

Inspection Checklist: Laundry Services

Do you provide laundry services for the general public or commercial clients?

Do you offer self-service laundry machinery for use by the general public?

Do you store or collect laundry for laundry services or delivery for the general public?

Do you transport laundry for a commercial client?

Do you maintain or operate a laundry facility in connection with a commercial institution, such as a hotel, restaurant, or gym, and offer clients laundry services for a fee?

Definition: Laundry services means washing, drying, starching, or ironing laundry for a fee, and includes services provided with or incidental to the rental of clothing, apparel, or other fabrics. The term “laundry services” **does not** include dry cleaning.

Use this checklist to learn what our inspectors look for and help avoid violations. All businesses also must comply with the General Retail Inspection Checklist, which is included at the end for easy reference.

For your convenience, each Requirement includes the relevant section of law and/or rule, so you can refer to it for more information. The KEY below describes the legal citations and symbols used in this checklist.

KEY	
NYC Code: NYC Administrative Code	NYCRR: NY Codes, Rules, and Regulations
RCNY: Rules of the City of New York	§: Section
NY Agric. & Mkts.: NY Agriculture & Markets Law	

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
Licenses	
<p>1 You must have a DCA Industrial Laundry License if your business is located in NYC and you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide laundry services to commercial clients in NYC. • Operate a laundry facility in connection with any commercial institution and offer clients laundry services for a fee, including providing coin-operated machines for client use. <p>Tip: Examples of commercial clients or institutions include, but are not limited to, hotels, hospitals, restaurants, gyms, and retail laundries.</p> <p>Exception: Commercial institutions that wash, dry, starch, and/or iron their laundry (for example, the hotel’s own bed linens and/or towels) and <i>do not charge a separate fee for this service</i> are not required to have an Industrial Laundry License.</p> <p>Tip: You do not need a license for laundry facilities of any hospital or any residence for use exclusively by owners, tenants, or occupants of the residence.</p> <p>Tip: If you plan to transport laundry for a commercial client (for example, engage in Industrial Laundry Delivery), you must disclose it when you apply for a new license or request an amendment to an existing license. You cannot engage in Industrial Laundry Delivery until you receive your new/amended Industrial Laundry License, which authorizes delivery.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
NYC Code §20-297.1, §20-297.2, §20-297.3(b)(11); 6 RCNY §2-136(b)	

Inspection Checklist: Laundry Services

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
<p>2 If your business transports laundry for a commercial client, you must have a DCA Industrial Laundry Delivery license. This includes transporting laundry from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A commercial client in NYC to an industrial laundry in or outside NYC for laundry services. • A commercial client outside NYC to an industrial laundry in NYC for laundry services. • An industrial laundry in NYC to a commercial client in or outside NYC after laundry services have been performed. • An industrial laundry outside NYC to a commercial client in NYC after laundry services have been performed. <p>Tip: If your business already has an Industrial Laundry license that authorizes Industrial Laundry Delivery, you do not need a separate Industrial Laundry Delivery license. If your Industrial Laundry license does not authorize delivery, you must get authorization from DCA and get an amended license before you engage in Industrial Laundry Delivery.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-297.1, §20-297.2, §20-297.3(b)(11); 6 RCNY §2-136(b)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>3 If your business is located in NYC and provides any of the services below, you must have a DCA Retail Laundry license.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides laundry services to the general public. • Stores or collects laundry for laundry services for the general public. • Stores or collects laundry for delivery for the general public. • Offers self-service laundry machines for use by the general public. <p>Tip: You do not need a DCA license for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A business that only does dry cleaning. • Laundry facilities of any hospital or any residence for use exclusively by the owners, tenants, or occupants of the residence. <p>NYC Code §20-297.1, §20-297.2</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>4 DCA's combined license and complaint sign must be posted where all customers can see it.</p> <p>6 RCNY §1-03(a)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Signs	
<p>5 A price list must be posted and clearly visible where orders are placed or payments are made by customers. The letters must be at least 1 inch in height.</p> <p>6 RCNY §2-134(a)(1)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Inspection Checklist: Laundry Services

