequency determined under section 93 (1) of the Act.

The role of the Food Authority in the audit process

The Food Authority, in order to demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the National Food Safety Auditor Policy, has in place management systems to respond to audit findings, monitor the activities of food safety auditors, and to approve licensed food businesses to operate under the Regulatory Food Safety Auditor System.

It is important to note that while the Food Authority has an audit system allowing for commercially employed auditors to conduct regulatory audits for licensed food businesses, any enforcement action that needs to be taken is the responsibility of the Food Authority.

Regulatory food safety auditors

The role of the food safety auditor in the audit system is to conduct regulatory audits of a food business's food safety program to determine whether it complies with the appropriate legislative requirements.

The Act places a number of obligations and duties on food safety auditors. It also provides for the suspension and cancellation of approval if these obligations and duties are not competently undertaken.

Duties of a food safety auditor

Section 94 of the Act states a food safety auditor has the following duties:

- a. to carry out audits of any food safety programs required by the regulations to be prepared in relation to food businesses having regard to the requirements of the regulations,
- b. to carry out any necessary follow-up action, including further audits, if necessary, to determine whether action has been taken to remedy any deficiencies of any such food safety program identified in an audit,
- c. to carry out assessments of food businesses to ascertain their compliance with requirements of the Food Safety Standards, and
- d. to report in accordance with section 95.

Section 95 (5) of the Act requires that the licensee receives an unacceptable audit result should an approved regulatory food safety auditor identify:

- a. an imminent and serious risk to the safety of food intended for sale, or
- b. an issue that will cause significant unsuitability of food for sale.

The approved auditor must notify the Food Authority as soon as possible, but in any event, within 24 hours.

Under no circumstances can an approved food safety auditor take enforcement action or act as an authorised officer. At any time where a regulatory food safety auditor feels that enforcement action is necessary, they must contact the Food Authority.

Obstructing or impersonating food safety auditors

Section 99 of the Act states that:

- 1. A person must not, without reasonable excuse, resist, obstruct or attempt to obstruct, a food safety auditor in the exercise of the food safety auditor's functions under the Act. Maximum penalty: 500 penalty units in the case of an individual and 2500 penalty units in the case of a corporation.
- 2. A person who impersonates a food safety auditor is guilty of an offence. Maximum penalty: 500 penalty units.

Approval process for a licensed food business to move to a regulatory auditor system

Section 47 of the Regulation states that:

- a. a food business must not, except with the approval of the Food Authority, arrange for a food safety auditor who is not a member of staff of the Food Authority to carry out an audit of the food safety program, or proposed food safety program, for the food business that is required under the Act or the Regulation
- b. an application for approval must be made in an approved form by the Food Authority and must be accompanied by such documents and information as the Food Authority may require
- c. the Food Authority may grant an approval subject to such conditions as the Food Authority considers appropriate
- d. an approval may be granted so as to apply generally to the carrying out of audits on behalf of the applicant or so as to be limited to particular audits or types of audits
- e. an approval may be revoked by the Food Authority by notice in writing given to the food business.

Conditions of approval

Facilities wishing to implement the system must meet the following conditions of approval:

- 1. have a satisfactory compliance history
- 2. have received either an A or B rating from its most recent audit
- 3. operate in an industry approved by the Food Authority to move to this system
- 4. operate at a risk level that has been approved by the Food Authority to move to this system
- 5. have no outstanding enforcement action against it.

Where a facility has received an E rating at audit, the facility must receive an A or B rating at both a follow-up audit and a subsequent compliance audit to demonstrate ongoing compliance before being permitted to implement a Regulatory Food Safety Auditor System.

Licensees are under no obligation to move to this system. The Food Authority will continue to perform audits of facilities that choose not to adopt this system.

Duration of approval

Once approved, the facility shall remain operating under the system until such time as they choose to return to the Food Authority audits, or the Food Authority revokes their approval to operate under the system.

How to apply for approval to move to the regulatory auditor system

Facilities seeking to move to the system must apply using the <u>Application to implement a</u> Regulatory Food Safety Audit System form (PDF, 389 KB) on the Food Authority's website.

