



Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in applying to be a craft exhibitor at the Carolina Renaissance Festival & Artisan Marketplace. The Festival runs eight weekends each fall (roughly October and November). In addition to our weekend dates the Festival may schedule "Student Days"; weekday events geared toward schools as a field trip destination. The application form to participate as a craft merchant can be found on our website. It contains additional information such as specific dates and the costs and requirements for participation.

Here are answers to some commonly asked questions:

Do I have to attend and operate all eight weekends of the Festival? Yes, you are required to be open all eight weekends and all of our Student Days. You may request permission to hire a manager to run your booth if you are unable to attend yourself. Most requests are granted after the first year. We do not engage guest artisans.

Should I send money with this application? No. Do not send any money at this time. If you are accepted, a contract will be sent to you. This will detail the fees and when they are due.

What are the requirements for exhibiting at the Renaissance Festival? Should your application be accepted and you are contracted for the Festival, you would have to provide your own exhibition structure and costume. Both your costume and exhibit/display (tent, cart or, if you prefer to build, booth) must fit within the "Renaissance" theme and be approved by Festival management. Photos or drawings of your proposed set-up and costume should be sent to the Festival with this application.

Can I use this form to apply to vend food items? This form may be used to apply to vend only food items that are pre-packaged to take home and consume (such as canned items, dry teas or mixes). If you wish to sell food that is ready to eat on premises, that type of concession falls under our Food & Beverage department. You may email the F&B Director, Eli Kujolic, at Eli@renfestinfo.com with a proposal describing the product(s) you'd like to sell.

What sort of spaces may be available?

- In-Line Spaces: In-line spaces are for non-portable booth structures. The Carolina Festival is maturing and therefore building sites are limited. On occasion, existing booths are put up for sale. Please note on the application if you are interested in buying an existing shop. If there are booths available for sale a flyer will be provided to accepted craft applicants who have indicated interest in buying, provided they are approved for that location.
- Cart/Portable/Pavilion: We have a number of spaces for portable exhibits such as carts, covered decks or gazebos, pavilion tents and similar set ups. The Festival would need to approve the design. Measurements and drawings or photos should be submitted with your application.
- Please note: We rarely approve roving vendors as it affords an unfair advantage over those who are stationary. Exceptions will be considered for a product with minimal competition.

How do you decide who is accepted? The decision as to who we can accept to fill the spaces available will be based on the quality of your craft and how your work fits into the current offerings at the Festival, combined with a clear understanding of your first and second choices with respect to booth type, size, and design. We have very few vacancies each season so we tend to offer contracts to the most unique. If you aren't sure your product is acceptable or likely to be juried in, the best way to find out is to submit your application.

What if I am interested in purchasing a booth that is for sale? If you're interested in purchasing a booth, please note so on your application. Let us know if you have a second choice (in-line space, pathway, or portable) if there are no booths available. If your application is accepted, you will be informed immediately. Once accepted, if you have inquired about a booth for sale we will put you in direct contact with any potential sellers in locations for which you are approved. We do not publish a list of shops for sale. If you indicate interest in purchasing a shop and your application is approved, we will send you flyers (including contact information) for any available shops which you are approved to purchase.

Can we rent a booth for the first year? Booth rental is a rare exception rather than the rule at this Festival. Occasionally we may find a booth temporarily available for rent. You can always note on your application if that option should be considered. The alternative to booth rental, if you are not prepared to buy or build a booth, is a portable exhibit such as a cart, kiosk, covered deck, or pavilion tent. We look forward to receiving your application and we encourage you to attach a note with any questions or comments you wish to be addressed.

These two FAQ pages are informational only, and may be retained for your reference. When you complete the application, be sure to list all items you wish to sell at the Festival and provide as many photos as possible. We encourage you to attach a note with any questions or comments you wish addressed.

We look forward to receiving your application!

Cheers and regards,

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