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
<p>6 The price list must contain each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of services offered. • Minimum price charged for each service. • Any factors (for example, embellishments, special materials) that may cause the price to be higher than the minimum price. For each factor, disclose the additional price or range of additional prices. If a minimum weight is required, list the price for that minimum weight and the additional price or range of additional prices for weights above the minimum weight. <p>6 RCNY §2-134(a)(1)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>7 The price list cannot contain different prices for men and women for the same services.</p> <p>Tip: A price list sign with different prices for laundering “shirts” and “blouses” is not permitted <i>unless there is some difference in labor or materials required to launder shirts or blouses that justifies a variation in prices.</i></p> <p>NYC Code §20-750(c)</p>	
Printed Materials	
<p>8 The business’ bills, tickets, business cards, advertising, and stationery must contain each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business name • Business address • DCA License number <p>Tip: Hangers with branding or advertising on them do not have to contain this information.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-297.5(b)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>9 Every document (example: receipt, delivery ticket, invoice, statement, etc.) that contains charges to a consumer must accurately and clearly state the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer name • Consumer address • Each of the laundry charges (not just the total charge) <p>Tip: If consumers refuse to provide their name and/or address, you must document their refusal in writing at the time refusal is made and present that documentation to a DCA inspector during an inspection.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-297.5(c)</p>	

Inspection Checklist: Laundry Services

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
Scales	
<p>10 If laundry is weighed on the premises, each scale must be a type of scale approved by the New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets. The scale must also have a DCA seal and be inspected annually.</p> <p>Tip: Request a scale inspection online or by calling 311.</p> <p>NY Agric. & Mkts. Article 16, §182; NYC Code §20-581, §20-584; 1 NYCRR §220.1(a); 6 RCNY §2-134(c)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>11 Business cannot use a scale to which DCA has placed a condemnation tag.</p> <p>NY Agric. & Mkts. Article 16, §184(2)</p>	
<p>12 Business cannot remove any portion of a DCA condemnation tag.</p> <p>NY Agric. & Mkts. Article 16, §184(3)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Carts and Delivery Vehicles	
<p>13 A label or tag with the business name, address, and DCA license number must be attached to all handcarts and pushcarts.</p> <p>Tip: The letters must be at least 2 inches in height.</p> <p>Tip: Handcarts and pushcarts that are used exclusively within the premises of a retail laundry by customers moving their laundry between machines or to a folding table do not need labels or tags.</p> <p>Tip: Any other carts used in retail laundries, specifically those that leave the retail laundry’s premises, need labels or tags.</p> <p>Tip: All carts used by an industrial laundry, including carts that are used exclusively on the premises, need labels or tags.</p> <p>Tip: If your business has both a Retail and Industrial Laundry license, both license numbers must be on the label or tag.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-297.5(a)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>14 All vehicles used for delivery of laundry must include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business name • Business address • Business telephone number • DCA License Number <p>Tip: The letters must be at least 2 inches in height.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-297.5(f)</p>	
Requirements for Retail Laundries that Offer Self-Service Laundry Machines for Use by the General Public	
<p>15 A sign must be posted on the premises where it is clearly visible to consumers that states: “All complaints and claims for refunds can be made to the attendant or, if an attendant is not present, to [name, address, and telephone number of the person(s) to whom complaints and claims for refunds must be made].” The letters must be at least 2 inches in height.</p> <p>6 RCNY §2-134(a)(4)(i)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Inspection Checklist: Laundry Services

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
16 A sign must be posted at each defective or inoperable machine that states: “OUT OF ORDER.” The letters must be at least 2 inches in height.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
6 RCNY §2-134(a)(4)(ii)	
17 Signs must be posted in all places where laundry is washed, dried, starched, or ironed that states the procedures for maintaining: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minimum standards of cleanliness and hygiene. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wording “Procedures for Minimum Standards of Cleanliness and Hygiene” must be at the top of the sign in bold letters that are at least 2 inches in height. The letters on the rest of the sign must be at least 1 inch in height. 2. Functional separation of laundered and unlaundered laundry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wording “Procedures for Maintaining Functional Separation of Laundered and Unlaundered Laundry” must be at the top of the sign in bold letters that are at least 2 inches in height. The letters on the rest of the sign must be at least 1 inch in height. <p>Tip: These signs may be combined into one sign. The wording “Procedures for Minimum Standards of Cleanliness and Hygiene and Maintaining Functional Separation of Laundered and Unlaundered Laundry” must be at the top of the combined sign in bold letters that are at least 2 inches in height. The letters on the rest of the sign must be at least 1 inch in height.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
NYC Code §20-297.6(a)(3), §297.6(b)(2); 6 RCNY §2-135	
18 Laundered and unlaundered laundry must be stored in separate, clearly marked areas when it is not actively being processed.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
NYC Code §20-297.6(b)(1)(b)	

Inspection Checklist: General Retail

Does your business sell goods or services?