Each individual facility must make application.

Upon receipt of the form, the Food Authority will review the application and determine the suitability of the facility based on the conditions for approval listed above.

Facilities will be notified in writing of the approval by the Food Authority. This letter will specify the:

 food businesses priority risk classification (outlined in Appendix A) which is determined on the food safety risk posed by the food business

• frequency at which food safety audits are to be conducted to comply with the requirements of the Food Authority.

A copy of this written approval must be retained by the licensee and produced during audits. Failure to produce this letter will result in the approved auditor immediately terminating the audit and notifying the Food Authority.

Facilities deemed to not meet the conditions of approval will continue to be audited by the Food Authority. These facilities may re-apply when they feel confident the above conditions of approval can be met.

How to arrange a food safety audit

It is the responsibility of facilities operating under the system to arrange for a regulatory food safety auditor, who has been approved to conduct the audit, at the frequency specified by the Food Authority.

The Food Authority is not involved in the contractual arrangements between the facility and the approved auditor and does not organise or schedule a regulatory food safety auditor for the facility.

The following are the steps to finding a regulatory food safety auditor:

- 1. Review the list of approved regulatory food safety auditors on the Food Authority's website, see: Approved Third Party Auditors (TPAs), which includes:
 - auditor name
 - contact details
 - endorsements and food safety schemes.
- 2. Ensure the auditor is endorsed to conduct audits for your facility type. While the Food Authority has approved auditors based on minimum requirements, facilities may require additional qualifications and/or experience of auditors they contract to audit their food safety program.
- 3. Contact the auditor and schedule an audit at the frequency specified by the Food Authority on your approval letter.

If a facility has not had their compliance audit conducted and submitted to the Food Authority when due, an authorised officer from the Food Authority may conduct an unannounced audit at the facility at full cost.

Food safety auditor approval criteria

The Food Authority's approval criteria for regulatory food safety auditors is in line with the National Food Safety Auditor Guideline.

The criteria is detailed in the Manual and specifies the following minimum qualifications:

All applications (general auditor)

- 1. Completion of units of competence:
- FBPAUD4001¹ Assess compliance with food safety programs
- FBPAUD4002 Communicate and negotiate to conduct food safety audits
- FBPAUD4003 Conduct food safety audits
- FBPAUD4004 Identify, evaluate, and control food safety hazards.
- 2. Tertiary qualifications:
- **FBP40421** Certificate IV in Food Science and Technology or higher or related field, including a minimum of 40 hours of food microbiology.
- 3. Payment of a non-refundable application fee of \$880 plus GST.
- 4. Participation in training and assessment by the Food Authority.
- 5. Completion of a verification audit, which will be observed by an authorised officer by the Food Authority.

By meeting these minimum qualifications and passing assessments an applicant will be deemed to be approved as a regulatory food safety auditor (general auditor).

Licensed food businesses may require credentials above that of the minimum qualifications. This may include proven industry audit experience or specific industry technical knowledge.

Specialised auditor endorsements

High risk auditors

Auditors who wish to be recognised for auditing in high-risk food production must complete all prerequisite requirements for general auditors, plus auditor training in the following high-risk scopes:

- FBPAUD5002 Audit a cook chill process.
- FBPAUD5003² Audit a heat treatment process
- FBPAUD5004³ Audit manufacturing of ready-to-eat meat products
- FBPAUD5001 Audit bivalve mollusc growing and harvesting processes.

¹ May be superseded by a person who holds competency FBPAUD4003.

² Facilities with these licence permissions have not yet been approved to utilise this system.

³ Facilities with these licence permissions have not yet been approved to utilise this system.

Conducting the food safety audit

Documentation review

As a part of the audit preparation or entry meeting, the regulatory food safety auditor is to obtain and review copies of the previous audit report including any corrective action requests.

The auditor should ensure that they have access to all relevant legislation applicable to the type of licensed food business that is to be audited. Copies of this legislation should be on hand during the audit for easy reference.

