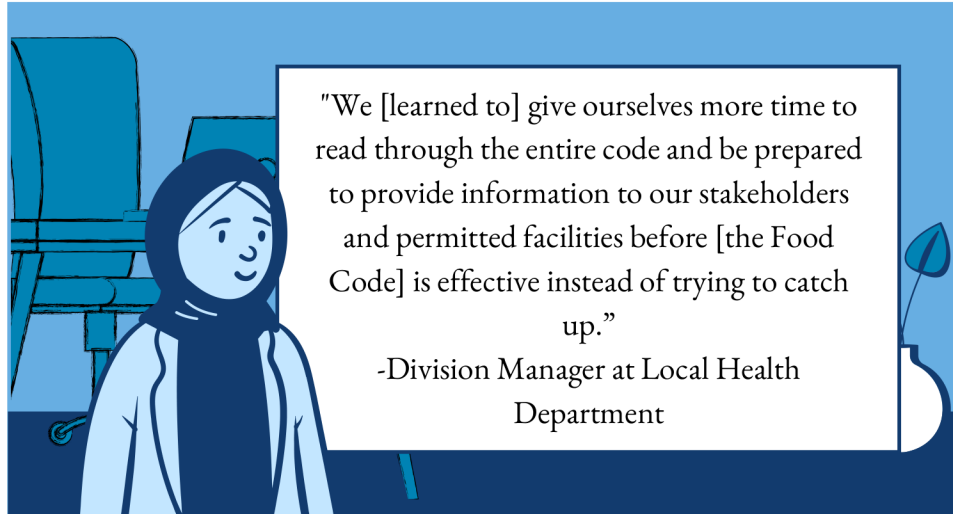


Lessons From the Field: *Food Code* Adoption



A [survey](#) that assessed the jurisdiction's food code adoption process, challenges, and successes was disseminated to 221 state, local, tribal, and territorial retail food regulatory programs in July 2020. Here are some of their lessons learned and tips for overcoming challenges.

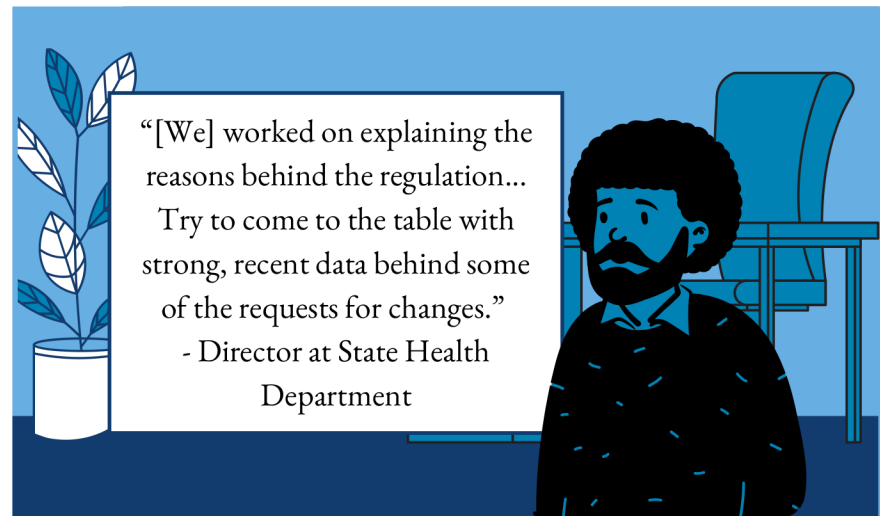
Preparation



- Start as soon as the new food code is published.
- Review the new food code multiple times before beginning the adoption process.
- Design and/or implement an existing process that is replicable to be able to adopt subsequent editions quickly and effectively.

Presentation

- Prepare to address concerns from local businesses, industry and consumer groups/associations, and the public.
- Communicate proactively using multiple channels such as public meetings and provide informational materials such as handouts or fact sheets.
- Use current, evidence-based data and information to support proposed changes.



Partnership



- Collaborate with state, local, tribal, or territorial agencies as needed.
- Partner with stakeholders, industry, and the public; listen to their needs and concerns and work together to find solutions.
- Encourage stakeholder involvement for support in adoption.