Use this checklist to learn what our inspectors look for and help avoid violations. For your convenience, each Requirement includes the relevant section of law and/or rule, so you can refer to it for more information. The KEY below describes the legal citations and symbols used in this checklist.

KEY
<p>NYC Code: NYC Administrative Code RCNY: Rules of the City of New York NY GBL: NY General Business Law §: Section</p>

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
Price Lists for Services	
<p>1 A price list must be displayed and include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of the type of services Minimum price for each service Conditions or variations of service that change the minimum price Range of additional charges caused by conditions or variations (e.g., \$10 pants, \$15 pants with pleats) (if the price is based on an hourly labor rate) Rate as dollars per hour <p>Tip: If the price list states a price “and up” or “from” — e.g., “\$5 and up” or “from \$5” — it must also state the reason(s) for the different prices and include the range of prices.</p> <p>6 RCNY §5-70(a)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>2 The price list must be clearly posted or clearly displayed at the place(s) where payment is made (e.g., near the cash register) and/or where orders are placed.</p> <p>6 RCNY §5-70(a)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>3 If there is a sale or promotion, the pre-sale prices must also be posted.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-750(b)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>4 Prices for services cannot be based on gender.</p> <p>Tip: Words like “men’s,” “women’s,” and “ladies” cannot be used to describe the price.</p> <p>NYC Code §20-750(c)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Pricing for Goods	
<p>5 All items offered for sale must show a price, exclusive of tax, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The price must be attached to the item by a stamp, tag, or label. OR The price must be stated on a sign that is plainly visible where the item is displayed. <p>NYC Code §20-708, NYC Code §20-708.1</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Inspection Checklist: General Retail

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
<p>6 If your store’s annual revenue is more than \$2 million or you are a chain store, you must individually price each item, including food products, paper products, detergents, soaps, nonprescription drugs, and health and beauty aids.</p> <p><i>Exceptions:</i> The following items must be individually priced unless shelf prices and a price look-up function are provided:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Milk • Items that are under 3 cubic inches in size, weigh less than 3 ounces, and cost under 1 dollar • Eggs • Fresh produce not packaged for retail sale • Products sold through a vending machine • Food sold for consumption on the premises • Snack foods offered for sale in single packages that weigh 5 ounces or less, e.g., cakes, gum, candies, chips, and nuts • Cigarettes, cigars, tobacco, and tobacco products • Food offered for sale in bulk • Frozen juice • Ice cream • Frozen foods packaged for final retail sale in plastic bags • Items on sale for 1 week or less, but only if they are located in a segregated display at the end of the aisle and the sale period, name of the product, and the advertised price are clearly posted on a sign at the point of display • Jars of baby food <p>NYC Code §20-708.1(b), NYC Code §20-708.1(c)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Signs	
<p>7 Sale signs that advertise a price range or percent discount—example: “Savings of 20 to 50%” or “20% to 50% off”—must state the minimum and maximum percentages in equal size.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: center; gap: 20px; margin: 20px 0;"> <div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>20-50% OFF</p> </div> <div style="border: 2px solid red; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>20-50% OFF</p> </div> </div> <p>6 RCNY §5-94(a)(1)</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