Minimum audit requirements

The following minimum requirements (Table 1) for a food safety audit are consistent with audits conducted by the Food Authority and the National Regulatory Food Safety Auditor Guideline.

Table 1. Minimum requirements for conducting a regulatory food safety audit

Audit activity	Minimum requirement	
Entry meeting - conducted at the start of the audit	 Appropriate management must be present. Introduce auditor and show auditor identification card. 	
	 Licensed food businesses must produce letter of approval issued by the Food Authority which allows them to receive regulatory food safety audits by approved regulatory food safety auditors not employed by the Food Authority. 	
	 Ensure food safety program is available and on site. 	
	• Ensure monitoring records are available, up to date and on site.	
	Detail the scope of the audit.	
	 Check that the licensed food business holds a current NSW Food Authority licence. 	
	 Review any changes to approved activities conducted at the licensed food businesses that may affect the businesses food safety risk. 	
	 Review changes to products or processes. 	
	 Review food safety program amendments. 	
	 Previous audit report reviewed and discussed. 	
	 Review of enforcement action taken by the Food Authority. 	
	 Previously issued Corrective Action Requests (CARs) reviewed and discussed (CARs not addressed will be escalated). Licensed food businesses must produce evidence of corrective actions taken for all CARs issued. 	
	 Determine the number of full-time employee equivalent food handlers at the facility. 	
Conducting the audit	Review of CARs and enforcement action to verify that corrective action has been effective. This is performed in conjunction with the inspection of the licensed food business.	

Audit activity	Minimum requirement
	 Review of food safety program to ensure currency and accuracy, including:
	flow charts
	 hazard analysis and control points (either Codex HACCP or Food Standards Code Standard 3.2.1 as determined by legislation)
	validation of critical limits
	 finished product specifications
	 monitoring records
	 product testing results
	 verification records.
	 Inspection of the licensed food business and observation of processing and manufacturing practices.
	 Review of food safety support programs.
	Review of audit elements
	 Establish CARs to be issued and severity.
	 Issue of corrective action requests.
	Complete audit report and notes.
Exit meeting - conducted at	Appropriate management present.
completion of the audit	• Audit summary and result (A-E, acceptable or unacceptable).
	 Review corrective action requests and notes.
	 Agree close out time frames for CARs raised at audit.
	 Inform licensee of audit frequency.
	Ensure all information recorded on report.
	 Ensure licensee is fully aware of what information will be communicated back to the Food Authority.
	Management to sign audit report.
	 Audit records should detail persons present at entry and exit meetings.

Corrective Action Requests (CARs)

Regulatory food safety auditors must act on non-conformances observed during the audit by raising them as CARs.

CAR categories and numerical values

The Food Authority uses a rating system to determine audit performance. CARs identified during audits can be rated as minor, major, or critical, depending on their severity and impact on food safety.

To assist auditors in the rating of CARs, all regulatory auditors are to use the guidance provided in the Food Authority's <u>Guidance on Audits</u> (PDF, 493 KB). The document provides information on the key areas to be considered during an audit, as well as general audit guidance for issuing of CARs and industry specific guidance for issuing of CARs.

Each CAR attracts a numerical value (minor CAR 2 points, major CAR 8 points, critical CAR 64 points). The total point score is tallied at the end of the audit, which then determines the audit rating and audit frequency for the licensed food business.

Numerical values are attributed to the audit element only and not to multiple CARs raised under the same audit element. There are 8 audit elements required by the Food Authority, the content of which may vary according to industry and/or risk.

The table below lists CAR ratings and the associated audit numerical value of that CAR.

Table 2. CAR ratings and numerical values

CAR rating	Score
No corrective action required	0
Minor	2
Major	8
Critical	64

Where a critical CAR is issued during an audit, the food safety auditor must notify the Food Authority helpline within 24 hours by phone on 1300 552 406.

Escalation policy

The Food Authority has a procedure for escalating CARs issued.

Failure by food businesses to rectify any minor or major CARs by the required timeframe must be escalated and dealt with by way of a major or critical CAR.

An additional major CAR is to be raised for inadequate corrective action against the corrective action audit element.

Audit elements

When conducting food safety audits on behalf of the Food Authority, the auditor must ensure the following elements (in Table 3) are audited and a Corrective Action Request (CAR) score assigned at each audit if a non-conformance is found. Record zero when no corrective actions are necessary.

Table 3. Audit elements

Number	Audit element	Audit component
1	Food safety program	Flow chart
		Hazard analysis
		Hazard audit table (or program based on Food Standards Code Standard 3.2.1) Finished product specifications
		Monitoring records
		Verification schedule
		Validation of critical limits
2	Construction and	Preventative maintenance
	maintenance	Premises vehicle and equipment maintenance
3	Hygiene and sanitation	Premises vehicle and equipment
4	Process control	Scheme specific
5	Product identification	Recall program
traceability and recall	traceability and recall	Traceability program
		Labelling procedure
6	Analytical and testing	Product testing
		Environmental testing
		Water testing
		Failed product test procedure
7	Pre-requisite programs	Calibration
		Pest control
		Internal audit
		Review of entire food safety program
		Audit for compliance to food safety program
		Training
		GMP/GHP/Personal hygiene policy
		Approved supplier program
		Allergen control program
8	Corrective action	Close out of previous CARs

Minimum audit times

The Food Authority recommends the following minimum audit times to ensure sufficient time to assess a facility's food safety program for accuracy and compliance.

Table 4. Audit times

Licence permission	Business size	Minimum audit time
Vulnerable persons excluding CPUs	Small (<5 FTE)	2 hours
	Medium (5-50 FTE)	4 hours
	Large (>50 FTE)	8 hours
Vulnerable persons - CPU	Small (<5 FTE)	5 hours
	Medium (5-50 FTE)	7 hours
	Large (>50 FTE)	10 hours
Dairy Farm		0.75-1.5 hours
Cold store, including meat		0.75-1.5 hours
Seafood processor, low risk		0.75-1.5 hours
Seafood processor, ready to eat products	Small (<5 FTE)	1 hour
	Medium (5-50 FTE)	4 hours
	Large (>50 FTE)	8 hours
Plant Products	Small (<5 FTE)	1 hour
	Medium (5-50 FTE)	4 hours
	Large (>50 FTE)	8 hours

Licensed food business ratings

Once the audit is completed, a rating will be determined and applied to the licensed food business based on the cumulative CAR score. This rating is then used to determine the audit frequency. The figure below sets out the ratings used by the Food Authority to determine the audit result.

Table 5. Licensed food business ratings and audit results

Licenced food business rating	Cumulative CAR score range	Audit result
А	0-15	Acceptable
В	16-31	Acceptable
С	32-47	Marginal
D	48-63	Unacceptable
Е	64 and greater	Unacceptable

Audit frequency

The table below sets out the rating applied to a licensed food business and the audit frequency.

Table 61. Licensed food business ratings and audit frequencies

Licenced food business rating	Regulatory food safety audit frequency	
	P1*	P2* and Dairy Farms
А	12 monthly	24 months
В	6 monthly	12 monthly
С	3 monthly	6 monthly
D	1 month	1 month
Е	1 month	1 month

^{*}Priority classification risk is applied to each NSW food business. See Appendix A for more information.

Unacceptable audits

If a licensed food business has received an unacceptable audit (D or E rating) they will receive additional inspections and/or audits from the Food Authority, as well as the scheduled audits with the approved regulatory food safety auditor. These additional inspections and/or audits are to verify the findings of the approved regulatory food safety auditor and to take enforcement action. Further inspections and/or audits will provide the Food Authority with evidence that the business has taken steps to comply with their food safety requirements and has sustained compliance over time.

If the food business continues not to comply, appropriate enforcement action will be taken by an authorised officer of the Food Authority.

Copies of enforcement action must be produced by the licensed food business at their next audit.

Final audit report

The food safety auditor is required to leave a copy of the audit report with the licensed food business. The audit report is to be completed and sent to the Food Authority within 21 days of the audit using the Food Authority's prescribed form in the TPA app.