Inspection Checklist: General Retail

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
<p>8 Advertising, including sale signs, cannot contain any of the following phrases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Our list price” • Below “manufacturer’s wholesale cost” • “Manufacturer’s cost” <p>6 RCNY §5-101</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>9 Businesses that sell goods and services must post a refund policy sign.</p> <p>Tip: A refund policy sign must be posted at each register, point of sale, or entrance, or attached to each item.</p> <p>Tip: Even if the policy is not to give refunds, a sign must be posted stating “No Refunds.”</p> <p>Tip: The sign must state that a written copy of the store’s refund policy is available on request.</p> <p>6 RCNY §5-37; NY GBL §218-a</p>	
<p>10 The refund policy sign must state any and all conditions or limitations to getting a refund. For example, it must state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any fees charged for refunds, such as “restocking fees” • If a refund will not be provided for “as is” or “sale” items • Whether the refund will be in cash, credit, or store credit only • If proof of purchase is required for a refund • If a refund will be provided at any time or within a specific period of time <p>6 RCNY §5-37; NY GBL §218-a</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>11 If there are limitations on using credit cards, such as minimum purchase amounts, the policy must be clearly posted at or near each entrance and in all advertising that indicates credit cards are accepted.</p> <p>6 RCNY §5-24(b)</p>	
Receipts	
<p>12 Receipts must be given to customers for purchases over \$20 and upon request for purchases between \$5 and \$20.</p> <p>Tip: This does not apply to food and drink that is meant to be consumed on the premises.</p> <p>6 RCNY §5-32</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
<p>13 The receipt must include each of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of purchase • Amount paid for each item • Total amount paid • Separate statement of tax • Business name and address <p>6 RCNY §5-32(c)</p>	

Inspection Checklist: General Retail

Requirement		Do you meet this requirement?
14	Receipts for audio, photographic, and video equipment that cost more than \$100 must also include the make and model number of the item.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	6 RCNY §5-32(c)(5)	
Price Accuracy		
15	The price charged for an item at checkout, including scanned items, must not exceed the item's tagged, stamped, or marked price, shelf price, sale price, or advertised price.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	NYC Code §20-708.1(d), NYC Code §20-708.1(e)	
16	Tax cannot be charged on tax-exempt items. Tip: Examples of tax-exempt items include but are not limited to: feminine hygiene products, canned vegetables, baby food, clothing under \$110, diapers, nonprescription or over-the-counter drugs, contraceptives. Tip: Check with the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance for a complete list of which items are exempt.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	6 RCNY §5-41	
Layaway Plans		
17	A "layaway plan" means a purchase over \$50 where consumers agree to pay for the purchase in 4 or more installments before getting the merchandise. If a layaway plan is offered, each of the following written disclosures must be provided to consumers prior to accepting any payments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description of the item, including name of manufacturer, brand name, color, size, style, or model number • Total cost of the item, including tax, installation, delivery, or freight charges • Any charge to use layaway, including any service charge, carrying charge, or cancellation fee • Duration of the layaway plan • Payment schedule and any consequences of missed payments • Refund policy regarding the payments • Notice of where the item is being stored, if other than the place of purchase, or if the item will not be removed from inventory until additional payments are made: <p><i>Example 1:</i> NOTICE: NO MERCHANDISE WILL BE REMOVED FROM INVENTORY UNTIL X% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE HAS BEEN PAID.</p> <p><i>Example 2:</i> ATTENTION: YOUR SELECTION OF MERCHANDISE WILL NOT BE ORDERED UNTIL YOU HAVE MADE YOUR NEXT TO FINAL PAYMENT.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
	6 RCNY §5-23; NY GBL §396-t	

Inspection Checklist: General Retail

Requirement	Do you meet this requirement?
Expired Over-the-counter Medication	
18 It is illegal to sell over-the-counter medication after the expiration date on the label. NYC Code §20-822(a)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Cash Payments	
19 Your store cannot refuse to accept cash payments from consumers. <i>Exceptions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your store may refuse bills above \$20. • Your store may refuse cash payments for telephone, mail, or internet-based transactions, unless the transaction takes place in the store. • Your store may accept prepaid cards from an on-site device that converts cash into prepaid cards, but only if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The device does not charge a fee for the prepaid card or require a minimum deposit above \$1. – Upon request, the device provides the consumer with a receipt stating the amount of cash the consumer deposited onto the prepaid card. – Cash deposits onto the prepaid card do not expire. – There is no limit on the number of transactions a consumer can complete with the prepaid card. <p>You must clearly post a sign on or immediately next to the device when it is not working that states your store is required to accept cash payments and consumers may report violations by calling 311.</p> NYC Code §20-840	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
20 Your store cannot charge a consumer who pays in cash a higher price for the same “consumer commodity” than a consumer who pays by credit card or other cashless transaction. Tip: “Consumer commodity” means any article, good, merchandise, product, or commodity of any kind that is produced, distributed, or offered for retail sale. NYC Code §20-840(c)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes

This document is provided for informational purposes only, is not exhaustive, and does not constitute legal advice. New York City businesses must comply with all relevant federal, State, and City laws and rules. Businesses are responsible for knowing and complying with current regulations that affect their business.