The approved auditor must notify the Food Authority as soon as possible, but in any event, within 24 hours of:

- an imminent and serious risk to the safety of food intended for sale
- an issue that will cause significant unsuitability of food for sale
- should the licensee receive an unacceptable audit result.

The food safety auditor must report in writing to the Food Authority any changes within the licensed food business that would alter the risk classification of the food business. Information on the risk classification of licensed food businesses is described in Appendix A.

Documentation

Auditors are required to use the Food Authority's checklists and prescribed TPA app.

All handwritten notes, checklists and computer-based documents may be required to be sent to the Food Authority at short notice. This may be as the result of a Freedom of Information request, a Ministerial directive or as a part of the Food Authority's verification program.

Managing the approved regulatory food safety auditor

Food safety auditor sanctions

Where an auditor breaches the code of conduct, the Food Authority will investigate the breach and may take disciplinary action against the food safety auditor.

Disciplinary action

The Food Authority will investigate alleged breaches with a view that if a breach has occurred, cancellation will be sought.

Should the Food Authority find reason to vary, cancel or suspend a food safety auditor's approval, they will notify the auditor in writing.

A food safety auditor may request that their approval is cancelled should they decide not to continue working in NSW. This cancellation will not be communicated to other state and federal jurisdictions. It is the responsibility of the individual auditor to ensure that they do not market their services in NSW once they have surrendered their approval.

Identity cards must be returned to the Food Authority immediately upon cancellation of approval.

Conflict of Interest

Section 89 of the Act describes that a food safety auditor must give notice of certain interest. It states that:

- a food safety auditor must notify the Food Authority of any direct or indirect interest in any food business that the auditor has as soon as possible after becoming aware of that interest.
 Maximum penalty: 50 penalty units
- payment to an auditor for carrying out the functions of an auditor does not constitute a direct or indirect interest in a food business for the purposes of subsection (1).

The Act also states that a failure to declare any conflicts of interest may result in the suspension or cancellation of an auditor's approval by the Food Authority.

Confidentiality

Section 136 of the Act describes that a food safety auditor must not disclose certain confidential information. It states that:

- 1. A person who has, in connection with the administration or execution of this Act, obtained information relating to manufacturing secrets or commercial secrets or confidential processes must not disclose that information unless the disclosure is made:
 - a. with the consent of the person from whom the information was obtained, or
 - b. in connection with the administration or execution of this Act, or
 - c. for the purposes of any legal proceedings arising out of this Act or of any report of any such proceedings, or
 - d. in accordance with a requirement imposed by or under this Act or any other law, or
 - e. to a person administering or enforcing a law of another jurisdiction that corresponds to this Act or any other law prescribed by the regulations, or
 - f. to the Commonwealth Food Authority, or
 - g. to a law enforcement authority, or
 - h. with other lawful excuse.

Maximum penalty: 500 penalty units

2. A person is not guilty of an offence under this section if the information was publicly available at the time the disclosure concerned was made.

The <u>Code of Conduct for regulatory food safety auditors</u> (PDF, 300 KB) also reiterates that auditors must keep all commercially sensitive and official information confidential. If an auditor discloses such information without appropriate consent, the Food Authority may suspend or revoke an auditor's approval.

Verification systems

Verification systems are used to check for compliance to set standards, systems, and legislative requirements.

The Food Authority performs verification audits and inspections of industry sectors and regulatory auditors, based upon risk. This system will also enable the Food Authority to assess and monitor the performance of food safety auditors.

The verification model that is utilised by the Food Authority operates independently to the system.

Verification audits may be triggered by complaints, system reviews, trends, audit reports and requests by licensees.

Review of audit reports

As a part of the verification system, incoming audit reports will be reviewed to ensure compliance with The Food Authority's audit management procedure. Areas that may be included in the review are:

- audit duration
- relevance of CARs issued
- severity of CARs issued
- notification of critical food safety issues
- notification of audit failure
- timeliness of report submission.

Complaints system

The Food Authority operates a helpline on 1300 552 406. This helpline will take all complaints and queries and pass them on to the relevant officer for investigation or response.

The Food Authority's complaints system is accessible by licensees, auditors, other jurisdictions, and the general public. Complaints may be made via the website, email, phone, or by letter. The complainant may remain anonymous if they wish.

More information

- Visit foodauthority.nsw.gov.au
- Contact the Food Authority helpline
 - Email food.contact@dpird.nsw.gov.au
 - Phone 1300 552 406.

Appendix A - NSW Food Authority Priority Classification System

Section 93 of the Act requires that the Food Authority determine:

- 1. the priority classification of individual food businesses for the purposes of the application of any requirements of the regulations relating to food safety programs, and
- 2. the frequency of auditing of any food safety programs required to be prepared by the regulations in relation to the food business.

Furthermore, the determination must be made having regard to a priority classification system for types of food businesses approved by the Food Authority

The Food Authority uses the Australian Government's Business Sector Food Safety Risk Priority Classification Framework (available at health.gov.au) to priority classify NSW food businesses. This framework comprises 2 decision trees: one each for primary production and food businesses. There are 4 possible classification outcomes:

- **Priority 1 (P1)**: Needs at least one Critical Control Point, handles 'high-risk' foods, pathogens cause 'severe' illness, undertakes other risk increasing factors.
- Priority 2 (P2): Needs at least one Critical Control Point, handles 'high-risk' foods.
- **Priority 3 (P3)**: Handles 'low-risk' or 'medium-risk' foods, reliable hazard reduction processes, production volumes considered.
- Priority 4 (P4): Handles packaged 'low-risk' foods, no other processing.

Businesses in the P1 tier represent the highest food safety risk and P4 businesses the lowest food safety risk. The risk status of P2 and P3 businesses are intermediate between these extremes.

For businesses that handle many types of foods or undertake diverse processes the classification of the business is that of the highest classification applicable to any of the hazards associated with any of the products handled.

The Food Authority uses the framework to assign a priority risk level to each of its licensed food businesses which then determines the audit frequency for that food business.

Food safety auditors must ensure that if they identify a food business conducting a higher risk activity than that stated on their NSW Food Authority licence, they are to notify the Food Authority of these changes.

For more information on the Food Authority's Priority Classification System, see foodauthority.nsw.gov.au/about-us/science/priority-classification-of-businesses

Appendix B – Legislation and industry guides list

The following is a list of legislation and industry guides (current at September 2025) that regulatory food safety auditors are required to have access to and knowledge of prior to undertaking an audit. This list is not exhaustive and remains the responsibility of the regulatory food safety auditor to maintain their knowledge of current legislation and guides.

Table 8. Legislation and industry guides

Industry sector	Legislation and industry guides
All industries	 NSW Food Act 2003 Food Regulation 2025 Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code NSW Food Safety Scheme Manual (PDF, 504 KB) NSW Guidance on Audits (PDF, 493 KB)
Dairy	 <u>Food Standards Code 4.2.4</u> – Primary Production and Processing Standards for Dairy Products <u>ANZDAC Validation and Verification of Heat Treatment Equipment</u> <u>and Processes</u>
Meat	 NSW Standard for Construction and Hygienic Operation of Retail Meat Premises (PDF, 284 KB) Australian Standard for the Hygienic Production and Transportation of Meat and Meat Products for Human consumption (AS 4696:2023) Red meat abattoirs and meat processing plants Construction of premises and hygienic production of poultry meat for human consumption (AS 4465-2006) (PDF, 569 KB) – Poultry Abattoirs Australian Standard for Hygienic Production of Game Meat for Human Consumption (AS4464-2007) (PDF, 327 KB)
Seafood	 Hygienic rendering of animal products (AS 5008-2001) (PDF, 134 KB) NSW Shellfish Industry Manual (PDF, 589 KB)
Plant Products	 Industry Guide for the Development of a Food Safety Program (PDF, 225 KB) - high priority plant products
Vulnerable Persons	Guidelines for food service to vulnerable persons (PDF, 503 KB)
Eggs	Egg producers' food safety program template (Word)

[©] State of New South Wales through the NSW Food Authority 2025. The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing September 2025. However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that the information upon which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the Food Authority or the user's independent adviser.